



# The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

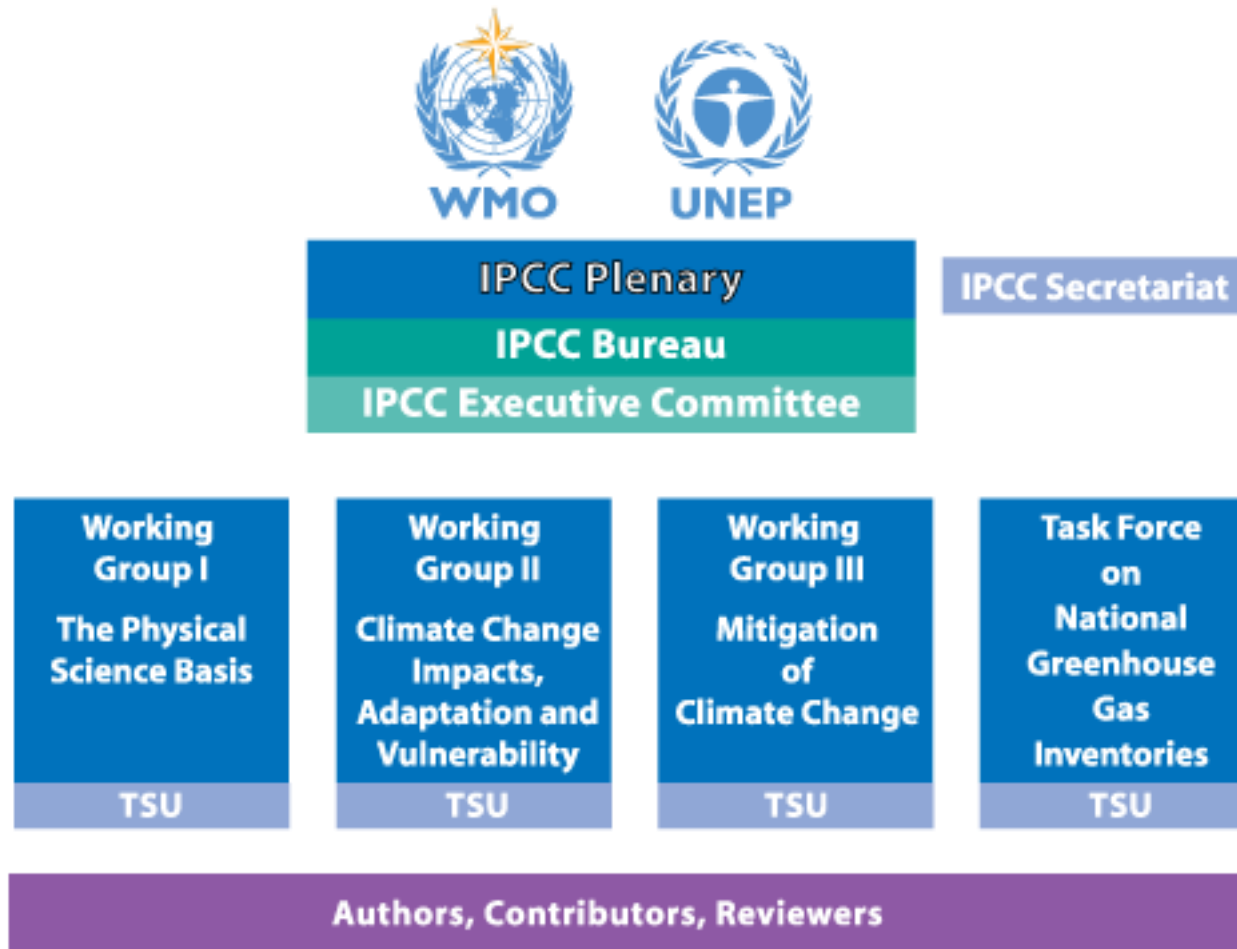
## Public Access to IPCC Reports

Sophie Schlingemann,  
Legal and Liaison Officer, IPCC Secretariat  
7 February 2013

# What is the IPCC?

- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
- Established in 1988, by WMO and UNEP
- 195 Member Countries
- Mandate to :
  - Assess scientific information related to climate change
  - Evaluate environmental and socio-economic consequences of climate change
  - Formulate realistic response strategies

# How is IPCC Structured?



# The Panel



# The Bureau



**ipcc**  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON climate change



# The IPCC Secretariat

- Plans, oversees and manages IPCC activities
- Liaises with member governments and international organizations
- Organizes meetings, supports developing country participation, manages the IPCC Trust Fund and IPCC publications
- Coordinates information and outreach activities



**Dr. Renate Christ**  
Secretary of the IPCC



**Mr. Gaetano Leone**  
Deputy Secretary  
of the IPCC

# What is IPCC producing?

- Assessment Report (AR), Special Reports and Technical Papers at request of UNGA, UNFCCC, UNEP, WMO and member governments
- Every 5 to 6 years release of AR: 3 Working Group (WG) Reports and a Synthesis Report
- WGs and Synthesis Report all include a Summary for Policymakers (SPM)
- WG Reports, Synthesis Report and SPMs have different approval and publication processes

# Recent and Upcoming IPCC Reports

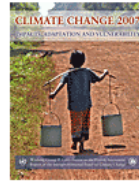
- 2007: IPCC Fourth Assessment Report (AR4)
  - The Physical Science Basis (WG I)
  - Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability (WG II)
  - Mitigation of Climate Change (WG III)
  - Synthesis Report
- 2011: IPCC Special Report on Renewable Energy Sources and Climate Change Mitigation
- 2011: IPCC Special Report on Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation
- 2013-2014 Fifth Assessment Report (AR5)



## IPCC Fourth Assessment Report: Climate Change 2007 (AR4)



Working Group I Report  
"The Physical Science Basis"



Working Group II Report  
"Impacts, Adaptation and  
Vulnerability"



Working Group III Report  
"Mitigation of Climate Change"



The AR4 Synthesis Report

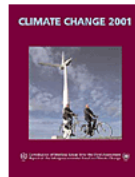
## IPCC Third Assessment Report: Climate Change 2001 (TAR)



Working Group I:  
The Scientific Basis



Working Group II:  
Impacts, Adaptation and  
Vulnerability



Working Group III:  
Mitigation



Synthesis Report

## IPCC Second Assessment Report: Climate Change 1995 (SAR)



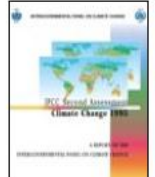
Working Group I:  
The Science of Climate Change



Working Group II:  
Impacts, Adaptations and  
Mitigation of Climate Change:  
Scientific-Technical Analyses



Working Group III:  
Economic and Social  
Dimensions of Climate Change

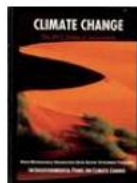


IPCC Second Assessment

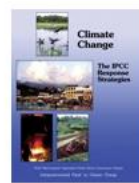
## IPCC First Assessment Report 1990 (FAR)



Working Group I:  
Scientific Assessment of Climate  
Change



Working Group II:  
Impacts Assessment of Climate  
Change



Working Group III:  
The IPCC Response Strategies

# Procedures and Principles Governing IPCC Work and AR Review Process

1. Obtaining the best scientific and technical advice
2. Wide circulation to ensure the review by as many experts from as many countries as possible
3. Conducting a review process which is objective, open and transparent

# How are Governments involved in the AR writing and reviewing?

- IPCC was created as a scientific technical body aimed to inform policymakers
- Governments decide whether to prepare a report and agree on its scope
- Governments nominate experts to serve as authors, expert reviewers, and review editors
- Governments review the second order draft and provide comments
- Governments constitute the Panel which, at its completion approves/adopts/accepts the AR

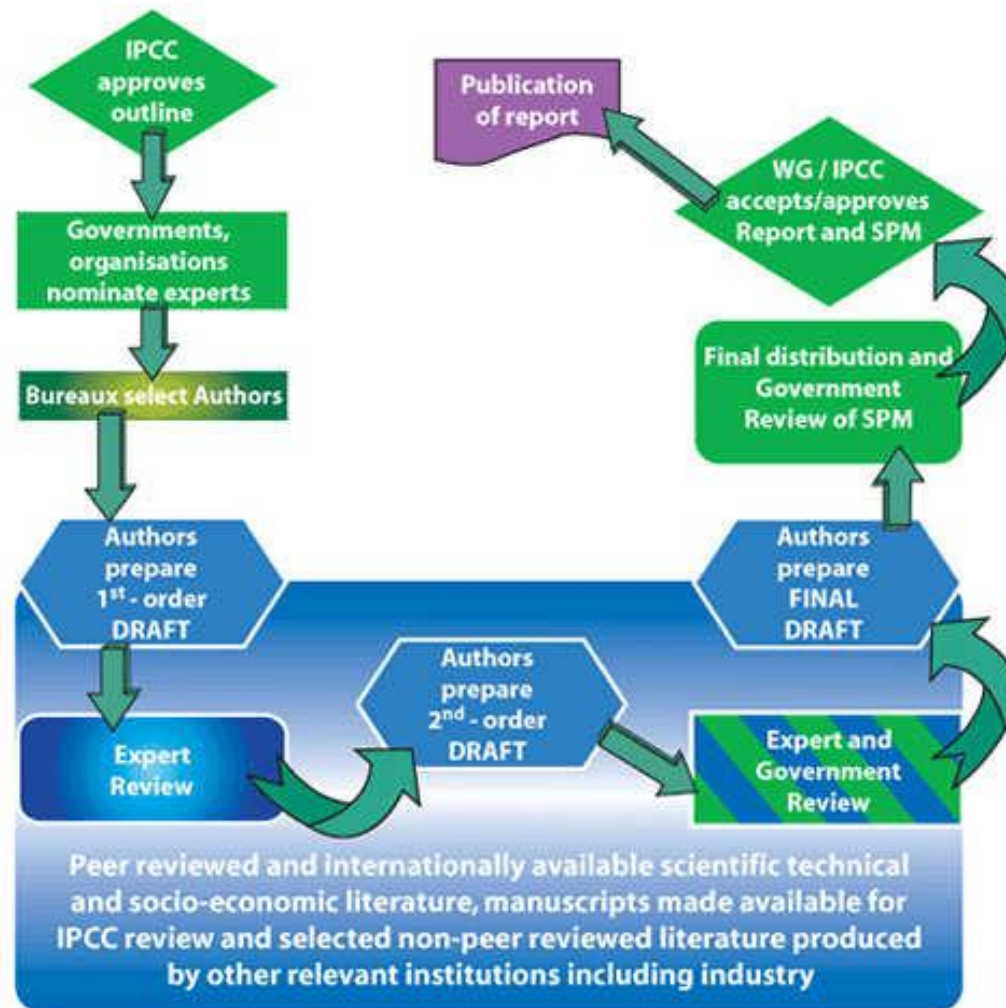
# Who are the Authors and Reviewers of the Assessment Reports?

- Climate experts, all voluntary contributors (unpaid by the IPCC) including Chair, Vice-Chairs, and Co-Chairs on the Bureau
- 831 Authors and Review Editors from 85 countries selected for AR5. Selection by the Working Group Bureaux based on their scientific work, publications, and balanced geographical representation
- Thousands of experts will review the AR5 as expert reviewers (also voluntary contributions)

# Review Process

- Internal review of so-called Zero Order Draft (ZOD)
- Round of review by experts of the First Order Draft (FOD)
- Round of review by governments and experts of the Second Order Draft (SOD)
- Approval by Panel and publication AR plus review comments
- For the AR4 (2007) over 3,500 experts from 130 countries: 450 Lead Authors, 800 Contributing Authors and 2,500 expert reviewers providing 90,000 review comments

# IPCC Writing and Review Process



# Preparation IPCC Reports under scrutiny

- Many Reviewers but draft Reports and comments remain confidential until after approval
- Criticism –lack of openness and transparency– aggravated by mistakes found in AR4
- Review of processes and procedures by IAC (early 2010) and Aarhus Convention Secretariat (early 2011)
- Views, conclusions and decisions by IPCC 33 (May 2011) and IPCC 34 (November 2011)

# Main conclusions related to Aarhus Convention and Almaty Guidelines

- AR review process broad and participatory
- Drafts considered: ‘material in the course of completion’
- Correspondence Authors a.o. considered: ‘personal data and/or files’
- Full accountability through publication of all review comments



# IPCC and Aarhus in perspective

- Best scientific results versus openness and privacy protection
- IPCC considers its draft Reports to be pre-decisional, provided in confidence to reviewers, and not for public distribution, quotation or citation
- Aarhus Convention and Almaty Guidelines: binding or guiding?
- Access to information and participation: no fixed method

# Questions?

For more information,

[www.ipcc.ch](http://www.ipcc.ch)

# Thank you.