

Our ref.: 5374-17/IPCC/SR15

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

COPY

Geneva, 15 December 2017

Subject: *IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C*

Sir/Madam,

I have the honour of addressing you on the matter of the Government and Expert Review of the IPCC *“Special Report on 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”*.

You may recall that at the twenty-first session of the Conference of Parties (COP-21) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in its decision on the adoption of the Paris Agreement, explicitly invited the IPCC to provide a Special Report in 2018 on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways. At the 43rd Session of the IPCC (11 to 13 April 2016, Nairobi, Kenya), the Panel accepted the UNFCCC’s invitation to provide the Special Report on 1.5°C in 2018 in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty. Following a Scoping Meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, in August 2016, the outline of the Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C was approved at the 44th Session of the IPCC in Bangkok, Thailand, in October 2016.

Following an IPCC call for nominations in October 2016 to member governments and observer organizations for experts to participate in the Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C, Coordinating Lead Authors, Lead Authors and Review Editors were selected by the Working Group I, II and III Bureau in February 2017 from the large number of nominations received. The First Order Draft (FOD) of Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C was available for expert review from 31 July 2017 to 24 September 2017. The report has now been revised by the authors in response to comments received and the Second Order Draft (SOD) will undergo simultaneous review by governments and experts.

The government and expert review of the SOD will take place from 8 January 2018 to 25 February 2018 midnight (GMT +1).

An e-mail providing your unique credentials to access the password-protected SOD repository will be sent to you on **8 January 2018**. These web pages will contain the drafts themselves, supporting materials, the comments spreadsheet, and instructions. You will be asked to upload the completed government review onto this system using the comments spreadsheet. Instructions will be provided with your credentials.

The government and expert review of the SOD is a key element of the IPCC assessment process. The purpose of this government and expert review is to help ensure that the report provides a balanced and comprehensive assessment of the latest scientific findings. The IPCC Procedures state that the review process shall be objective, open and transparent, with a wide circulation that aims to involve as many independent experts as possible in the IPCC process, seeking a range of views, expertise, and geographical representation.

All the experts who provided a review of the FOD will be notified separately about the Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C Government and Expert Review of the SOD, soliciting their participation again in the process, to review the progress made since the FOD. Governments and observer organizations are also asked to encourage additional experts to participate in the review.

An online registration process has been prepared and is open for prospective expert reviewers via the IPCC web site, registration will close on **16 February 2018 midnight (GMT +1)**, one week before the end of the review period:

<https://www.ipcc.ch/apps/comments/sr15/sod/register.php>

Additional information on the role of Expert Reviewer is available in Annex 1 of Appendix A to the Principles Governing IPCC Work. Please also see here an information note explaining the Expert Review process: https://www.ipcc.ch/report/sr15/pdf/information_note_expert_review.pdf

If you have any questions about the process, please contact the IPCC Working Group I TSU at <tsu@ipcc-wg1.fr>.

A copy of this letter is being sent for information to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and to the Permanent Representatives from your country to the World Meteorological Organization and to the United Nations Environment Programme.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Mokssit', with a small flourish at the end.

(Abdalah Mokssit)
Secretary of the IPCC