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ONGOING WORK OF THE WORKING GROUP

**Progress Report of Working Group I towards the Fifth
Assessment Report**

(Submitted by the Co-Chairs of Working Group I)

PROGRESS OF WORKING GROUP I TOWARDS THE FIFTH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Submitted by the Co-Chairs of Working Group I

1. Summary

The outline for the Working Group I contribution to the Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) is presented to the Panel at this, its 31st Session in Bali, October 2009. The broad structure and rationale as well as the implementation plan are contained in documents provided to the 11th session of WGI (WGI-11/Doc. 3 and WGI-11/INF. 1). The following is a report on the recent meetings in support of the AR5 and other WGI activities since IPCC-XXX.

Recent key activities for WGI, in chronological order, have been:

- Presentation on the outcome of the IPCC Expert Meeting on the Science of Alternative Metrics held in Oslo, Norway, March 2009 at UNFCCC in Bonn, Germany in June 2009;
- Selection of Coordinating Lead Authors, Lead Authors and Review Editors for the WGI/II Joint Special Report on Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation (SREX);
- IPCC WGI/WGII Expert Meeting on Detection and Attribution Related to Anthropogenic Climate Change held in Geneva, Switzerland, September 2009;
- Preparation of IPCC WGI/WGII Expert Meeting on Multi-Model Evaluation to be held in Boulder, USA, January 2010.

2. Meetings in Support of the AR5

Several key IPCC Expert Meetings have already been held or are in planning in support of the development of the WGI AR5:

- The IPCC Expert Meeting on the Science of Alternative Metrics, organized by WGI in March 2009 in Oslo, Norway brought together 32 participants including experts from WGIII and the Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (TFI). The outcome of the meeting, as reported to IPCC-XXX (see IPCC-XXX, Doc. 13), was a series of key conclusions and recommendations for UNFCCC, the scientific community, and the scoping of the AR5. The results were presented by WGI to UNFCCC in Bonn, Germany, in June 2009 where there was much interest and active discussion. The Meeting Report has been published and is available online from the WGI and IPCC Secretariat websites.
- A WGI/WGII Expert Meeting on Detection and Attribution Related to Anthropogenic Climate Change, held in Geneva, Switzerland in September 2009, provided a key opportunity for 38 experts from the detection and attribution communities within WGI and WGII to work together to develop consistency and coherence of terminology, explore the methods used, and develop a better understanding across the two Working Groups. A 'Good Practice Guidance Paper on Detection and Attribution' is currently being prepared and further collaboration between the authors of the relevant chapters within the two working group reports is planned.
- A WGI/WGII Expert Meeting on Multi-Model Evaluation will be held in Boulder, USA, in January 2010. This meeting will provide an opportunity to investigate the possibility of establishing a framework for using and assessing the AR5 model set with the goal of providing tentative best practices in selecting and combining results from multiple models. The meeting will also aim to maximize the robustness of the policy relevance of the projections and encourage interaction between the WGI and WGII communities.

3. Special Reports

Working Group I is actively engaged in the WGI/II Joint Special Report on Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation (SREX). Operational oversight resides with Working Group II, but the WGI Co-Chairs, Bureau and TSU have remained heavily involved throughout the process. Two members of the WGI Bureau were on the Science Steering Group and together with the WGI Co-Chairs worked collectively with WGII in the selection of author teams, in particular for Chapter 3, which is the responsibility of WGI and is entitled "Changes in Climate Extremes and their Impacts on the Natural Physical Environment". A complete Progress Report on the SREX has been provided by the Co-Chairs of WGII (see IPCC-XXXI/Doc. 7).