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IPCC STATEMENT

29 July 2014

UK parliamentary committee report on IPCC

GENEVA, July 29 – The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change welcomes the interest in its work shown by the report issued on 29 July by the UK House of Commons Energy and Climate Change Committee: *Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Fifth Assessment Report: Review of Working Group I contribution*.

The committee's report notes that the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report is the best available summary of the prevailing scientific opinion on climate change currently available to policymakers. It acknowledges that the conclusions of the report are widely supported in the scientific community and that its summaries are presented in a way that is persuasive to the lay reader.

The committee also praises the improvements to the IPCC's processes. On the basis of a review conducted by the InterAcademy Council (IAC) in 2010, governments took a decision to strengthen several of the IPCC's procedures, including the review of draft reports. The report by the House of Commons Energy and Climate Change Committee highlights the satisfactory implementation of the IAC review, which had been called for by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and Chairman of the IPCC in 2010.

The IPCC notes the committee's suggestions for further improvements to transparency in the production of IPCC assessment reports. These form a valuable contribution to the discussions now underway in the IPCC's Task Group on the Future Work of the IPCC.

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Notes for editors

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the international body for assessing the science related to climate change. It was set up in 1988 to provide policymakers with regular assessments of the scientific basis for climate change, its impacts and future risks, and options for adaptation and mitigation.

The Working Group I contribution to the Fifth Assessment Report (AR5), dealing with the physical science basis of climate change, was finalized on 23-27 September 2013, and its Summary for Policymakers released on 27 September. The full Working Group I report was published on 30 January 2014.

The Working Group II contribution to AR5, dealing with impacts, adaptation, and vulnerability, was finalized on 25-30 March 2014. Its Summary for Policymakers and the accepted final draft of the full

report were released on 31 March. The Working Group III contribution, dealing with the mitigation of climate change, was finalized on 7-12 April 2014. Its Summary for Policymakers was released on 13 April and the accepted final draft on 15 April. The full Working Group II and III reports will be published in late September or October.

The IPCC is currently working on the Synthesis Report, which will integrate the three working group contributions and which will be finalized on 27-31 October 2014 and presented at a press conference on 2 November.

The InterAcademy Council (IAC) was set up in 2000 by the world's science academies. It mobilizes scientists and engineers to provide advice to international bodies. Its report on the IPCC and details of the IPCC's response are here: http://www.ipcc.ch/organization/organization_review.shtml

The report of the House of Commons Energy and Climate Change Committee can be found at : <http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/energy-and-climate-change-committee/news/report-ipcc-5-assessment-review/>