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OTHER PROGRESS REPORTS

Development of new scenarios

**Draft Memorandum of Understanding between IAMC
And IPCC Working Groups**

(Submitted by the Co-Chairs of Working Group I, II and III)

Draft distributed in copy paper only

DRAFT Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between IAMC and IPCC Working Groups

October 2010

Responsible Parties:

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), represented by Working Groups (WGs) I, II and III Co-chairs and Heads of the TSUs;

Integrated Assessment Modeling Consortium (IAMC), represented by its Scientific Steering Committee

Rationale for the MoU

The Integrated Assessment Modeling Consortium (IAMC) is an organization of scientific research organizations that pursue scientific understanding of issues associated with integrated assessment modeling and analysis of climate change. As such the IAMC facilitates and fosters integrated assessment modeling and coordinates interactions with other scientific communities and serves as a point of contact for organizations that use scientific results, such as the IPCC WGs. Recognizing that there are coinciding areas of interest and complementary activities, the IPCC WGs and the IAMC agree that it would be valuable to establish regular communication and coordination in order to facilitate clear articulation of common areas of interest, mutually beneficial scientific needs, and joint research questions with regard to global, long-term future projections of socio-economics, technology, emission trajectories, climate impacts, adaptation and vulnerability. This MoU recognizes the value of coordination—in general and in particular for facilitating community research and activities relevant for the IPCC's 5th Assessment Report—and sets out basic principles for the two parties.

Basic Principles of the agreement between the Responsible Parties

The Responsible Parties agree that:

1. Timely communication and an ongoing appreciation of shared interests between the Responsible Parties is needed to facilitate the collaboration.
2. The Responsible Parties will hold periodic joint meetings—virtual or in person—to facilitate information exchange.
3. When concrete topics or activities of shared interest are identified, the Responsible Parties will appoint mutually agreeable working groups for operational consideration of pursuing the topic or activity. One such area has already been identified—analysis and development of socioeconomic pathways and narratives.¹

¹ Specification of the Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs) was designed to provide a range of pathways for the elements of radiative forcing in order to facilitate climate modeling and detailed characterization of a very broad climate space. The exercise by design did not develop full scenarios that included socioeconomic and other quantitative driving forces, nor did it specify socioeconomic narratives to support interpretation of the pathways. Socioeconomic pathways and narratives consistent with the RCPs would support impacts research and facilitate consistency across and within research communities. The Responsible Parties have expressed mutual interest in jointly pursuing an activity that would encourage analysis and development of such pathways and narratives. Details of the process or the approach for analyzing and developing this information will be determined going forward. While striving for consistency, the Responsible Parties have acknowledged that they do not want the process or the results to be overly prescriptive for the research communities or foreclose options for future research.