



Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting - MINUTES

Date: 18.07.2024

Start time: 09:30

Venue: MS Teams

In person: Marie Donnelly (Chair), Patricia King, Jillian Mahon, Dr. Cara Augustenborg, Julie Sinnamon, Prof. Peter Thorne, Andrew Murphy, Prof. Frank O' Mara (Teagasc), Professor Yvonne Buckley, Eoin Moran (Met Éireann) (to 14:40)); Professor Edgar Morgenroth

Online: Laura Burke (EPA) (to 14:10 and from 15:05), Liam Delaney (from 14:20)

Apologies: Prof. Morgan Bazilian, Professor William Walsh (SEAI observer)

Other: Lisa Johnson, Ecodiversity (joined for agenda items 4, 5, & 6)

Secretariat: George Hussey, Phillip O'Brien, Gina Kelly, Meabh Gallagher, Stephen Flood, Eleanor Mathews, Bryn Canniffe, Kieran Craven, Katherine Dooley, Ciara Hilliard

1. Opening of Meeting (09:30)

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

1.1 Minutes for the Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting 18th July 2024

The minutes were accepted with minor amendment.

Matters arising from the minutes

No matters arising from the minutes

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted without amendment.

Disclosure of Interests

There were no disclosures of interests.



2. Adaptation Committee Update (09.35)

The Secretariat briefed Council members on the outcomes of the Adaptation Committee meeting held on 27th June 2024 and provided a summary of Council document 2.1 Summary of Adaptation Committee Meeting 27.06.2024 INF.

The Secretariat outlined the process followed in seeking expressions of interest for a vacancy on the Adaptation Committee. Expressions of interest were sought through the council website between 21st May 2024 and Tuesday 4th June 2024.

9 expressions of interest were received. These were considered by the Assessment Panel (comprising of the Council and Adaptation Committee Chairpersons, supported by the Secretariat) at a meeting on 25th June 2024.

Two candidates were shortlisted from this process, and informal structured interviews were carried out with them on 8th July 2024 by the Adaptation Committee Chairperson and Resilience Team Lead.

The Assessment Panel recommended Dr. Helen Hoyle as the successful candidate for Council's consideration.

Council accepted this recommendation and requested that the Secretariat issue invitation to the nominee to join the Committee.

3. Documents for approval (09:50)

Council discussed Document 3.1 *Final policy brief on climate change impacts and adaptation in Ireland*. It was agreed that the document needed some amendment prior to publication and would be brought back to Council at a future meeting.

It was agreed that Document 3.2 *Final report on coastal community recommendations to build resilience* should be published on the Council website.

Council agreed that a template for future research documents should be developed. It was also agreed that a communications plan for each document should be considered. It was agreed that the Communications subgroup would examine this suggestion.



4. Annual Review - Changing Climate and Adaptation (10:05)

Council discussed the draft Changing Climate and Adaptation Sectoral Review. Eoin Moran recused himself from discussion of Recommendation 3 due to a potential conflict of interest. It was agreed that the document would be amended based on discussion which would then be circulated to Council for feedback. The Secretariat would then circulate a final version of all documents to Council which would be approved by silence procedure.

5. Annual Review – Agriculture and Land Use Sectoral Review (11:20)

Council discussed the draft Agriculture and Land Use Sectoral Review. It was agreed that the document would be further amended by Council. The Secretariat would then circulate a final version of all documents to Council which would be approved by silence procedure.

6. Annual Review – Cross Sectoral & Biodiversity Reviews, Summary for All (13:50)

Council discussed the draft Cross Sectoral & Biodiversity Reviews and the Summary for All. It was noted that a draft would be provided at a future meeting for the approval of the Council.

It was also agreed that the Biodiversity review should be launched independently of other chapters.

7. Budget 2025 (14:45)

The Council discussed the draft letter on Budget 2025. It was agreed that that the Secretariat would circulate a final draft of the document to Council for comment which would be approved by silence procedure.

Council agreed to send the letter to the Ministers for Finance, Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform, and (b) formally publish this on the Council website.

8. National Planning Framework Consultation (15:00)

Council discussed the National Planning Framework Consultation draft paper. It was agreed that Council would comment on the paper with a view to making a formal response in early September.

It was agreed that the Secretariat would circulate a final draft of the document to Council for comment which would be approved by silence procedure.



9. Carbon Budgets Update (15:20)

Following the Council briefing on the latest outputs from the Carbon Budgets Working Group on the 16th of July, the Council discussed the guidance to be provided to the Carbon Budgets Working Group ahead of the 3rd and final iteration of modelling and analysis.

Firstly, it was agreed that the scenarios for the final Carbon Budget 3 and provisional Carbon Budget 4 should assume compliance with Carbon Budgets 1 and 2. However, a sensitivity analysis accounting for carbon budget exceedance in line with the latest EPA projections was requested by the Council to provide further detail on the implications for Carbon Budgets 3 and 4 if Carbon Budgets 1 and 2 are not met.

Secondly, the Council requested that the 3rd iteration of modelling would incorporate the latest EPA inventory refinements. In addition, the implications of the latest inventory refinements for Carbon Budgets 1 and 2 were noted and it was suggested that the introduction of a process to account for inventory adjustments would be necessary.

Finally, the Council requested additional detail on the assumptions regarding peatlands and imported biomass in the accompanying reports for the GOBLIN and TIM analysis. In addition, the Council requested further clarification on the warming impact analysis and implications for climate neutrality.

10. Thematic Issues – Sustainable Finance, Administrative Barriers to Climate Action (15:35)

The Secretariat gave an introduction to the thematic discussion on sustainable finance and administrative barriers to climate action including sources to be considered and the approach to preparing inputs for the discussion.

Council welcomed the opportunity to discuss this further and based on feedback received from Council, the Secretariat will progress analysis and preparation of inputs for a future meeting of the Council.

11. Communications Update (15:40)

Chair of the Communications Subgroup, Dr Cara Augustenborg updated Council on the meeting of the 10th of July which was mainly focussed on the Annual Review publications and supporting events and a discussion of Carbon Budget communications.



12. Work Programme Update (16:00)

The Secretariat updated Council on the 2024 Work Programme and proposed approach to research for 2025.

Council noted the updates. The Council agreed that the Secretariat and Chair would finalise Budget Revision 2 at the end of August.

13. Activities of the Council (16:00)

The Council noted the report of Council activities.

14. AOB (16:05)

It was noted that COP30 will be in Baku, Azerbaijan and the Secretariat will notify Council members when relevant events and arrangements are confirmed.

Next meeting: It was noted that the next Council meeting would be on the 26th of September 2024 and would be held 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.

Signed on 26.09.2024