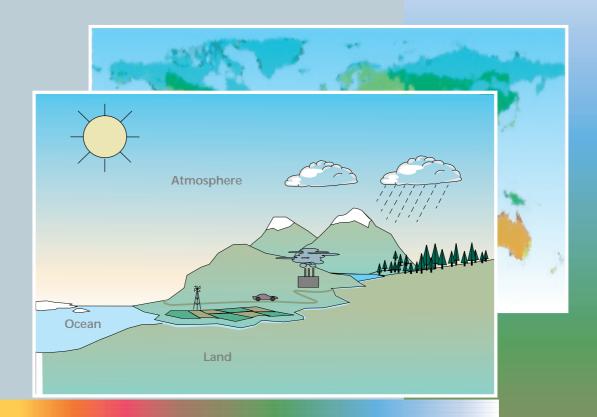


INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE





AN INTRODUCTION TO SIMPLE CLIMATE MODELS USED IN THE IPCC SECOND ASSESSMENT REPORT

IPCC Technical Paper II



INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE



An Introduction to Simple Climate Models used in the IPCC Second Assessment Report

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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.

February 1997

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.

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Preface

This Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Technical Paper on "An Introduction to Simple Climate Models used in the IPCC Second Assessment Report" is the second 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 (UNFCCC).

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, during which comments on this Paper were received from 81 reviewers from 26 countries, followed by a final government 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 Twelfth Session (Geneva, 3-5 February 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 was satisfied 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 and particularly David Griggs, Kathy Maskell 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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