

Our ref.: 5363-19/IPCC/TFI

To the Executive Heads  
of International and other Organizations

Annex(es): 3

Geneva, 25 November 2019

Sir/Madam,

I have the honour of inviting you to nominate experts to serve on the Editorial Board of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Emission Factor Database (EFDB) <<http://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/EFDB/main.php>>, coordinated by the IPCC Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (TFI). The EFDB Editorial Board is the body responsible for evaluating proposals of emission factors and other related parameters for inclusion in the EFDB.

Nominations to the EFDB Editorial Board may be for two or four years and the re-nomination of some of the existing members is welcomed as this assists in maintaining continuity of the board and its decisions. Nomination for a four-year term is encouraged in order to maintain some stability in Editorial Board membership.

It is well recognised that the quality of national greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories is dependent on reliable emission factors. The *2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (2006 IPCC Guidelines)* and the other IPCC Methodology Reports<sup>1</sup> provide default emission factors for the majority of source and sink categories. However, some of these default emission factors do not reflect region- or country-specific conditions, and might not be adequate for the inventory being developed. Many countries have expressed the need for an easily accessible public database of GHG emission factors to improve the quality of their GHG inventories. In the *2006 IPCC Guidelines*, it is emphasised that the EFDB is more than ever a potential source of data for higher tier methods. The database should be supported by reliable scientific results, data and other information. The IPCC EFDB was created based on recommendations from a scoping meeting held in New Delhi, India, 24-25 July 2000. The database was formally launched at the Eighth Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP8) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), in New Delhi, in October 2002.

The EFDB aims to increase the range of emission factors and other related parameters available and provide users with data that may be more appropriate for their national circumstances in developing and reporting their national GHG inventories under the UNFCCC. The database is open for proposals of new emission factors and parameters. The proposals are evaluated by the EFDB Editorial Board for their robustness, applicability and appropriate documentation. Since 2008, the work of EFDB Editorial Board has assumed increasing importance as a result of expert meetings held every year to actively collect data proposals. However, the appropriate use of data and information contained in the EFDB is entirely the responsibility of the user.

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<sup>1</sup> *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories; Good Practice Guidance and Uncertainty Management in National Greenhouse Gas Inventories, 2000; Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry, 2003; 2013 Supplement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories: Wetlands; 2013 Revised Supplementary Methods and Good Practice Guidance Arising from the Kyoto Protocol; and 2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories.*

The importance of EFDB is continuing to increase. It has been referred to in the conclusions of the meetings under the UNFCCC.

- ✓ In the context of revision of the UNFCCC reporting guidelines for Annex I Parties, the SBSTA32 welcomed the work of the IPCC to facilitate the use of the *2006 IPCC Guidelines*, including its efforts to develop inventory software and the EFDB. It invited the IPCC and other relevant organizations to strengthen their efforts in this area (FCCC/SBSTA/2010/6, paragraph 76).
- ✓ In the context of REDD discussion, the SBSTA32 requested the UNFCCC secretariat to work with the IPCC on promoting the use of the IPCC EFDB (FCCC/SBSTA/2010/6, paragraph 40).
- ✓ In the context of national communications from non-Annex I Parties (NAI-NC), the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) agreed on the usefulness of EFDB, and recommended improvement of data quality by enhancement of sharing of country-specific emission factors through the EFDB among NAI Parties, as an element to be considered in a future revision of the NAI-NC Guidelines (FCCC/SBI/2011/5/Rev.1).
- ✓ New reporting guidelines on annual GHG inventories for Parties included in Annex I to the Convention (Annex I to Decision 24/CP.19) refer to the IPCC EFDB that if Annex I Parties lack country-specific information, they could also use emission factors or other parameters provided in the IPCC EFDB, where available, provided that they can demonstrate that those parameters are appropriate in the specific national circumstances and are more accurate than the default data provided in the *2006 IPCC Guidelines* (paragraph 12).

The Editorial Board is composed of experts recommended by Governments and Organizations (refer to Annex I for the current list of the Editorial Board members). For the purpose of regular oversight of the EFDB work, a Management Committee, composed of the Editorial Board Co-chairs, Co-chairs of the Bureau of the Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (TFB) and Head and another member of the Technical Support Unit (TSU) of the TFI, has been established.

The composition of the Editorial Board is as follows:

- at least seven Sector Experts for each of the following inventory sectors: i) Energy, ii) Industrial Processes and Product Use, iii) Agriculture, iv) Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF), and v) Waste. The Agriculture group (iii) and the LULUCF group (iv) may sometimes work as one single group to deal with issues on Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) Sector in accordance with the structure laid out in the *2006 IPCC Guidelines*;
- two Editorial Board Co-chairs, with the overall responsibility of the evaluation of emission factors and parameters for the database, shall be elected by the Editorial Board from amongst its membership.

The terms of Editorial Board members are for four years, or two years. The terms for 8 out of the current 36 members will expire at the end of 2019. The terms for another 10 members will expire at the end of 2020. Therefore, the TFB, at its 31<sup>st</sup> session held in Osaka, Japan, November 2019, decided to request Governments and Organizations to nominate suitable experts for the Editorial Board both for positions that will fall vacant at the end of 2019 and 2020 (also indicated in Annex I).

The work of the EFDB Editorial Board is carried out mostly through exchanges of e-mails. An annual meeting of the Board is held, normally lasting for 3 or 4 days. In addition, one or two sector-specific expert meetings to collect data for the EFDB are held every year but only the Editorial Board members for the specific sectors under consideration are expected to attend. Additional information on the role and responsibilities of the Editorial Board is provided in Annex II. In accordance with the IPCC Procedures and established practices, travel support will be provided from the IPCC Trust Fund for participants from developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

In your nominations, please specify the area(s) of expertise of the nominee, preferably in accordance with the inventory sector and category structure; and the likely duration of the nominees' term (4 or 2 years). Please provide the full contact information (address/affiliation/phone/fax/e-mail) and Curriculum Vitae, **using the attached Nomination Form** (Annex III). Nominations should be sent **no later than 23 January 2020** by e-mail directly to:

Technical Support Unit (TSU)  
IPCC Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories  
C/o Institute for Global Environmental Strategies  
2108-11, Kamiyamaguchi, Hayama, Kanagawa, 240-0115 Japan  
Email: [nggip-meetings@iges.or.jp](mailto:nggip-meetings@iges.or.jp) (not to the IPCC Secretariat)

Given the tight timeline for the preparation of a recommendation for the new composition of the Editorial Board, we regret that delays to the schedule cannot be accommodated and thus it will not be possible to accept nominations after the deadline.

It also should be noted that only nominations received from IPCC Focal Points of member Governments or Observer Organizations, members of IPCC Bureau and members of TFB, with the Nomination Form (Annex III) will be accepted.

Based on the submissions received the TFB will prepare a recommendation for the new composition of the Editorial Board and submit it to the Chair of IPCC for decision. The IPCC Bureau will be informed about the new composition of the Editorial Board. Only experts selected for the Editorial Board and their IPCC Focal Points will receive a notice of the selection. For any inquiry, please contact the TFI TSU.

A copy of this letter is being sent for information to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and to the Permanent Representatives from your country to the World Meteorological Organization and to the United Nations Environment Programme.

Yours sincerely,



Abdalah Mokssit  
Secretary of the IPCC

Annex I: Current membership of the Editorial Board  
Annex II: Role and Responsibilities of Editorial Board  
Annex III: Nomination Form 2019