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## IPCC MEDIA ADVISORY

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**Authors of IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C hold first meeting**

GENEVA, March 3 – The authors of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C will meet on 6-10 March 2017 in São Paulo, Brazil, for the First Lead Author Meeting of the Special Report. This meeting, involving 86 scientific, technical and socio-economic [experts](#) from 39 countries, initiates work on the Special Report, which will be completed in September 2018.

The meeting for the report, whose full title is *Global Warming of 1.5°C, an IPCC special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty*, is hosted by the kind invitation of the government of Brazil through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the National Institute for Space Research (INPE).

“This Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C enhances the policy relevance of the IPCC, and marks the start of the most ambitious climate assessment cycle undertaken by the IPCC since its inception in 1988,” said IPCC Chair Hoesung Lee. “The IPCC continues to accomplish the assessment of our understanding of climate change with scientific rigour, robustness and transparency, thanks to the continued engagement and commitment of the international climate research community.”

The experts have the task of initiating the best and most comprehensive assessment of the status of knowledge on the climate system with respect to a warming of 1.5°C. The report will assess the impacts of a global warming of 1.5°C on both human and natural environments, as well as study current and emerging adaptation and mitigation options and their linkages with sustainable development, poverty eradication, and reducing inequalities.

During the first of four lead author meetings, the chapter teams will identify key issues, design an outline of each chapter, discuss options for treating cross-cutting topics between chapters and other IPCC products, and plan the author team's work in preparing the draft chapter content.

This Special Report is being prepared in response to an invitation from the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in December 2015 in Paris. The [outline of the report](#) was developed at the scoping meeting last year and agreed by the IPCC member governments in October 2016.

The IPCC will hold a briefing at **10:00 São Paulo time on Monday 6 March**, at **INPE, Avenida dos Astronautas 1758, Jardim da Granja, São José dos Campos**, São Paulo, Brazil, to present the work of the IPCC and the preparations for the Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C.

*For more information contact:*

IPCC Press Office, Email : [ipcc-media@wmo.int](mailto:ipcc-media@wmo.int)

Jonathan Lynn, +41 22 730 8066 or Werani Zabula, +41 22 730 8120

IPCC Working Group I Technical Support Unit: [tsu@ipcc-wg1.universite-paris-saclay.fr](mailto:tsu@ipcc-wg1.universite-paris-saclay.fr)

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IPCC Secretariat

c/o WMO · 7 bis, Avenue de la Paix · C.P. 2300 · CH-1211 Geneva 2 · Switzerland

telephone +41 22 730 8208 / 54 / 84 · fax +41 22 730 8025 / 13 · email [IPCC-Sec@wmo.int](mailto:IPCC-Sec@wmo.int) · [www.ipcc.ch](http://www.ipcc.ch)

Notes for editors

## What is the IPCC?

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the UN body for assessing the science related to climate change. It was established by the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in 1988 to provide policymakers with regular scientific assessments concerning climate change, its implications and potential future risks, as well as to put forward adaptation and mitigation strategies. It has 195 member states.

IPCC assessments provide governments, at all levels, with scientific information that they can use to develop climate policies. IPCC assessments are a key input into the international negotiations to tackle climate change. IPCC reports are drafted and reviewed in several stages, thus guaranteeing objectivity and transparency.

The IPCC assesses the thousands of scientific papers published each year to tell policymakers what we know and don't know about the risks related to climate change. The IPCC identifies where there is agreement in the scientific community, where there are differences of opinion, and where further research is needed. It does not conduct its own research.

To produce its reports, the IPCC mobilizes hundreds of scientists. These scientists and officials are drawn from diverse backgrounds. Only a dozen permanent staff work in the IPCC's Secretariat.

The IPCC has three working groups: Working Group I, dealing with the physical science basis of climate change; Working Group II, dealing with impacts, adaptation and vulnerability; and Working Group III, dealing with the mitigation of climate change. It also has a Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories that develops methodologies for measuring emissions and removals.

IPCC Assessment Reports consist of contributions from each of the three working groups and a Synthesis Report. Special Reports undertake an assessment of cross-disciplinary issues that span more than one working group and are shorter and more focused than the main assessments.

## Sixth Assessment Cycle

At its 41st Session in February 2015, the IPCC decided to produce a Sixth Assessment Report (AR6). At its 42nd Session in October 2015 it elected a new Bureau that would oversee the work on this report and Special Reports to be produced in the assessment cycle. At its 43rd Session in April 2016, it decided to produce three Special Reports, a Methodology Report and AR6.

The first of these special reports is *Global Warming of 1.5°C, an IPCC special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty* (SR15). This report will be delivered in September 2018. A scoping meeting to draft the outline of the report took place in August 2016 and the Panel approved the outline the following October.

The Methodology Report to refine the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories will be delivered in 2019. Additionally, the IPCC will also finalize two Special Reports in 2019: on climate change and oceans and the cryosphere; and on climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security, and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems. The AR6 Synthesis Report will be finalized in the first half of 2022.

For more information go to [www.ipcc.ch](http://www.ipcc.ch).