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PROGRESS REPORTS

Informal Group on Publications

(Prepared by the Co-Chairs of the Informal Group on Publications)

(Submitted by the Secretary of the IPCC)

PROGRESS REPORTS

Informal Group on Publications

1. Overview

Since the submission of the Progress Report on the Informal Group on Publications (IPCC-LVII/INF. 9), a third meeting of the translations phase of the Informal Group on Publications was held on 26 September 2022. The meeting was chaired by the Informal Group on Publications Co-Chairs, Working Group III Co-Chair Jim Skea and Working Group II Vice-Chair Taha Zatari, and attended by Co-Chairs, Vice-Chairs and Technical Support Unit (TSU) members from the Working Groups; Co-Chairs and TSU members of the Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories; representatives of the Task Group on Data Support for Climate Change Assessments (TG-Data); the Secretary of the IPCC; and other Secretariat members.

2. The proposed translation process

Following discussion of two options at the second meeting of the Informal Group on Publications in August 2022, the Co-Chairs, supported by members of the Technical Support Units of the Working Groups, prepared a single proposed process for members' consideration. During the third meeting, the Group reviewed the proposed process and reached consensus on a recommendation to the Bureau. A number of specific refinements to the Co-Chairs' document were proposed and agreed. These will be implemented off-line and signed off by correspondence. The recommendation will be presented to the 63rd Session of the IPCC Bureau.

The proposed process involves a structured approach which provides a flexible framework that takes account of the specificities associated with translation into different languages. A key principle is that there must be consistency between the approved English language material and its translations.

The key features of the proposed process are:

- The further development and use of the **Collaborative Online Glossary System (COGS)**, which builds on the development of a single cross-Working Group glossary developed during AR6. This will allow translation in both directions between terms in the English language glossary and those in the other UN languages. The Secretariat has made a start on the development of this functionality. New glossary terms would be added early in the development of new IPCC products with the assistance of authors.
- As before, the **WMO translators** would provide a first draft translation of IPCC products. The COGS would assist them in this process. Their duties would be extended to include participation in later stages of the process aimed at establishing consensus.
- A new role, that of **Science Editor**, would be established to review the first draft of translations, liaising with authors as necessary. They would be recruited by an open process and contracted by the Secretariat. This replaces the ad hoc voluntary role previously filled by Bureau members.
- Interested **Governments** would run a self-organised process to review the first draft of translations. Engagement between Science Editors and governments at this stage would facilitate the process.
- The **Publications Committee**, to be established following a recommendation from the first phase of the Informal Group on Publications, would have its mandate extended to make recommendations regarding the Technical Specifications and Terms of Reference for the procurement of WMO translation services and the Science Editor role.

- Five **Editorial Sub-Committees** would be established, one for each UN language other than English. Each Sub-Committee would have a Bureau member of the Publications Committee as its **Convenor**. The Editorial Sub-Committees would comprise the Convenor, WMO translators, government representatives, the Science Editors, and others (Bureau members, authors, TSU members) at the discretion of the Convenor. The main task of the Editorial Sub-Committees would be to reach consensus on translations following the reviews by Science Editors and governments.
- Those contributing to the translation process should be recognized in published documents for their work.