

Climate Change Advisory Council Adaptation Committee Meeting - MINUTES

Date: 16.05.2023

Start time: 09:00

Venue: MS Teams

Present: Prof. Peter Thorne (Chair); Jillian Mahon; David Joyce (to item 6); Mark Adamson (for all items except item 4); John Spink (alternate, Teagasc); Conor Quinlan (alternate, EPA); Dr. Ina Kelly; Prof. Robert Devoy (for Item 4 and 5); Roger Street (from item 5).

Apologies: Keith Lambkin; Emer O’Gorman; Julie Clarke; Prof. Conor Murphy; Sinéad O’Brien.

Secretariat: George Hussey; Stephen Flood; Claire Camilleri; Jodie Colgan; Bryn Canniffe; Ciara Hilliard; Phillip O’Brien; Simon Ngorok

1. Opening of Meeting

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming everyone present.

It was noted that changes to the Environment Committee of the CCMA may result in a different nomination to the Adaptation Committee and as such no CCMA representative will be in attendance at this meeting.

a. Minutes for the Adaptation Committee

The minutes of the Committee meeting held on the 30th of March 2023 were agreed.

b. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted.

c. Disclosures of interest

There were no disclosures of interest.

It was also noted that Mark Adamson would excuse himself from Item 4 due to a conflict of interest.

2. Council Update

The Secretariat briefed the Committee on the Climate Change Advisory Council meeting of 27th of April 2023.

- The Secretariat presented a discussion paper on Vision for 2050 to provide background information and analysis for a Council discussion on the long-term climate objective under the Act, prior to a discussion with the Carbon Budgets Working Group and further revisions to the paper.
- Niamh Garvey from NESC presented their work on Just Transition in Agriculture. It was noted that the report is scheduled to be published June.
- Two research reports were agreed for publication on the CCAC website, subject to minor changes. The reports were a Literature Review of the Potential of Biochar to Sequester Carbon in Ireland and Reviewing Local Authority Renewable Energy Strategies' contribution to Ireland's 2030 Renewable Electricity Targets.
- An update was provided from the Communications subgroup meetings on the redevelopment of the website. The Draft Social Media Policy was adopted, along with its implementation plan.
- The CCAC had a follow up discussion regarding issues that were previously raised with the Office of the Planning Regulator. The drafting of a letter to government expressing concern about planning delays and the achievement of climate change targets was agreed. It was noted that it has since been sent out.
- The draft of the 2023 Annual Review was circulated to Council members for their inputs

3. Secretariat Update

The Secretariat gave verbal updates on the following:

- **Update on small-scale studies**

It was agreed that the output from the study by Prof Pius Yanda on the area of funding of Climate Change Adaptation abroad be shared with Irish Aid..

The Chair thanked Prof. Yanda for his work.

- **ECCA 2023**

The Committee have secured a session at ECCA on 'Experiences of Climate Councils - Creating Successful Climate Action' on June 21st.

ICCN will also be hosting a session and the Secretariat hope to support this from an Irish perspective.

CCAC will have a booth at the Piazza and the Secretariat will be available at this.

The Chair encouraged media engagement around ECCA to raise the profile of ongoing adaptation work.

Conor Quinlan, EPA also gave some further insights into how the Irish story of adaptation would be told at the conference.

4. Adaptation Scorecard

The Secretariat presented the results of the scorecard assessment of all sectors and outlined the process used to review the sectors, including the role of Committee members. The presentation was based on a detailed report of the scorecard assessment that was also shared with the Committee for discussion. The next proposed step in the process was to share the main findings and recommendations per sector with each of the sectors for their feedback in respect of any factual errors.

It was highlighted in the discussion that not all sectors relevant to adaptation are covered by the scorecard assessment, such as the built environment. It was noted that the Council's submission to the National Adaptation Framework review process recommended for the built environment sector to have its own Sectoral Adaptation Plan.

The Committee discussed the main findings of the report and supported for it to be published on the Council website after the process is completed and subject to proof-reading. The Committee supported the proposal to share the main findings and recommendations with each sector for their comment.

5. Annual Review 2023 Planning

The Secretariat presented the draft key messages from the Adaptation Chapters of the Annual Review 2023 for discussion.

It was noted that the draft adaptation chapters of the Annual Review would be available for Committee members' comments until Wednesday 24th May.

6. AOB, agreed outcomes and plans for next meeting

a) **Next meeting**

The next Committee meeting was scheduled for the 22nd of June 2023, in the National Emergency Co-ordination Centre, Agriculture House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the initials 'P.W.' followed by a stylized, scribbled flourish.

Signed electronically 22.06.2023