Ocean levels could rise as much as 4.2 feet by 2100 if global targets on emissions are not achieved and Earth's surface warms another 3.2 degrees.

Fahrenheit, scientists warn

By SALLY BRYANT

Ocean levels could rise as much as 4.2 feet by 2100 if the world fails to meet international targets on cutting emissions and Earth's surface warms another 3.2 degrees, Fahrenheit scientists have warned.

The rising seas would threaten the lifestyles of millions of people living on the world's coasts, they said.

The forecasts were based on four so-called 'RCP' scenarios of climate change produced by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

RCP 2.6 is the best-case scenario, in which nations meet their pledges to cut emissions and stabilize temperature at the 2C limit of the Paris Agreement.

RCP 4.5 and RCP 6.0 are based on how emissions are expected to continue if nations fail to meet their promises, and RCP 8.5 is the worst-case scenario, based on how emissions would increase if world leaders took no action to fight climate change.

In RCP 2.6, the world's temperature would rise by 1.2 to 2.1 degrees Celsius by 2100 compared with levels before industrialization began, with a 3.2 degree rise in the surface temperature. This would result in a 3.2 foot rise in ocean levels by 2100 compared with today.

However, in RCP 4.5, the world's temperature would rise by 1.5 to 2.3 degrees Celsius by 2100, with a 2.5 degree rise in the surface temperature. This would result in a 2.5 foot rise in ocean levels by 2100.

In RCP 6.0, the world's temperature would rise by 1.8 to 3.2 degrees Celsius by 2100, with a 2.5 degree rise in the surface temperature. This would result in a 2.5 foot rise in ocean levels by 2100.

In RCP 8.5, the world's temperature would rise by 2.1 to 4.3 degrees Celsius by 2100, with a 2.7 degree rise in the surface temperature. This would result in a 4.2 foot rise in ocean levels by 2100.

The IPCC scientists noted that sea levels would continue to rise for centuries, with the oceans also expanding and warming as they become more salty.

They warned that progress on cutting emissions globally was down to the world leaders insha' Allah soon to gather in a new round of meetings with the aim of cutting emissions and slowing climate change.

The IPCC had previously warned that sea levels would rise by 30 to 110 centimeters by 2100, with a 0.62 foot rise in ocean levels by 2100.

In May, a study by the United States National Snow and Ice Data Center said that 8 of the 12 years between 2010 and 2018 had been on record for the amount of ice seen in the Arctic. The amount of Arctic ice has been shrinking every year since 1988.

This is consistent with the findings of the IPCC which said that the Arctic had been warming faster than most other regions of the world, and that the land and ocean would continue to warm, leading to more frequent and intense natural disasters, such as hurricanes, storms and floods.

IPCC scientists had also warned that the melting of glaciers and ice sheets would continue to impact global sea levels, and that the effects of climate change would have a major impact on the world's economies, with a global economic loss of up to $5 trillion by 2100.

The IPCC had stated that the world was on track to warm by 2.5 to 3.5 degrees Celsius by the end of this century, which would result in a 21 to 59 centimeter rise in ocean levels.

In the study, the scientists noted that the world's oceans had already risen by 8.4 centimeters since the 19th century, with another 20 centimeters expected by the end of this century.

The scientists said that the rise in ocean levels would have a significant impact on the world's coastal regions, with some areas expected to experience a rise of up to 80 centimeters by 2100.

They warned that the rise in ocean levels could lead to the loss of land and property, and that the world's coastal populations would be at risk.

The IPCC had previously warned that the world's population would rise by 2.5 to 3.6 billion by 2100, with a 15% increase in the world's population.

The scientists said that the rise in ocean levels would have a significant impact on the world's economies, with a global economic loss of up to $5 trillion by 2100.

In a statement, a United Nations spokesperson said that the world leaders needed to take urgent action to cut emissions and slow climate change.

"The situation is critical," he said. "The world needs to act now to cut emissions and slow climate change, or face the consequences."