

Minutes: Meeting of the CCSP Product 1.1 Committee
Chicago O'Hare Hilton Hotel, Chicago, IL
February 8-9, 2006

Wednesday, February 8

Dr. Christopher Miller, Designated Federal Officer of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Climate Change Science Program (CCSP) Product Development Committee (CPDC) for Synthesis and Assessment Product 1.1 (CPDC – S&A 1.1) called the meeting to order and explained the procedures that governed this FACA meeting. The meeting proceeded in accordance with the published agenda (http://www.climate.noaa.gov/index.jsp?pg=./ccsp/11_meetings.jsp). Dr. Thomas Karl, the Chair, made an opening statement about the goals of the meeting. He noted that the purpose of the meeting was to produce a final set of notes that the report editors would subsequently use to produce the next draft (3rd Draft) of the report for review by the CCSP Principals and NSTC. This material would include author responses to the public comments received on the 2nd draft of the Report during the official Public Comment Period and revised versions of their respective chapters.

Public Comment

The public comment period of the meeting began. There was no request from the public to make a comment or statement.

Presentations

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to an open discussion of the public comments that were received by the CCSP Office during the Public Comment Period that preceded this meeting. Each Convening Lead Author was asked by the chair to present the public comments relevant to his chapter, his initial responses to those comments, and any recommended modifications to the text of the 2nd Draft.

Dr. Karl began the presentations with a description of the revisions to the Preface based on comments received. A new table was inserted to provide the reader with a guide that identifies where in the document specific topics (e.g., observations; observational uncertainty; models) are located. He was followed by Dr. Tom Wigley who spoke about the Executive Summary and the Appendix on “Statistical Issues Regarding Trends”. Dr. V. Ramaswamy addressed changes in Chapter 1; Dr. John Christy covered the proposed revisions to Chapter 2 and will introduce a new table showing the history of corrections to the UAH msu data set; and Dr. John Lanzante addressed the revisions to Chapter 3.

Discussion

There was open discussion on the presentation material. Dr. Karl stated that the responses to the public comments needed to be as explicit as possible to achieve overall uniformity in the responses.

Dr. Christy raised the issue of version numbers for the data sets used, since the data sets have changed over time due to updates and adjustments. Dr. Karl emphasized that the objective is to enable interested parties to identify which data set was used for a particular analysis discussed in the Report.

In response to a variety of comments on the Preface the committee agreed that it would be beneficial to have a one-page Abstract summarizing the Report's findings. A sub-group of the committee assigned themselves the task of drafting the Abstract during a break in the meeting.

Dr. Lanzante raised the issue of the types and formats of data sets that would be archived (e.g., globally and temporally averaged model time series). Dr. Karl stated that reasonable attempts will continue to be made to furnish relevant data at NCDC.

Thursday, February 9

Dr. Miller called the meeting to order.

Presentations

Dr. Carl Mears presented his suggested responses to the public comments on Chapter 4, followed by Dr. Peter Thorne who addressed changes for Chapter 5. Dr. Folland spoke about the revised Chapter 6 and noted the insertion of a summary diagram to show the interrelationships among the Report's recommendations (note: there was a question about whether this figure should also appear in the Executive Summary). Dr. Wigley re-visited his discussion on the Executive Summary relative to changes in the main body of the Report proposed at this meeting.

Discussion

There was open discussion on the presentation material. Dr. Karl reiterated the near-term schedule for the project, with a goal to have a final draft, which includes the text revisions made in response to the public comments, ready for web posting and submission to the CCSP Principals for their review by the end of February, followed by submission to the NSTC in March.

The committee reviewed the draft Abstract and finalized the wording.

Meeting Decisions and Actions

1. The committee agreed that a one-page Abstract summarizing the Report's findings would be added to the document to supplement the Preface and the Executive Summary. During the course of the meeting a strawman version of the Abstract was created and refined. A final draft version was agreed to by the committee.
2. Within a week of this meeting, the authors will finalize revised versions of their chapters and, shortly thereafter, updated versions of their responses to the public comments (if there are changes) based on the discussion at this meeting.
3. The Associate Editor, Susan Hasool, and the Graphic Designer, Sara Veasey, will go to NCDC immediately following the meeting. They will consolidate all available material and do a layout of the final document.
4. Key data sets associated with the analyses described in the Report will continue to be made available on the web, model data from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and observed data from the National Climatic Data Center. The granularity of data to be stored

was discussed. Where feasible, as much granularity as possible will be integrated into a special data collection for this report.

5. The committee agreed that it is not possible at this stage to do a relative evaluation of data sets, but may be able to provide guidance as to how to accomplish this in the future.

Meeting Adjourned.