



IMPLICATIONS OF PROPOSED CO₂ EMISSIONS LIMITATIONS

IPCC Technical Paper 4



INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE



Implications of Proposed CO₂ Emissions Limitations

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This is a Technical Paper of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change prepared in response to a request from the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The material herein has undergone expert and government review, but has not been considered by the Panel for possible acceptance or approval.

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This paper was prepared under the auspices of IPCC Working Group I, which is co-chaired by Sir John T. Houghton of the United Kingdom and Dr L. Gylvan Meira Filho of Brazil.

Cover: Monthly values of CO₂ concentration (ppmv) from the Mauna Loa Observatory in Hawaii from March 1958 to July 1997, inclusive (data provided by C. D. Keeling and T. P. Whorf, Scripps Institute of Oceanography, University of California at San Diego).

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Preface

This Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Technical Paper on “ Implications of Proposed CO₂ Emissions Limitations” is the fourth paper in the IPCC Technical Paper series and was produced in response to a request made by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UN/FCCC).

Technical Papers are initiated either at the request of the bodies of the COP, and agreed by the IPCC Bureau, or as decided by the IPCC. They are based on the material already in IPCC Assessment Reports and Special Reports and are written by Lead Authors chosen for the purpose. They undergo a simultaneous expert and government review, followed by a final government review. Comments on this Paper were received from 77 reviewers from 34 countries in the initial review. The Bureau of the IPCC acts in the capacity of an editorial board to ensure that review comments have been adequately addressed by the Lead Authors in the finalization of the Technical Paper.

The Bureau met in its Fourteenth Session (Maldives, 21 September 1997) and considered the major comments received during the final government review. In the light of its observations and requests, the Lead Authors finalized the Technical Paper. The Bureau expressed satisfaction that the agreed Procedures had been followed and authorized the release of the Paper to the SBSTA and thereafter publicly.

We owe a large debt of gratitude to the Lead Authors who gave of their time very generously and who completed the Paper at short notice and according to schedule. We thank the Co-chairmen of Working Group I of the IPCC, John Houghton and Gylvan Meira Filho who oversaw the effort, the staff of the United Kingdom Meteorological Office graphics studio who prepared the figures for publication, Christy Tidd and Lisa Butler who assisted the convening Lead Author in the preparation of the paper and particularly David Griggs, Maria Noguer and Anne Murrill from the IPCC Working Group I Technical Support Unit, for their insistence on adhering to quality and timeliness.

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