



Climate Change Advisory Council Adaptation Committee Meeting - MINUTES
Date: 19.12.2024
Start time: 09:30
Venue: MS Teams
Present: Prof. Peter Thorne (Chair); Mark Adamson; Dr. Julie Clarke; Prof. Robert Devoy; Dr. Helen Hoyle; David Joyce; Keith Lambkin; Jillian Mahon; Sean McKeown; John Spink; Roger Street; Dr. Conor Quinlan (alternate, EPA).
Secretariat: George Hussey; Dr. Stephen Flood; Claire Camilleri; Philip O' Brien; Bryn Canniffe; Jodie Colgan; Ciara Hilliard.
Apologies: Dr. Ina Kelly; Prof. Conor Murphy.
Agenda Item 6: Dr. Mohammed Mohammadrezaei; Lorraine Balaine, David Meridith (All Teagasc).

1. Opening of Meeting (09:30)

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming everyone present. The Chair introduced Mr. Sean McKeown as the new representative on the Committee from the City and County Management Association.

a. Minutes for the Adaptation Committee

The minutes of the Committee meeting held on the 12th September 2024 were approved.

b. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted without amendments.

c. Disclosures of Interest

There were no disclosures of interest.

2. Council Update (09.40)

The Chairperson briefed the Committee on the key outcomes from the three Climate Change Advisory Council meetings that took place since the previous Adaptation Committee meeting. The main issues reported were the finalisation and publication of the second programme of Carbon budgets, timelines and approach for the 2025 Annual Review, approval and publication of research reports and activation of the Council's account on the social media platform Bluesky. Going forward, it was noted that the Secretariat and Council Chairperson would scan Council agenda items and submissions in advance and proactively source attendance and / or inputs from Adaptation Committee experts where considered necessary.

3. Secretariat Update (09.50)

The Secretariat provided a verbal update of the main events that took place since the previous Adaptation Committee meeting. The main items covered were:

- Preparations for the Adaptation Committee workshop which is on the subject of navigating uncertainty in critical infrastructure-focused climate adaptation planning. It is planned to take place on 8th April 2025.
- National Adaptation Steering Committee which took place on the 3rd December 2024.
- National Climate Change Risk Assessment for which several Committee members provided inputs on the draft risk register. It was noted that there would be a 2-week review period in January for the technical report which the Secretariat will also share with the Committee members for inputs.
- Secretariat attendance of various conferences and webinars.

4. Update on Sectoral Adaptation Plan Engagement (10.15)

The Secretariat provided an update on engagements that were held on the Sectoral Adaptation Plans (SAPs) that are being developed by several lead Departments and Agencies. It was noted that most of the zero order draft SAPs are likely to be received in March or April and will be shared with the assigned Committee members for review. The Secretariat was requested to engage with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage on the scoping exercise for the built environment and planning sector and emphasised the importance of this sector.

5. Zero Order Draft Our Changing Climate (10.35)

The Committee discussed the zero-order draft of Our Changing Climate which is planned to be published in March 2025 as the first of the 2025 Annual Review publications. It was noted

that the draft was open for written feedback and would be updated and revised based on the comments received for the January Committee meeting.

6. Presentation of Research on Farm-Level Behavioural Change towards Building Climate Resilience (11.10)

Dr. Mohammed Mohammadrezaei from Teagasc presented the outcomes of research commissioned on farm-level behavioural change towards building climate resilience. The Committee members thanked the Teagasc team for the research and provided some comments and suggestions. It was noted that the research report is open for written feedback until 8th January 2025.

7. Adaptation Committee 2025 Workplan (11.45)

The Secretariat presented the Adaptation Committee 2025 Workplan, which was revised based on comments received at the previous meeting. The Committee approved the workplan subject to minor amendments and encouraged the Secretariat to proceed with its implementation.

8. Scorecard Proposal (12.00)

The Secretariat presented a proposal for undertaking the scorecard in 2025 and subsequent years. The proposal involved keeping the scorecard similar in 2025 to previous years, doing a longer-term review of SAP implementation through the 2025 scorecard, conducting a detailed review and revision of the scorecard in 2025 and undertaking a different approach starting in 2026. The Committee approved the proposed approach.

9. Aran Islands in-person Adaptation Committee Meeting (12.15)

The Secretariat presented three different options for the in-person Committee meeting planned to take place in May 2025 on the Aran Islands. The Committee discussed the different options and selected option C as the preferred option. This option involves splitting the Committee meeting between the 27th and 28th May in Galway and the Aran Islands with the Committee members overnighing on Inish Mór on 27th May. The Secretariat was requested to commence planning for option C with option B as the second favoured option.

10. AOB, agreed outcomes and plans for next meeting (12.25)

a) International Engagements

The Secretariat informed the Committee about a number of working groups being put in place in 2025 through the European Environment and Sustainable Development Advisory Councils

(EEAC) and International Climate Councils Network (ICCN). Committee members were requested to contact the Secretariat if they were interested and available to participate in any of the working groups.

b) Next Meeting

The next Committee meeting was scheduled for 23rd January 2025 and would be held virtually on MS Teams.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the initials 'P.W.' followed by a stylized, scribbled flourish.

Signed electronically on 24.01.2025