

Our ref.: 6060-12/IPCC/AR5

To the Executive Heads of
International and other Organizations

Geneva, 05 October 2012

Sir/Madam,

I have the honour of addressing you on the matter of the Government and Expert Review of the Second Order Draft of the Working Group I (WGI) Contribution to the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report, *Climate Change 2013: The Physical Science Basis*.

The IPCC decided at its 28th Session in Budapest, Hungary, in April 2008 to prepare a Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) according to IPCC Principles and Procedures. Following a Scoping Meeting in Venice, Italy, in July 2009, the outline of the WGI contribution to AR5 was approved at the 11th Session of Working Group I and accepted by the 31st Session of the IPCC, both meeting in Bali, Indonesia, in October 2009. The Panel also decided that the WGI contribution would be completed in September 2013, with the completion of the WGII and WGIII contributions to AR5 and the Synthesis Report following in the course of 2014.

Following an IPCC call for nominations in January 2010 to member governments and observer organizations for experts to participate in the WGI AR5, Coordinating Lead Authors, Lead Authors and Review Editors were selected by the WGI Bureau in May 2010 from the large number of nominations received. The First Order Draft (FOD) of the WGI contribution to AR5 was available for expert review from 16 December 2011 to 10 February 2012. The report has now been revised by the authors in response to comments received and the Second Order Draft (SOD) will undergo simultaneous review by governments and experts from **05 October to 30 November 2012**.

The multi-stage review of draft reports is a key element of the IPCC assessment process. The purpose of the review is to help ensure that the report represents the latest scientific and technical findings and that it provides a balanced and comprehensive assessment of the current information. The IPCC Procedures state that the expert review process shall be objective, open and transparent, with a wide circulation that aims to involve as many independent experts as possible in the IPCC process, seeking a range of views, expertise, and geographical representation. In addition, the review shall be undertaken by experts nominated by governments and observer organizations.

Governments and observer organizations were contacted in September 2011 and asked to encourage additional experts to participate in the review. All those experts who provided a review of the FOD have been notified separately about the WGI AR5 Government and Expert Review of the SOD and invited to register as experts. In accordance with the decision by the Panel at its 35th Session in June 2012, IPCC observer organizations are now invited to encourage additional experts to participate as Expert Reviewers in the WGI AR5 Government and Expert Review of the SOD. Please note that such experts provide reviews under their own name; they do not represent the observer organization.

An online registration process has been developed and can be accessed directly by prospective experts via the WGI website:

<https://sod.ipcc.unibe.ch/registration/>

Please note that observer organizations do not need to send any information to the Working Group I Technical Support Unit or to the IPCC Secretariat in response to this call. Additional information on the role of Expert Reviewer is available in Annex 1 of Appendix A to the Principles Governing IPCC Work.

If you have any questions about the process, please contact the IPCC Working Group I Technical Support Unit at <wg1@ipcc.unibe.ch>.

As a reminder, the Government and Expert Review of the WGI AR5 SOD starts on **05 October 2012** and ends on **30 November 2012**.

Yours sincerely,



(Renate Christ)
Secretary of the IPCC