



Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting - MINUTES

Date: 26.05.2022

Start time: 09:00

Venue: Grattan Suite, Ashling Hotel, Dublin 8 and on MS Teams

Present: Marie Donnelly (Chair), Professor John Fitzgerald, Laura Burke (EPA) from Item 5, Patricia King (to Item 8), Andrew Murphy, Prof. Peter Thorne, Eoin Moran (Met Éireann); Dr. Cara Augustenborg, Julie Sinnamon; Prof. Morgan D. Bazilian (joined virtually from Item 10), Jillian Mahon (joined virtually for items 1-6 & 8), Prof. Frank O' Mara (Teagasc).

Item 10: Mariana Mirabile & Aimée Aguilarjaber - OECD and Shane Finnegan – Aiken Communications, joined virtually for this item.

Apologies: Prof. Ottmar Edenhofer, Sineád O'Brien, William Walsh (Observer)

Secretariat: George Hussey, Phillip O'Brien, Gemma O'Reilly, Seán O'Leary, Meabh Gallagher, Gina Kelly, Laura Marenco, Thérèse Myslinski, Ciara Hilliard.

1. Opening of Meeting (09:00)

- The Chair congratulated Prof. Ottmar Edenhofer on his appointment to Chair of the European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change.
- The Members congratulated the Chair on her recent RIA membership.
- The Council extended sympathy to Communications Consultant, Shane Finnegan on his recent bereavement.

1.1 Minutes for the Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting 31.03.2022

The minutes were accepted with a minor amendment.

Matters arising from the minutes

No matters arising from the minutes.

1.2 Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted by the Council but the Chair noted that Agenda Item 9 – Communication Update would be deferred to the July Council meeting. Council noted that the first Communications Subgroup meeting was postponed due to unavoidable circumstances.

Disclosure of Interests

No disclosures of interest. However, Council noted the following:

- Andrew Murphy advised the Council that he now works for ECOS (Environmental Coalition on Standards).
- John Fitzgerald noted that he had been invited to join the Climate Risk and Sustainable Finance Forum (the Climate Forum) by the Central Bank.
- Council agreed that the Operational Guidance needs to be amended to provide more explicit guidance on what does/what does not constitute a disclosure of interest.

2. Items for formal agreement (09:10)

Research Reports for publication on council website

Council considered the report from Dr. Ken Byrne et al. that had been previously circulated to Council. Council approved the publication of the paper on the website.

3. Draft CCAC Strategy (09:15)

The Council considered the final version of the draft strategy which had been previously circulated. Council approved the final version and agreed that it should be published on the Council's website.

4. CCAC Operational Guidance (09:25)

The final version of the Operational Guidance Document of the Council was approved in principle, subject to legal advice on outstanding items.

5. Proposed next steps for Carbon Budgets (09:42)

The Secretariat presented a high-level work programme, beginning in 2022, to plan the analytical process of developing the second programme of Carbon Budgets by 2024 and requested feedback from Council members in a number of areas.

Council accepted the proposal to hold a Carbon Budgets modelling workshop and noted the value of planning for advanced research and modelling and international engagement.

It was agreed that as part of the 'lessons learned' process all Council Members should be interviewed and the Secretariat would progress this.

Secretariat will outline research proposals planned for carbon budgets work at July meeting. They will also present a more detailed proposal of the plan for the workshop to be held later this year.

6. 2022 Council Work Programme & Budget (10:30)

The Secretariat presented an update on the Work Programme for 2022 for information.

Council noted the proposed revised budget to the end of 2022 and Estimates bid for 2023.

It was agreed that a verbal report from each sectoral engagement meeting would be useful for Council.

It was agreed that the Council should develop a position on Biofuels. Council agreed to defer procurement of consultancy on biofuels until the Department's own work in this area is published over the summer. Council requested the Secretariat to prepare a briefing on biofuels for its next meeting to inform its deliberations on the Annual Review.

7. Adaptation Committee meeting update (11:30)

Prof. Peter Thorne, chair of the Adaptation Committee, updated on the Committee's last meeting of 4th May and noted that Prof. Daniela Schmidt, one of the coordinating lead authors on the Europe chapter of the IPCC WGII Sixth Assessment Report, presented an overview of the report and the chapter's key findings to the Committee. The Committee also met with representatives of the Aarhus, Climate Adaptation and Citizen Engagement Division of DECC regarding the ongoing review of the NAF and other issues.

It was noted that the Adaptation Scorecard 2022 questionnaire to DECC, the local government sector and the NAF sectors had been circulated with a reasonable response rate and returns are now back and being analysed. The preliminary and final assessments will be considered by the Adaptation Committee before being incorporated in the Annual Review draft to Council. The other adaptation chapters of the Annual Review were also discussed. It was noted that

the annual adaptation workshop this year would be on critical infrastructure with a focus on energy systems but Council emphasised that it should ensure that lessons for the resilience of all critical infrastructure should be addressed also.

The Committee noted the valuable work of Seán O’Leary from the Secretariat and thanked him for his important contribution on adaptation as this was his last Council meeting.

8. Annual Review 2022 (11:50)

The Secretariat presented each of the draft chapters of the annual review for comment.

It was agreed that an MS Word version would be circulated to Members in advance of the next meeting to allow for a more extensive review.

Final drafts of the Annual Review will be submitted to the July meeting for approval.

Submission of the review to the Minister would be anticipated by late July 2022.

9. OECD – The Well-being Lens applied to Irish Transport (14:15)

Mariana Mirabile, Aimee Aguilarjaber and Shane Finnegan joined for this item. The OECD presented the initial findings of the report.

OECD outlined the next steps in this project and Council noted that the report and recommendations would be presented to Council and relevant OECD groups for comment by end June with a view to launching report in October.

10. Chair’s Report of Council Activities (15:30)

The Council noted the report of Council activities.

The Secretariat gave an update on recent sectoral engagement meetings.

11. AOB (15:33)

It was noted that the next Council meeting will be an in-person meeting on the 13th and 14th of July 2022 in Wexford. Council members were asked to communicate their accommodation requirements to Secretariat.

L Burke drew Council attention to the Climate Change Conference in Croke Park.

It was agreed that the Yale study ‘Climate Change in the Irish Mind’ results would be presented to Council at a future meeting.

E Moran reminded Council of Ireland's contribution to international adaptation in developing countries through DFA climate fund.

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light grey background. The signature reads "Marie R. Donnelly" in a cursive script.

signed electronically on 13.07.2022