



## Climate Change Advisory Council

### Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting - MINUTES

**Date:** 15.11.2023

**Start time:** 10:00

**Venue:** The Hive, Airfield Estate, Dundrum, Dublin & MS Teams

**In person:** Marie Donnelly (Chair), Patricia King, Jillian Mahon, Dr. Cara Augustenborg, Julie Sinnamon, Eoin Moran (Met Éireann), Prof. John Fitzgerald, Prof. Peter Thorne, Eimear Cotter (EPA Observer in place of Laura Burke).

**Online:** Andrew MurphY, Prof. Frank O' Mara (Teagasc)

**Agenda Item 5:** Swedish Environmental Institute (IVL) joined (virtually) for this item.

**Agenda Item 9:** Shane Finnegan and Seamus Donnelly, Aiken Communications joined (virtually) for this item.

**Apologies:** Laura Burke (EPA), Prof. Ottmar Edenhofer, Prof. Morgan Bazilian

**Secretariat:** George Hussey, Phillip O'Brien, Claire Camilleri, Gina Kelly, Stephen Flood, Bryn Canniffe, Jodie Colgan, Ciara Hilliard, Eleanor Mathews, Meabh Gallagher, Kieran Craven, Niamh McCarthy (Intern), Aoife McKeon (Intern)



## **1. Opening of Meeting**

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

### **1.1 Minutes for the Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting 28<sup>th</sup> Sept 2023**

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.

## **2. Documents for approval**

It was agreed that the following reports should be published on the Council website:

- WP 22 Carbon Budgeting in Selected Countries with minor amendments.
- WP 24 Review of Agricultural Export from Ireland Matthews SSS November 2023. with minor amendments.

With regard to:

- WP 23 A Review of policies for the rollout of Rooftop Solar PV in Ireland, it was agreed that Council comments would be returned to the authors for consideration with publication following this.
- the draft Filling the gaps in Ireland's Climate Action Plan 2023 report, Council comments would be returned to the author for consideration. A further draft will be considered at a future meeting.

## **3. Work Programme update**

Council noted the Annual Review Recommendations Tool and the Q3 review of the National Climate Action Plan 2023 actions and discussed sectoral progress.

With regard to the proposed research programme for 2024, Council discussed the resource issues surrounding the scale of the proposals. It was agreed that the Secretariat would explore options for streamlining the input to Council.



#### **4. Thematic session preview on planning issues**

The Secretariat gave an introduction to the thematic discussion on planning issues for the February 2024 Council meeting, including sources to inform the session and the approach to preparing a paper for the discussion.

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

#### **5. Thematic session – District Heating**

Kristina Lygnerud from the Swedish Environmental Institute (IVL) presented to Council on their work with Codema and outlined the issues surrounding the future of district heating.

The Secretariat then provided an outline of the information contained in the documentation on District Heating that had been circulated as part of the meeting papers.

Council welcomed the paper and the opportunity to discuss this.

It was agreed that the timing of policy input in this area is of vital importance to the future success of district heating and that Council output would be progressed as a matter of priority, as part of the preparation of the 2024 Annual Review.

#### **6. Carbon Budgets**

The Secretariat gave a preview of the next meetings which will be on the 23rd of November and 15th of December. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> there will be a focused discussion on the role/approach to negative emissions, biodiversity considerations and the Agriculture and Land Use review AND on 15<sup>th</sup> December there will be discussions on COP28 – Global Stocktake, the first iteration of core modelling results (TIM, FAPRI & GOBLIN) and on moral considerations of the carbon budgets.

It further outlined the working groups work programme for 2024.

Council agreed that presentations on the output of the working group before the next Council meeting would be beneficial.



## **7. 2024 Council Activities and Planning**

The Secretariat discussed the plan for the Annual Review 2024 which was developed on the basis of discussions with Council on September 28th with some minor refinements arising from a follow up discussion with the Communications Sub-Group on October 17th.

Council approved the process as proposed.

It was agreed that Sectoral Engagement invitations would be issued to sectors and Council members as a matter of priority.

## **8. Budget Traffic Light Assessment**

The Secretariat presented a summary of elements of the 2024 Budget which pertain positively or negatively to climate action, emissions reductions and/or resilience. It was agreed that the Secretariat would prepare a pre-Budget submission in 2024.

## **9. Communications Update**

Further to discussion and review of the Public Relations and Communications Services contract, Council agreed to extend the contract for a further 12 months.

Following on from the Communications Subgroup meeting on 17th October, Council adopted the proposal and approved expenditure to update the Corporate Identity Guidelines.

Council also adopted the updated approach on stakeholder engagement.

Shane Finnegan and Seamus Donnelly, Aiken Communications joined for the discussion of the Corporate Identity Guidelines and stakeholder engagement.

## **10. International Update**

The Secretariat gave a verbal update on the EEAC Conference in Bucharest, Adaptation Futures, Montreal and the online ICCN Plenary.

The Secretariat also gave an update on the plans for Council activity at COP28 in Dubai.



## 11. Activities of the Council

The Council noted the report of Council activities.

## 12. AOB

- It was noted that this is the last meeting of Secretariat interns Niamh McCarthy and Aoife McKeon and they were thanked for their work.
- It was also noted that the meeting would be the last meeting within the terms of Prof. Ottmar Edenhofer and Prof. John Fitzgerald. The Chair acknowledged the importance of their contributions over their terms and thanked them for their service to the Council.

**Next meeting:** It was noted that the next Council meeting would be on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February 2024 and would be held virtually on MS Teams.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marie C. Donnelly". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

15<sup>th</sup> February 2024