Remarks by the IPCC Secretary Annett Möhner during the opening of the 65th Session of the Subsidiary Bodies to the UNFCCC

9 November 2026, Antalya

Thank you, Chair.

Your Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

I am delighted and privileged to address SBSTA for the first time as Secretary of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and update you on IPCC's progress.

The IPCC Chair addressed the opening of the COP this morning and highlighted the timeline for the Seventh Assessment Report and budget as pending operational challenges. We are now in the fourth year of the seventh assessment cycle and all seven reports planned for this cycle are on track and progressing. We are fast approaching the delivery phase.

Since our last report to SBSTA, our three Working Groups have made significant progress on the drafts of their respective contributions to the Seventh Assessment Report. Expert Review of the Working Group I draft concluded in October, and authors held their third Lead Author Meeting last week. As we meet, Expert Review of the Working Group II draft report is under way. The Expert Review of the Working Group III draft will begin next Week. However, what our volunteering scientists currently lack is clarity and certainty about the timeline for delivering the three Working Group reports.

The IPCC will resume its suspended 65th Plenary session on 1 December where the member governments will have an opportunity to conclude their deliberations and reach a decision on the timelines of the three Working Groups' reports and the related budget. The IPCC Secretariat will do its utmost to facilitate the delegates participation in the virtual format of the resumed Plenary.

I am pleased to report that we are planning three report approval plenaries in 2027. In just four months, we plan to will convene the approval plenary for the first report to be published in this cycle - the Special Report on Climate Change and Cities. Its Final Government Draft is planned for review in about four weeks.

During the second half of next year, we are also planning the approval and release of two Methodology Reports of this cycle: the report on Short-Lived Climate Forcers and the report on Carbon Dioxide Removal Technologies, Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage.

Distinguished delegates,

As Secretary of the IPCC, I also feel it is my duty to raise your awareness of the current level of incoming voluntary contributions to the IPCC Trust Fund. The Trust Fund is critical to delivering the IPCC mandate and ensuring the Panel´s inclusivity. All contributions and pledges received to date cover a third of the 2026 approved budget, falling short of ensuring the normal running of IPCC work and the approved scope of activities in the current cycle. I

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take this opportunity to encourage the much-needed revival of momentum in new and increased contributions to our Trust Fund, in particular from first-time donors.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Besides our interventions in today's plenaries, the PCC will have a notable footprint at this year's COP. The IPCC Chair will be actively contributing to many events, including the keynote at the COP31 Presidency event on Science, Solutions, and Keeping 1.5°C Within Reach on 13 November, and his address at the COP31 Presidency event launching the second Global Stocktake next week. We will engage with many thematic and country pavilions, spotlighting the key scientific topics of this cycle, and we look forward to meeting you there.

Thank you Chair.