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IPCC MEDIA ADVISORY

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IPCC meets in Bulgaria this July to consider the detailed timeline for the reports in the seventh assessment cycle

GENEVA, July 24 - The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change will meet for its 61st Plenary Session in the Bulgarian capital, Sofia, from 27 July to 2 August. During a week-long meeting the delegates of 195 member governments will discuss important matters related to production of IPCC reports during the seventh assessment cycle which began last July with the election of the new Chair and new IPCC Bureau members.

This is the second plenary meeting of the current cycle. Among other issues, the Panel will consider the strategic planning schedule which will define a detailed production timeline for all the IPCC reports planned for the seventh cycle and the draft outlines of the Special Report on Climate Change and Cities and the Methodology Report on Short-Lived Climate Forcers. Based on the Panel's earlier decision, these two reports are scheduled for release in 2027. The Panel's busy agenda will also include discussions about the lessons learned from the sixth assessment cycle.

The 61st Plenary Session of the IPCC will be ceremoniously opened at 10.00 a.m. local time in Sofia on Saturday, 27 July, at the Grand Hotel Millenium Sofia.

Delegates representing IPCC member governments and observer organizations will be addressed by the IPCC Chair Jim Skea, the President of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Abdulla Al Mandous, the Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme Elizabeth Maruma Mrema, Bulgarian Minister of Environment and Water Petar Dimitrov, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Nevyana Miteva and the Mayor of Sofia Vassil Terziev.

The opening will also include special video messages from the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Simon Stiell and the Deputy Secretary General of the World Meteorological Organisation Ko Barrett.

Except for the opening segment, IPCC Plenary Sessions are closed meetings. A recording of the opening speeches and visuals will be posted on the IPCC website [here](#).

To request an interview with the IPCC Chair and other Bureau Members, please email ipcc-media@wmo.int.

For more information please contact:

IPCC Press Office, Email: ipcc-media@wmo.int

Notes for editors

What is the IPCC?

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the UN body for assessing the science related to climate change. It was established by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in 1988 to provide political leaders with periodic scientific assessments concerning climate change, its implications and risks, as well as to put forward adaptation and mitigation strategies. In the same year the UN General Assembly endorsed the action by the WMO and UNEP in jointly establishing the IPCC. It has 195 member states.

Thousands of people from all over the world contribute to the work of the IPCC. For the assessment reports, experts volunteer their time as IPCC authors to assess the thousands of scientific papers published each year to provide a comprehensive summary of what is known about the drivers of climate change, its impacts and future risks, and how adaptation and mitigation can reduce those risks.

The IPCC has three working groups: [Working Group I](#), dealing with the physical science basis of climate change; [Working Group II](#), dealing with impacts, adaptation and vulnerability; and [Working Group III](#), dealing with the mitigation of climate change. It also has a [Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories](#) that develops methodologies for measuring emissions and removals.

IPCC assessments provide governments, at all levels, with scientific information that they can use to develop climate policies. IPCC assessments are a key input into the international negotiations to tackle climate change. IPCC reports are drafted and reviewed in several stages, thus guaranteeing objectivity and transparency.

About the Seventh Assessment Cycle

Comprehensive scientific assessment reports are published every 5 to 7 years. The IPCC is currently in its seventh assessment cycle, which formally began in July 2023 with the elections of the new [IPCC and Taskforce Bureaus](#) at the IPCC's Plenary Session in Nairobi.

IPCC's latest report, the [Sixth Assessment Report](#), was completed in March 2023 with the release of its Synthesis Report, which provides direct scientific input to the first global stocktake process under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at COP28 in Dubai.

The Sixth Assessment Report comprises three Working Group contributions and a Synthesis Report. The Working Group I contribution [Climate Change 2021: the Physical Science Basis](#) was released on 9 August 2021. The Working Group II contribution, [Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability](#), was released on 28 February 2022. The Working Group III contribution, [Climate Change 2022: Mitigation of Climate Change](#), was released on 4 April 2022 and the [Synthesis Report](#) on 20 March 2023. The [Synthesis Report to the Sixth Assessment Report](#), distils and integrates the findings of the three Working Group assessments as well as the three Special Reports released in 2018 and 2019.

The special reports were on [Global Warming of 1.5°C](#) (October 2018.), [Climate Change and Land](#) (August 2019) and, [the ocean and cryosphere in a changing climate](#) (September 2019).

For more information visit www.ipcc.ch.

The website includes [outreach materials](#) including videos about the IPCC and video recordings from [outreach events](#) conducted as webinars or live-streamed events.

Most videos published by the IPCC can be found on our [YouTube](#) channel.

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