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IPCC AR4 “Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis” – an Australian perspective**

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Head of the Bureau of Meteorology’s National Climate Centre**

Bio Note

Michael Coughlan was born in Melbourne and received his professional education from The Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, Reading University (United Kingdom) and Monash University, Melbourne.

He began his career in 1965, working as an aviation and public weather forecaster in the Australian Bureau of Meteorology, with tours of duty in Darwin and Perth, Australia, and for a short time with the UK Meteorological Office in London, England. He has lectured to trainee meteorological technicians and meteorologists in the Bureau of Meteorology, and to undergraduates at Monash University.

He began his association with climate in the Research Branch of the Bureau of Meteorology in 1975. As part of a major reorganisation of the Bureau in 1984 he helped formulate the structure of the National Climate Centre and subsequently took up the position of Supervisor of the Climate Analysis Section and acted for extended periods as Head of the Centre.

In 1990 he was seconded to the NOAA Office of Global Programmes in Washington DC, and remained there for five years as Programme Manager for GEWEX Programmes, including the Mississippi River Basin Project. In 1995 he was appointed founding Director of the International CLIVAR Project Office in Hamburg, Germany and in 1997 joined the Secretariat of the World Meteorological Organization as Director of the World Climate Programme Department. In April 2000, he assumed responsibility for coordinating all climate activities within the WMO Secretariat.

In January 2003 he returned to the Bureau of Meteorology and took up his current position as Head of the National Climate Centre.

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