



No: 5450-08/IPCC/WGII

To designated IPCC Focal Points and  
Ministries of Foreign Affairs  
(if no focal point has been designated)

Attachment(s): (I) BUR-XXXVIII/Doc.6  
(II) Nomination Form

Geneva, 8 December 2008

Sir/Madam,

I have the honour of inviting you to nominate experts to participate in an IPCC scoping meeting to assess the feasibility and likely utility, as well as to scope the structure and development schedule, of a proposed Special Report on "Extreme events and disasters: Managing the risks." The Norwegian Pollution Control Authority has graciously offered to host the meeting in Oslo, Norway, from 23-26 March 2009.

At the 29<sup>th</sup> Session of the Panel (31 August – 4 September 2008, Geneva, Switzerland), Norway introduced a proposal, prepared in collaboration with the Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR), for a Special Report on extreme events and disasters, with an emphasis on risk management. The Panel agreed to further develop the concept and to convene a scoping meeting early in 2009.

At the 38<sup>th</sup> Session of the IPCC Bureau (24-25 November 2008, Geneva, Switzerland), a revised proposal (attached) was presented and it was agreed that the scoping meeting will be organized in early 2009. The Bureau set up a Science Steering Group<sup>1</sup> which will be in charge of planning the meeting and it requested that Working Group II take the lead on organizing the scoping meeting. The scoping meeting would result in a scoping paper describing the objectives and an annotated outline of the proposed Special Report as well as process and timeline for its preparation. The outcome of the meeting should be submitted for consideration at the 30<sup>th</sup> Session of the IPCC (21-23 April 2009, Antalya, Turkey). A formal decision on undertaking the proposed Special Report will be rendered at the 30<sup>th</sup> Session of the IPCC.

The Science Steering Group, with consultation from the Bureau, will decide on the programme of the meeting and a participant list but welcomes the input of Governments to ensure the appropriate disciplinary and regional expertise. A nomination form is attached. Please refer to the attached proposal (Attachment I) for guidance in the identification of suitable experts.

Relevant expertise for the scoping meeting will be diverse, as the proposed Special Report will integrate information and perspectives across the domains of all three working groups. Participants in the meeting should collectively have expertise in the following areas:

- climate modeling
  - climate observations
  - downscaling
  - hydrology and water management
  - severe storms and extreme temperatures
  - humanitarian consequences, including displacement and poverty
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- human health

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<sup>1</sup> The Science Steering Group consists of the following members: Vicente Barros (Argentina, SSG chair), Abdalah Mokssit (Morocco), Ajmad Abdulla (Maldives), Antonina Ivanova Boncheva (Mexico), Oyvind Christophersen (Norway), Jean Jouzel (France), Nirivololona Raholijao (Madagascar), Neville Smith (Australia), and Francis Zwiers (Canada).

- socioeconomic consequences
- agriculture and food security
- ecosystems, wildfire
- infrastructure
- risk assessment
- adaptation
- insurance
- integrated assessment modeling
- policies, measures, and tools, including risk management and disaster risk reduction strategies
- planning
- land use change and coastal planning
- early warning systems and emergency management (preparedness, recovery and rehabilitation)
- cost and options for financing responses
- integration of disaster risk across sectors and regions
- climate change mitigation and development strategies

A description of the preparation of IPCC reports and the roles and responsibilities of authors and editors can be found at Appendix A to the Principles Governing IPCC Work (<http://www.ipcc.ch/about/how-the-ipcc-is-organized.htm>).

Given the tight schedule, nominations must be made by completing the attached nomination form (Attachment II), and e-mailing it to the Working Group II Technical Support Unit at “[ipcc-wg2-tsu@usgcrp.gov](mailto:ipcc-wg2-tsu@usgcrp.gov)” by close of business **19 January 2009**. Returning the form as an Excel spreadsheet will allow the TSU to transfer the nominations automatically to a database.

I thank you for your prompt attention to this matter, and apologize for the near-term deadline, especially taking into account the forthcoming holidays.

Copies of this letter are being sent to the Ministries for Foreign Affairs, IPCC Contact Point(s), the Permanent Representative with WMO and Focal Point(s) of UNEP of your country for information.

Yours sincerely,



(Renate Christ)  
Secretary of the IPCC