



Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting - MINUTES

Date: 19/20.07.2023

Start time: 09:00

Venue: Maryborough Hotel, Cork and MS Teams

In attendance: Marie Donnelly (Chair), Professor John Fitzgerald, Patricia King (Day 2 - 8:57), Jillian Mahon, Prof. Frank O' Mara (Teagasc) (Day 2 – 9:01), Andrew Murphy; Dr. Cara Augustenborg, Julie Sinnamon, Eoin Moran (Met Éireann); Prof Peter Thorne; Prof. Morgan Bazilian (Day 2 – 8:59); Prof. Ottmar Edenhofer (Day 1 - left 9:48), Laura Burke (EPA) (Day 1- 09:20).

Presenting: DAY 2, Agenda Item 9: Shane Finnegan & Seamus Donnelly (Aiken Communications)

Apologies: William Walsh (observer); Eoin Moran (Day 2); Prof. Ottmar Edenhofer (Day 2)

Secretariat: George Hussey, Phillip O'Brien, Meabh Gallagher, Claire Camilleri, Gina Kelly, Stephen Flood, Syed Faiz ul Islam, Eleanor Matthews, Jodie Colgan, Kieran Craven, Bryn Canniffe, Simon Ngorok (Intern), Niamh McCarthy (Intern), Aoife McKeon (Intern)

MaREI and Thermo Fisher Scientific visit: Marie Donnelly (Chair), Professor John Fitzgerald, Jillian Mahon, Prof. Frank O' Mara, Andrew Murphy; Dr. Cara Augustenborg, Julie Sinnamon, Eoin Moran; Prof Peter Thorne; Prof. Morgan Bazilian; Claire Camilleri, Eleanor Matthews, Simon Ngorok (Intern), Niamh McCarthy (Intern), Aoife McKeon (Intern).



Day 1: 19th July 2023

1. Opening of Meeting (09:00)

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

The Chair noted that Council member Sinead O'Brien has submitted her resignation from the Council. The Council thanked Sinead for her contributions to the Council and her representation on water and biodiversity issues and sent their best wishes.

1.1 Minutes for the Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting 15.06.2023 (09:49)

The minutes were accepted.

Matters arising from the minutes

No matters arising from the minutes.

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted without amendment.

Disclosure of Interests

No Disclosures of Interests.

For approval

The Council approved the Residential Retrofit Review report and the Scoping study: data collection requirements to inform strategies for sustainable agriculture at farm-level for publication on the Council's website.

2. EU-wide 2040 climate target and a greenhouse gas budget for 2030-2050 (09:12)

Prof. Ottmar Edenhofer presented the ESAB advice to the Commission on EU-wide 2040 climate target and a greenhouse budget for 2030-2050. He presented the key findings and recommendations of the advice.

The Council discussed the report including the scenarios that were used in the formation of the report. The Council highlighted the challenge of the distributional elements that need to be further explored and discussed the energy pathways that were identified in the report.

The Council discussed carbon capture and storage issues within the report. The Commission will now prepare an impact assessment report.



The Council heard that the ESAB will look at carbon dioxide removals, and that in the autumn there will be a report on how EU policy architecture is aligned with the targets. The Council looks forward to following the progression of this report.

3. Annual Review 2023 (10:01)

The Secretariat presented the latest draft of the Annual Review. The Council discussed the key recommendations and elements of the report and provided feedback for the Secretariat to incorporate and to be finalised the following day.

Council suggested and agreed that the Secretariat should be identified as the drafting team on the report.

4. MaREI & Industry Energy Example site visit

Council members were invited to an offsite visit to MaREI, the SFI Research Centre for Energy, Climate and Marine research and innovation co-ordinated by the Environmental Research Institute (ERI) at University College Cork. MaREI presented a number of projects that they are leading on with industry partners.

The Council then visited Thermo Fisher Scientific to look at an industry example of utilising renewable energy.

Day 2: 20th July 2023

5. Adaptation Committee Meeting and ECCA update (08:34)

The Secretariat provided a verbal update from the Adaptation Committee meeting on the 22nd June 2023. Liam Conneally, Chief Executive of Galway County Council was nominated to replace Paddy Mahon as the CCMA representative on the Adaptation Committee. The Council endorsed the nomination. The Secretariat provided a report on the recent European Climate Change Adaptation Conference held in Dublin (19-21st June). The Adaptation Committee also discussed the Annual Review and had presentations from the EPA on Climate Ireland and from Dr Áine Macken-Walsh from Teagasc on the Council commissioned scoping study on data collection requirements to inform strategies for sustainable agriculture at farm level.

6. Carbon Budgets Working Group update (8:40)

The Secretariat provided an update on the working group meeting of the 29th June and preview of upcoming meetings. The next meeting will be on the 17th July, with a focused



discussion on methane and will continue to scope the modelling requirements. September will look to socioeconomic considerations, and population and demographics issues. A workshop will also take place in September on developing a shared understanding of model inputs and expected outputs for the first iteration of modelling.

7. Work Programme Update and Revised Budget 2 (08:50)

Secretariat outlined budget revision 2, with a modest reduction of budget of €3,000. The Secretariat flagged the potential underspend if researchers cannot be found to engage in some of the projects flagged for 2023.

8. Thematic session preview – AFOLU – for September meeting (08:55)

The Secretariat presented a short proposal for a thematic discussion on various aspects of Agriculture, Forestry and Land Use at the September 2023 Council meeting, including sources to be considered and the approach to preparing a paper for the discussion.

Based on feedback received from Council, the Secretariat will progress analysis and preparation of a Council paper in advance of the September meeting.

The Secretariat also updated the Council on future topics for thematic sessions:

- District Heating
- Security of Supply
- Sustainable Food Systems
- Climate Finance & Administrative Burden.

Annual Review contd.

The Secretariat presented the revised executive summary including revisions from Day 1. The Council agreed to the finalisation of the text with minor changes.

9. Annual Review 2023 Communications/Messaging session

Shane Finnegan & Seamus Donnelly Aiken Communications joined in person for this item and presented an outline to the approach for the communication of the Annual Review 2023. The Council provided feedback on the proposed communication tools and approved the Summary for All document to accompany the Annual Review 2023.

10. Communications Subgroup Update (9:58)

An update on the most recent Communications Subgroup meeting on the 10.07.2023 was provided. The Secretariat informed the meeting on the launch of the Council's website and



social media channels. The Council congratulated the Secretariat on the launch and the website improvements.

11. Activities of the Council

The Council noted the report of Council activities.

12. AOB and next meeting

The Council discussed the progress of the EPA's Ireland's Climate Change Assessment. The Council were also briefed on the progress of the European Green Deal. The Council also heard about planned research proposals from the Secretariat. The Council also recommended contacting the European Scientific Advisory Board to discuss a follow up dissemination of their recent report with other Councils. Future meetings of the Council were also discussed, with the Secretariat to follow up on arrangements.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marie L. Donnelly".

signed electronically on 28.09.2023