

IPCC/SBSTA Opening Plenary - Bonn, 05 June 2023
Secretary of the IPCC – opening remarks

Thank you very much Chair,

I will start by saying the IPCC special event that was scheduled at 14.00 will take place in this room just after this meeting. I am inviting all delegates to attend as the IPCC Chair and the Section Facilitators will be providing more in-depth information from the Synthesis Report.

Your Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

This year is particularly significant for the IPCC because we approved the Synthesis Report of the sixth cycle. This is the final chapter and culmination of IPCC's efforts during this cycle to lay out the most robust, most up-to-date scientific knowledge on climate change.

The Synthesis Report will contribute to the discussions here during SBSTA and SBI. I am also inviting you to attend the other five events from the IPCC.

We are proud to stress that this has been the busiest cycle in the history of the IPCC. We released three special reports, the three Working Group contributions, the Synthesis Report, and the 2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories. It was the most important in the history of the IPCC.

More than 780 scientists volunteered their time and expertise to work on the Sixth Assessment Report. Forty-one percent of them were from developing nations. Thirty-three percent of IPCC authors were female scientists.

More than 100,000 papers were assessed through the Working Groups' reports and the authors addressed 300,000 review comments.

The Panel held 19 plenaries in this cycle – twice more than in any previous cycle.

I don't want to miss the opportunity in this room to thank all of you for your contribution to IPCC's work. I want to start by thanking all the scientists, Bureau members, and governments.

I want to highlight that at the start of the cycle, there were about 20 countries contributing financially to IPCC. Am proud to say that we now have about 50 and have recorded an increase in contributions from developing countries and countries with economies in transition. I am inviting all of you to be on the list of countries contributing in-kind or financially to support the work of the IPCC.

In the last week of July, the Panel will gather in Nairobi, to elect our new bureau. We will have another plenary to look at lessons learned from this cycle to inform the next one. I hope these lessons will mean the seventh cycle is open to more representation from developing countries, women, young scientists, and indigenous people.

In conclusion, I hope that the work the scientists have provided will inform your decision-making as you revise your NDCs.

Thank you very much.
