

## **Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting - MINUTES**

**Date:** 19.01.2021

**Start time:** 13:30

**Venue:** Video Conference Meeting

Present: Marie Donnelly (Chair), Professor John FitzGerald, Laura Burke (EPA), Patricia King, Andrew Murphy, Professor Peter Thorne, Eoin Moran (Met Éireann); Dr. Cara Augustenborg, Julie Sinnamon; Prof. Morgan D. Bazilian, Jillian Mahon, Prof. Frank O' Mara (Teagasc). Prof. Ottmar Edenhofer

Agenda Item 3(a): Dr. Niall Farrell joined for this item.

Agenda Item 3(b): Dr. Ken Byrne, Dr. Kevin Black and Dr. Daniel McInerney joined for this item.

Apologies: Sinead O'Brien, William Walsh.

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

### **1. Opening of Meeting**

#### **1.1 Minutes for the Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting 16.12.2021**

The minutes were accepted.

#### **Matters arising from the minutes**

The Chair referred to the strategy paper of the International Climate Council Network (ICCN) which was circulated to Council members prior to the meeting, noting that their strategy session was also being held on 19.01.2022. Council also noted that the ICCN have requested that the hosting of the network would rotate amongst members and that Ireland may host in coming years.

#### **1.2 Adoption of Agenda**

The agenda was adopted by the Council.

#### **1.3 Disclosure of Interests**

No disclosures of interest.

## **2. Adaptation Committee**

The Secretariat discussed options for the revision of the Adaptation Committee membership. The following Council members agreed to sit on the Adaptation Committee:

- Prof. Peter Thorne (who Council also agreed would chair the Committee)
- Frank O'Mara
- Laura Burke
- Sinead O'Brien
- Jillian Mahon

The existing external Committee members, as follows, were reappointed for one further term:

- Mark Adamson
- Prof. Robert Devoy
- Dr. Ina Kelly
- Keith Lambkin
- Paddy Mahon
- Prof. Conor Murphy
- Roger Street

It was agreed that expressions of interest will be sought for at least two further Committee members. This will invite expressions of interest from those with suitable qualifications, expertise and experiences in a number of previously identified areas including those listed at Section 9(4)(a)(i)-(x) of the Climate Act and within sectors with sectoral adaptation plans.

The terms of reference of the Committee will be updated in due course. This will reflect that ex officio Council members of the Committee can nominate substitutes to attend the Committee on their behalf if required or appropriate. They will formalise how Council members may attend Committee meetings. Also it was agreed that external Committee members should be limited to two consecutive terms.

The next meeting of the Committee will be held on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

The Council noted the Secretariat proposal to respond to DECC's early stakeholder consultation on the NAF with a signpost document highlighting previous Council advice and recommendations. Council approved the draft letter and signpost document to DECC.

## **3. Council Research 2021 – Presentations**

### **(a) Hydrogen - Small Scale Study**

Dr. Niall Farrell presented the draft report from the Hydrogen small scale study which was previously circulated to Council (in meeting papers 16.12.2021).

The Council thanked Dr. Farrell for the presentation of his interesting study.

#### **(b) Forest Management Small Scale Study**

Dr. Ken Byrne presented the small-scale study on Forest Management 'Review of the impact of management practices on stand level carbon balance in Irish Forests'.

The Council thanked Dr. Byrne, Dr. Black and Dr. McInerney for the presentation.

### **4. Council Research 2022**

#### **a) Topic Priorities 2022**

The Secretariat presented a revised document outlining proposed research for 2022. Council accepted the recommendation to approve the progression of this research.

#### **b) Upcoming Teagasc research**

Frank O' Mara informed Council of relevant research currently planned by Teagasc.

Council also noted the CRCG Annual Report of Activities.

### **5. Work Programme**

The Secretariat presented the updated Work Programme 2022 document including the calendar of events and activities. Council discussed the need for further meetings and agreed that the Secretariat would examine further options, including the potential for some face-to-face meetings.

Council noted the contents of the work programme and approved subject to amendments.

### **6. Heat**

Council supported the draft letter (with amendments) to the Minister on the heat sector.

Council agreed in principle with proposal to finalise and send this letter to the Minister further to the publication of the SEAI Heat study.

### **7. Chair's Report of Council Activities**

The Council noted the report of activities.

### **8. AOB**

#### **a) DECC consultation on Carbon Budgets**

An update was provided to the Council on DECC's Consultation on Carbon Budgets and on a number of follow up questions received from the Joint Oireachtas Committee.

**b) CCAC Communications contract**

It was noted that the procurement of the CCAC Communications Contract is being finalised.

**c) Land Use Call for Evidence**

Laura Burke provided an update on the Call for Evidence on Land Use and Council agreed to send submission by deadline of 4 February 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Maire E. Donnelly". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M' and 'D'.

signed electronically on 17.02.2022