



Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting - MINUTES

Date: 28.09.2023

Start time: 11:00

Venue: MS Teams

In attendance: Marie Donnelly (Chair), Patricia King, Jillian Mahon, Prof. Frank O' Mara (Teagasc) Andrew Murphy, Dr. Cara Augustenborg, Julie Sinnamon, Eoin Moran (Met Éireann), Mary Frances Rochford (EPA Observer), Professor John Fitzgerald, Prof Peter Thorne; Prof. Morgan Bazilian.

Agenda Item 7: Margie McCarthy and Jim Scheer, SEAI joined for this item.

Apologies: Laura Burke, Prof. Ottmar Edenhofer

Secretariat: George Hussey, Phillip O'Brien, Claire Camilleri, Gina Kelly, Stephen Flood, Bryn Canniffe, Ciara Hilliard, Syed Faiz-ul Islam, Eleanor Matthews, Kieran Craven, Niamh McCarthy.

1. Opening of Meeting

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

1.1 Minutes for the Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting 19 & 20.07.2023

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. Thematic session – AFOLU

The Secretariat provided an outline of the information contained in the documentation on Agriculture, Forestry and Land Use 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 information contained in the background paper should be updated on a regular basis and made available as a shared resource for Council members.

Council noted that this would be the last meeting of Syed Faiz-ul Islam from the Secretariat as he moves on to a different role.

3. Thematic session preview – District Heating for November meeting

The Secretariat gave an introduction to the thematic discussion on District Heating for the November 2023 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 November meeting.

4. Documents for approval

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

- *WP 23 Andrew ZP Smith Carbon Budgets Fellowship Final Report.*

With regard to *WP 22 Carbon Budgeting in Selected Countries*, it was agreed that Council feedback would be given to the author and that a revised version of the report would be presented at a future meeting of the Council for approval.

WP24 Review of Agricultural Export from Ireland Matthews SSS September 2023. It was agreed that the option to engage with the author would be made available to Council members and that the paper would be presented to a future meeting of the Council for approval.



5. Adaptation Committee update

The Secretariat briefed Council members on the outcomes of the Adaptation Committee meeting held on 7th September 2023 as follows:

- The Secretariat had two engagements with DECC to help support the development of the Climate Action Plan 2024
- A member of the Secretariat would attend and present at the Adaptation Futures Conference in Montreal in October.
- An update on the International Climate Council's Network was presented.
- Dr. Claire Scannell (Met Éireann) briefed the Committee on the Met Eireann led TRANSLATE project.
- The Committee considered proposals for the Adaptation Committee's 2024 workshop.
- The Secretariat outlined a proposed workplan for 2024/2025
- A draft report on the Critical Energy Infrastructure Workshop held in May 2023 would be open for comment for Adaptation Committee with a view to presenting it to Council in November.

The Council also noted that the Adaptation Committee's Scorecard workshop was held in the Ashling Hotel on the 26th of September 2023 and that a report on the workshop would be presented to Council at a future meeting.

6. Carbon Budgets Working Group Update

The Secretariat provided an update on the working group meeting of Friday the 8th of September where the focus was on socioeconomic considerations, and population and demographics issues.

A workshop took place on the 13th of September on developing a shared understanding of model inputs and expected outputs for the first iteration of modelling. The Secretariat shared the main outcomes of the workshop under the following headings:

- 2030 Start Points
- 2050 Targets: Net zero emissions and climate neutrality
- Scenario Developments
- Competing Land Use Requirements.



The Secretariat also gave a preview of the next meeting which will be on the 19th of October. There will be a focused discussion on the 2024 EPA Projections and international approaches to carbon budgets.

7. Progress Tracking and Annual Review 2024 Options

The Secretariat presented a new tracking approach for Council recommendations under the Annual Review and an overview of latest trends by sectors.

It was agreed that the tracking tool could be shared with the identified lead departments as part of the sectoral engagements process, to garner their progress on recommendations.

The Secretariat also presented options for the approach to the development and publication of the Annual Review 2024. Council agreed that the concept of a staggered approach to the release of the review across the year should be progressed.

8. SEAI EU Policy Mapping

Margie McCarthy (SEAI Director of Research) and Jim Scheer (SEAI Head of Data and Insights) presented to Council on a tool to track the impact of EU Directives and consider impacts in terms of sectoral emission ceilings and carbon budgets. Considerations for policies in Ireland were discussed with the Council.

9. Research Priorities and Work Programme 2023 Update

The Council noted the current CCAC research programme which included research areas already in progress, those planned for the rest of 2023 and those scheduled under the carbon budgets programme.

Council noted the update to the work programme of activities 2023 and necessary changes to the revised budget.

10. Activities of the Council

The Council noted the report of Council activities.



11. AOB

The following items were addressed:

- A letter received from the Joint Committee on Environment and Climate Action, dated 20th September 2023.
 - Further to discussion, it was agreed that the Secretariat would circulate draft text to Council for comment with a view to issuing a response to the Committee in the following weeks.
- It was noted that Council had received an invitation to contribute to the IMF Article IV review on 31st October 2023 and anyone wishing to participate would advise the Secretariat.
- The Secretariat gave an update on international issues covered by the ICCN, EEAC.

Next meeting: It was noted that the next Council meeting would be on the 16th of November 2023 and would be held in person at Airfield Estate in Dublin.

Marie C. Donnelly

16th November 2023