



2015-16 Philippine Presidency

Statement of the CVF Chair

Topic: The Invitation to the IPCC by UNFCCC COP21 to Prepare a Special Report on 1.5 Degrees
IPCC-43, Agenda Item 8
Nairobi, Kenya, 11 - 13 April 2016

I have the honour to speak as Philippines for the Climate Vulnerable Forum, or CVF, that we currently Chair:

- The enshrining of the 1.5°C limit in the Paris Agreement is one of COP21's principal achievements.
- The 1.5° limit was the top priority of the 43 nations and 1 billion climate vulnerable people represented by the CVF for the COP21. All parties to the UNFCCC therefore agreed to pursue efforts to limit global temperature increase to 1.5°, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change.
- Based on the fifth assessment report of the IPCC (AR5), a warming of 2° cannot be considered safe, and limiting warming to 1.5° would substantially reduce the impacts of climate change as set out in the Paris Agreement. However, the science on 1.5° is less robust, as it has not been a focus of the AR5.

Thereby, a re-assessment of the information already available for the AR5 under the aspect of 1.5°C seems appropriate. A 2018 special report on the topic would draw on substantial new literature and provide a very timely opportunity to assess these highly policy relevant matters.

- The CVF is thereby in full support of a special report in 2018 on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways. We are of the view that the scope of this report should be defined in the scoping process, mindful of the respective UNFCCC decisions at COP21 relating to it.
- Experts from our Forum's member countries also wish to play an active role in the Special Report and would like to volunteer engagement, in the context of a newly-established CVF South-South Centre in Manila.
- The Special Report should provide comprehensive information on the impacts of climate change at 1.5°C, total greenhouse gas emission levels in 2025, 2030 and 2050 compatible with the 1.5° limit, as well as the 1.5°C compatible timing of global peaking and achieving a balance between anthropogenic sources and sinks of global greenhouse gas emissions.

The report should further provide information on sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty in the light of the 1.5° limit and higher levels of warming.

- For that and other reasons, the Special Report will be a vital input to the 2018 facilitative dialogue to take stock of collective efforts to respect the 1.5° limit to which we all agreed to undertake actions to achieve – an effort that will involve revised, higher ambition INDCs.

- The contribution of the IPCC with such a report could not be more valuable. It will inform the actions of the 195 parties to the UNFCCC on core elements of the goal of the Paris Agreement as it relates to the Objective of the Convention itself.
- The CVF therefore strongly supports the recommendation of the IPCC Chair to accept the invitation of COP21 on this Special Report and we look forward to closely follow the stages of scoping, development and publication.

Thank you.
