



WMO Commission for Climatology providing policy relevant information

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In documents adopted during CCI-17 is recognized that the WMO Annual Statement on the State of the Global Climate constitutes the WMO authoritative global synthesis of best available analysis and scientific information, with indicators for tracking climate trends, variability, and extremes and their impacts. The WMO annual Statement on the State of the Global Climate is complementing the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Assessment Reports, which are issued every five to seven years.

In February 2016 the expert meeting on the WMO Statements on the State of the Global Climate provided a pathway towards addressing, inter-alia, scientific questions as well improving the content with inclusion of impact information from relevant United Nations Agencies authoritative sources. The meeting scoped an innovative approach in the provision of the WMO Statements on the State of the Global Climate (WCDMP-No.84, February 2016), including:

- Identification of policy-relevant climate indicators on which to focus in the Statement,
- Harmonization of reference periods and baselines,
- Approach for informing on attribution and open science issues,
- Intersection of IPCC reports and multi-year Statements,
- Associated impact information, United Nations agency input, country inputs and other sources,
- New mechanism for authoring, contributing and reviewing the publication,
- Citation and reference issues,
- Liaison with IPCC on CCI expert involvement in IPCC reports and their collaboration with IPCC Working Groups for reviewing the Statement.

In addressing the needs and requirements as summarized above, the Commission for Climatology will see its role expanding to include ensuring science adequacy and policy relevancy of the WMO Statements on the State of the Global Climate. The role will include:

- Provide guidance, expert contribution and scientific coordination required for submitting the state of the global climate on a regular basis at sessions of SBSTA (reference invitation made by the UNFCCC to the WMO at the COP22 held in Marrakesh, 6-13 November 2016),
- Strengthen the WMO Annual Statement on the State of the Global Climate by adding, when feasible, information which requires multi-year analysis, such as carbon and sea level budgets and multi-year prolonged droughts, and to provide impacts information in partnership with United Nations' and other relevant agencies (Decision 9 (EC-69)),
- Collaborate with the WMO secretariat, GCOS, IPCC, JCOMM and WCRP on summarizing key findings on the headline climate indicators reflected in the WMO Statements and those reflected in the IPCC reports to ensure consistency and policy-relevance,
- Provide enhanced and timely guidance for Members contributions and feedback.