



Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting - MINUTES

Date: 27.04.2023

Start time: 11:00

Venue: MS Teams

In attendance: Marie Donnelly (Chair), Professor John Fitzgerald, Laura Burke (EPA) from 11am to 13:10 and from 15:00), Patricia King, Jillian Mahon, Prof. Frank O' Mara (Teagasc), Andrew Murphy to 12:30, from 14:05 to 14:50 and from 15:40); Dr. Cara Augustenborg, Julie Sinnamon, Eoin Moran (Met Éireann); Prof Peter Thorne; William Walsh (observer) from 11:00 to 12:50.

Agenda Item 3: Niamh Garvey, Jeanne Moore and Gemma O' Reilly, NESC joined for this item.

Apologies: Sineád O'Brien; Prof. Morgan Bazilian; Prof. Ottmar Edenhofer

Secretariat: George Hussey, Phillip O'Brien, Meabh Gallagher, Claire Camilleri, Gina Kelly, Stephen Flood, Ciara Hilliard, Syed Faiz ul Islam, Eleanor Matthews, Jodie Colgan, Kieran Craven, Simon Ngorok, Niamh McCarthy.

1. Opening of Meeting (11:00)

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

1.1 Minutes for the Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting 16.02.2023

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 – Vision for 2050 (11:10)

The Secretariat presented a discussion paper to provide background information and analysis for a Council discussion on the long-term climate objective under the Act, prior to a discussion with the Carbon Budgets Working Group and further revisions to the paper.

Council welcomed the paper and the opportunity to discuss this

It was noted that the Draft Long Term Strategy for Greenhouse Gas Emissions reduction has been submitted to the European Commission and it was agreed that it should be added to the June agenda

Council agreed it would write to the Government to provide advice on further development of the Draft Long Term Strategy.

A poll will be taken in July for Council to provide further input on thematic discussions.

3. NESC: Just transition in Agriculture (12:30)

Niamh Garvey, Jeanne Moore and Gemma O'Reilly, NESC, presented their ongoing work on Just Transition in Agriculture. Council noted that NESC will be submitting a report on Climate Transition in Agriculture to Government in Q2 2023 outlining approximately 20 recommendations on how best to support the agricultural sector in making a successful and just transition to net zero, including being an integral part of the solution to addressing urgent climate change and biodiversity loss.

4. Items for Formal agreement (13:40)

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

- Reviewing Local Authority Renewable Energy Strategies' contribution to Ireland's 2030 Renewable Electricity Targets (subject to proof reading).

4.2 It was agreed that the report titled 'Literature Review of the Potential of Biochar to Sequester Carbon in Ireland' needed some further work and that an amended report would be presented to a future Council meeting for final approval.



4.3 The amendment to the Operational Guidance Document to account for a new 'Evidence' category of documents was adopted with minor amendments.

5. Communications (13:50)

The Chair of the Communications subgroup and Secretariat outlined the proposed Social Media Policy as agreed by the subgroup on communications. Council adopted the Social Media Policy and approved the amendment to the Operational Guidance as recommended.

6. Adaptation Committee update (14:00)

The Secretariat briefed Council members on the outcomes of the Adaptation Committee meeting held on 30th March 2023.

The Council noted the update on the Adaptation Committee's potential role in the European Conference on Climate Change Adaptation scheduled for 19-21 of June 2023 in Dublin.

It was also noted that the adaptation scorecard process is ongoing and that further details on the outcome of this process would be given at the June meeting.

7. Carbon Budgets (14:05)

The Secretariat outlined the main elements of discussion from the second Carbon Budgets working group meeting including,

- Carbon Budgets Methodology
- Scoping of Modelling Work
- The Carbon Budgets Draft work plan

8. Follow up from Office of the Planning Regulator at February Meeting (14:40)

The Council discussed a proposed letter to the government highlighting the measures required to remove the barriers to climate related progress in the planning system, further to discussions with the Office of the Planning Regulator at the April meeting.

It was agreed that the letter would be circulated for agreement by written procedure.

9. Annual Review 2023 (15:00)

The Secretariat presented a summary of the draft Executive Summary and proposed sectoral key recommendations of Annual Review 2023 for comment.



The timelines around Council opportunities for feedback on the various stages of the draft annual review were noted.

It was agreed that a short plain English summary version of the document would also be produced, circulated as appropriate and published on the Council website.

10. Council Work Programme & Budget (16:15)

Council approved Budget Revision 1 as presented by the Secretariat.

11. Chair's Report of Council Activities (16:20)

The Council noted the report of Council activities.

12. AOB (16:20)

The following items were addressed:

- The Secretariat gave an update on international issues covered by the ICCN, EEAC and ESAB
- The EPA Operational Liaison Group meetings have taken place as planned and a further meeting would take place on 12 June 2023.
- Council noted that the Citizens Assembly report on biodiversity has been published.

Next meeting: It was noted that the next Council meeting will be on 15th of June 2023 and will be held virtually on MS Teams.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marie E. Donnelly". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Signed electronically 15.06.2023