Women-ACS (Women Advancing Climate and Climate Change Sciences) is a new international initiative that aims to increase women’s participation and accomplishments in the domain of climate and climate change sciences (including physical base sciences, adaptation and mitigation sciences). With this objective, Women-ACS is being established to encourage, enhance and highlight the role of the women around the world in contributing to the climate and climate change sciences. It aims to give an appropriate platform for information delivery, experience exchange and communication about different activities/research/actions related to women and climate and climate change sciences.

This side event brings together representatives from national and international institutions active in supporting the leading role of women in climate and climate change sciences. The event highlights the achievements of women around the world and the concrete added value that this brings. The existing urgent need to strengthen the participation of women will be addressed, sharing views, experiences and information of successful experiences and where challenges or barriers are encountered. A session will debate and guide the formation of Women-ACS, developing the main steps in the establishment of this initiative.

**PROGRAMME**

**Moderator**
Fatima Driouech, Head, National Climate Centre, National Meteorology Directorate, Morocco

**Chairs**
Ko Barrett, NOAA, USA; IPCC Vice-Chair
Valerie Masson-Delmotte, LSCE/IPSL, France; IPCC WGI Co-Chair

**Opening**
Charafat Afailal, Deputy Minister for Water
Petteri Taalas, Secretary-General of WMO (TBC)
Nizar Baraka, Chair of the Scientific Committee of COP22, President of the Moroccan Economic, Social and Environmental Council

**Panel**
Maxx Diley, Director, Climate Prediction and Adaptation Branch, WMO, Switzerland
Jacqueline McGlade, Chief Scientist, UNEP, Kenya
Aida Diongue Niang, Director, Météo Sénégal, National Agency of Civil Aviation and Meteorology, Senegal
Carol Chouchani Cherfane, Chief, Water Resources Section, ESCWA, Lebanon
Winfred Lichuma, Chairperson, National Gender and Equality Commission, Kenya
Abdallatif Khattabi, President, Moroccan Association for Regional Sciences, Morocco
Ghani Chehbouni, Research Director, Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD), Representative of IRD in Morocco

**November 14, 2016**
13:00 - 14:30
COP22 Green Zone
Room ZIZ
Marrakech

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