

SBSTA 62 opening – 16 June 2025

Remarks by IPCC Secretary Abdalah Mokssit

Your Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

As the Secretary of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change – the IPCC – I am grateful for this opportunity to provide you with a brief update on the status of IPCC activities and work.

Next month it will be exactly two years since the start of the seventh assessment cycle.

I am proud to inform this distinguished forum that we have made important and comprehensive progress.

The Panel has held three Plenary sessions so far in this cycle and the work on all eight reports commissioned for this cycle is moving forward.

Different reports are in different stages of production.

Allow me to start with our only special report in this cycle – the Special Report on Climate Change and Cities. Planned for release in early 2027, it will be our first published report in this cycle.

This special report has been scoped, its outline agreed upon, the authors have been selected, and the first Lead Author meeting already took place this spring.

I am pleased to add that a Methodology Report on Short-lived Climate Forcers, planned for release also in 2027, is in the same stage of drafting.

The outlines of the three Working Groups' contributions to the Seventh Assessment Report were agreed upon in February at the Panel's 62nd session in Hangzhou, China.

By the end of this month, the IPCC Bureau will complete the selection of authors. They will hold their joint lead author meeting later this year.

The timelines of the Working Groups report will be on the Panel's agenda at its 63rd Plenary session this autumn. We are particularly thankful to the government of Peru for their generous offer to host this session.

Another important item on the agenda of the upcoming Plenary will be to conclude deliberations on the outline of the Methodology Report on Carbon Dioxide Removal Technologies, Carbon Capture Utilisation, and Storage, and achieve the Panel's consensus on the single remaining volume. This will allow IPCC to initiate the process of nominating experts and selecting authors for this methodology report.

I would also like to inform you that at the 62nd session, the Panel approved proposals for two co-located IPCC workshops – 1) on Engaging Diverse Knowledge Systems, a Workshop on Methods of Assessment, and 2) an Expert Meeting on Methodologies, Metrics, and Indicators for Assessing Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation.

A Synthesis Report that will bring together all key lines of evidence and insights from all three Working Groups and the Special Report on Climate Change and Cities will be scoped at a later stage.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Before closing, allow me to highlight the strong collaboration of the three Working Groups and the Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories on the complex outlines of the reports and selection of authors.

Great care and attention have been given to achieving gender balance, regional diversity, and representation from developed and developing countries among IPCC authors. These efforts flow from the vision which IPCC Chair Jim Skea laid out at the outset of the cycle – the IPCC built on the strength of its inclusivity, interdisciplinarity and policy relevance.

I should also stress that the IPCC maintains close contact with relevant UNFCCC constituencies. Our aim is to further strengthen our policy relevance through communication with policymakers and stakeholders, including at COP29 in Baku.

Lastly, I would like to thank our Panel, comprising 195 member governments, for their continued support, both in terms of their scientific and policy engagement with the IPCC and their voluntary contributions to the IPCC Trust Fund.

As we look to further strengthen our resource mobilization at these complex and turbulent times, we will be addressing a letter to all our member governments soon.

It is a reminder that our critical work, as a unique science-policy interface, rests on the goodwill and ability of our Panel members to sustain, if not further strengthen, their multi-year projected voluntary contributions to our Trust Fund.

This is critical if we want to enable the IPCC to plan more strategically, allocate resources effectively, and achieve a greater impact by delivering the best, most up-to-date science, rich in timely and actionable findings for policymakers at all levels.

Thank you.
