



Second IPCC climate change report released

Posted: Tuesday, 10 April 2007, Brussels

Friday, 6 April 2007 marked the release in Brussels of the second report of a four-part assessment by the UN's **Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)**.

In a **statement**, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon welcomed the release of the findings of Working Group II, expressing concern that the impacts of climate change are increasingly noticeable, and likely to become more so in the future, as extreme weather events intensify. This report assesses the latest scientific, environmental and socio-economic literature on impacts, adaptation and vulnerability.

Adequate, large-scale adaptation measures have the potential to alleviate some of the worst consequences outlined in the report, if Governments take action without delay.

As a result of warmer temperatures, springtime events are occurring earlier, such as increased run-off and peak discharge in many glacier- and snow-fed rivers. More animal and plant species have also been observed shifting toward higher latitudes.

The Secretary-General hopes that the parties to the Convention on Climate Change will work decisively towards a comprehensive framework to replace the existing regime once it expires in 2012 and avail themselves of the opportunity to make progress towards such a framework at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Bali in December 2007.

The other parts of the IPCC assessment will focus on mitigation, in May, and a synthesis report to be released in November.

The Secretariat of the **UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)** leads the UN effort on climate change.



SECRETARY-GENERAL WELCOMES CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP'S FINDINGS,

URGES DECISIVE ACTION BY STATES

The following statement was issued on Friday, 6 April, by the Spokesperson for UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon:

The Secretary-General welcomes the release of the findings of Working Group II of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. He expresses his concern that the impacts of climate change are increasingly noticeable, and likely to become more so in the future, as extreme weather events intensify. Adequate, large-scale adaptation measures have the potential to alleviate some of the worst consequences outlined in the report, if Governments take action without delay. The Secretary-General hopes that the parties to the Convention on Climate Change will work decisively towards a comprehensive framework to replace the existing regime once it expires in 2012. He hopes the parties will avail themselves of the opportunity to make progress towards such a framework at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Bali in December this year.

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Secretary-General on climate change

Posted: Tuesday, 6 February 2007, Paris/Nairobi

With the Friday, 2 February release in Paris of the first findings of a four-part assessment by the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (**IPCC**), and recognizing that assaults on the global environment risk undermining the many advances human society has made in recent decades, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has reaffirmed climate change as one of his priorities.

"The world has reached a critical stage in its efforts to exercise responsible environmental stewardship," he said in his 5 February [message](#) to the [Governing Council](#) / Global Ministerial Environment Forum session of the United Nations Environment Programme (**UNEP**).

He welcomed the findings, which highlight the scientific consensus regarding the quickening and threatening pace of human-induced (anthropogenic) climate change and forecast future trends. This study, and the follow-up reports of the IPCC during 2007, will be critical guides for the UN's response and will assist other stakeholders in taking actions at the global, national and local levels.

The Secretary-General stressed that it is the poor – in Africa, small island developing states and elsewhere – who will suffer the most, even though they are the least responsible for global warming. Recognizing the crucial link between environmental and economic policies must be at the centre of efforts to conquer poverty and achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

The other parts of the IPCC assessment will focus on the impact of climate, in April, mitigation, in May, and a synthesis report that will be released in November.

Secretary-General Introduces "Nairobi Framework" at Climate Change Conference

Posted: Wednesday, 15 November 2006, Nairobi

Secretary-General Kofi Annan addressed the high-level segment of the **United Nations Climate Change Conference** in Nairobi today, 15 November 2006, announcing the "Nairobi Framework", a new plan to help developing countries participate in the **Kyoto Protocol**.



The high-level segment, attended by approximately 100 ministers and more than 6,000 participants, continues through 16 November. Seeing climate change as a threat to peace and security and a challenge to the Millennium Development Goals, Annan said, "Global climate change must take its place alongside the threats of conflict, poverty and the proliferation of deadly weapons that have traditionally monopolized first-order political attention." He cited a "frightening lack of leadership" and added that it will cost much less to cut emissions now than to deal with the consequences later.

The Nairobi Framework is an initiative of six UN agencies and is aimed at helping the developing countries – especially in Africa – participate in the Protocol's Clean Development Mechanism. Annan described the Mechanism as "an outstanding example of a UN-led partnership linking government action to the private sector in the developing world."

The Conference is scheduled to end 17 November, but already the Conference President, Kenyan Minister for Natural Resources and the Environment Kivutha Kibwana said that there has been "very good progress" with agreement on "a number of important issues, including on adaptation, and financial support for developing countries".