

Our ref.: 5206-14/IPCC/AR5

Annex(es): 1

To designated IPCC Focal Points and
Ministries of Foreign Affairs (MFAs)
(if no focal point has been designated)

COPY

Geneva, 19 May 2014

Sir/Madam,

Reference is made to my letter No. 5199-14/IPCC/AR5 of 9 May 2014 regarding an error in the Summary for Policymakers (SPM) of the Working Group II (WGII) Contribution to the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report, *Climate Change 2014: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability*, that was discovered by the authors of the report after approval and acceptance at the 10th Session of Working Group II and the 38th Session of the IPCC in Yokohama, March 2014.

Following my request to governments, seeking their approval to delegate to the IPCC Executive Committee the approval of the proposed erratum, please be informed that not all countries agreed with the proposed erratum. A revised erratum proposal constructed by the WGII Co-Chairs and CLAs and approved by the WGII Bureau is therefore resubmitted for your consideration and is attached as **Annex 1** to this letter.

May I ask again your agreement to delegate the approval of this revised erratum to the IPCC Executive Committee, consistent with the procedure of the Error Protocol for rapid response. Unless we hear any objections by **23 May 2014, 10:00 a.m.** Geneva time we will proceed as suggested.

A copy of this letter is being sent to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the Permanent Representative with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), and the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) Focal Point(s) of your country for information.

Yours sincerely,



Renate Christ
Secretary of the IPCC

WGII AR5 SPM Error/ Revised Erratum to 29 March 2014 pre-copy-edit version:

Correction of content-related errors

Table SPM A.1

The erratum concerns page 32, line 5 (This is entry #4 in the section of the table concerning Asia; Snow & Ice, Rivers & Lakes, Floods & Drought.)

The original text reads: “Increased flow in four rivers due to shrinking glaciers in the Himalayas & Central Asia (High confidence, Major contribution from climate change)”

The proposed revised text reads: “Increased flow in several rivers due to shrinking glaciers (High confidence, Major contribution from climate change)”

Specifically, the proposed erratum replaces “four” with “several”, and it deletes “in the Himalayas and Central Asia”.

The motivation for the erratum is the following:

1) For changing “four” to “several”: The cited papers present conclusions on four glacier/river systems, but the data for one system (Hailuogou) are not as clear as for the other systems. The four systems are: Urumqi River (Xinjiang), Tuotuo Basin (Qinghai), Yanggong Basin (Yunnan), Hailuogou glacier (Sichuan).

2) For deleting “in the Himalayas and Central Asia”: based on a careful review of the locations, the glacier/river systems are not in the Himalayas and Central Asia. For several entries in Table SPM.A1, the location is specified at the level of the continental-scale region.

The data are in the following three papers (cited in the underlying report).

Casassa, G., P. Lopez, B. Pouyaud, and F. Escobar, 2009: Detection of changes in glacial run-off in alpine basins. Examples from North America, the Alps, central Asia and the Andes. *Hydrological Processes*, 23(1), 31-41

Li, Z.X., Y.Q. He, T. Pu, W.X. Jia, X.Z. He, H.X. Pang, N.N. Zhang, Q. Liu, S.J. Wang, G.F. Zhu, S.X. Wang, L. Chang, J.K. Du, and H.J. Xin, 2010: Changes of climate, glaciers and runoff in China's monsoonal temperate glacier region during the last several decades. *Quaternary International*, 218(1–2), 13-28

Zhang, Y., S. Liu, J. Xu, and D. Shangguan, 2008: Glacier change and glacier runoff variation in the Tuotuo River basin, the source region of Yangtze River in western China. *Environmental Geology*, 56(1), 59-68