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PROGRESS REPORTS

Report by the IPCC Secretariat

(Submitted by the Secretary of the IPCC)

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1. Introduction

This report covers the work of the IPCC Secretariat since October 2025, following its report to the Panel at its 63rd Session (IPCC-63). Like previous reports, it is structured around the [functions](#) of the Secretariat and provides information on its work in performing its key functions. This report does not provide exhaustive details and information on its day-to-day activities and the efforts to ensure the quality management and preparation of the IPCC meetings and the respective session documents. Additionally, the report provides information on some of the challenges faced during the reporting period.

2. IPCC sessions and meetings

This section provides information on the IPCC meetings supported by the IPCC Secretariat during the reporting period (October 2025 to Mid-March 2026).

2.1 IPCC sessions

During the reporting period, the Secretariat organised the 63rd Session of the IPCC (IPCC-63). IPCC-63 was held in Lima, Peru, from 27 to 30 October 2025, following the generous invitation from the Government of Peru. The Secretariat coordinated with the host country including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding the meeting venue, accommodation and other logistical and technical requirements.

The Session, during which the Panel agreed upon the outline of the Methodology Report on Carbon Dioxide Removal Technologies, Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (CDR & CCUS) was attended by 323 participants, including 224 delegates from 90 Member Countries and 21 Observer Organisations. 78 participants received financial support from the IPCC Trust Fund, including Secretariat staff and translators, whose travel was arranged by the Secretariat. The work of the Secretariat in organizing the session included, but was not limited to, registration, logistical support, conference management, invitation letters, report of the session, management of the PaperSmart and the preparation and processing of 26 session documents in collaboration with the IPCC Chair, Vice-Chairs, Working Group (WG) / Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (TFI) Co-Chairs, Task Group on Data Support for Climate Change Assessments (TG-Data) Co-Chairs, Technical Support Units (TSUs) and other stakeholders.

At the time of writing this report, the Secretariat is working on the organization of the 64th Session of the IPCC (IPCC-64). As it is still a work in progress, detailed information on its proceedings will be provided at the next IPCC session. Work is also ongoing on the selection of the venue and planning for the 65th Session of the IPCC (IPCC-65) which will take place in the second half of 2026.

2.2 IPCC Bureau sessions

During the reporting period, the Secretariat organised the 70th Session of the IPCC Bureau (BUR-70) which was held from 26 to 27 February 2026 in Geneva, Switzerland. BUR-70 focused on reviewing of the IPCC Principles and Procedures to be presented for consideration of the Panel at IPCC-64. The Bureau session had 62 participants, including Bureau Members and Government representatives. Among them, 18 participants who were eligible for IPCC Trust Fund support received travel assistance from the Secretariat. The Secretariat's support included finalizing the agenda, invitation letters, registration, logistical arrangements, and the preparation and processing of 20 session documents including the previous meeting report, in collaboration with the IPCC Chair, Vice-Chairs, WG/TFI Co-Chairs, TG-Data Co-Chairs, TSUs, and other stakeholders.

2.3 Executive Committee Meetings

During the reporting period, the Secretariat supported the organisation of four Executive Committee (ExCom) meetings, which took place virtually. In preparation for the ExCom meetings, the Secretariat coordinated with and supported the Chair and ensured that the teleconferences were running smoothly, as well as that the agenda, invitations, and meeting documentation were prepared and sent to the ExCom members ahead of the meeting. The Secretariat prepared the summary of the decisions and conclusions of the meetings, circulated them for comments prior to posting them on the [IPCC website](#).

2.4 Gender Action Team Meetings

Since October 2025, the Secretariat has supported the work of the Gender Action Team (GAT) mainly focussed on developing the report of the Expert Meeting on Gender, Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity (GDEI) that was held from 23 to 25 September 2025 at the WMO headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. The Secretariat provided extensive support to the meeting's of the Scientific Steering Committee (SSC) led by the GAT Chair in organizing the Expert Meeting. To support the development of the report, the Secretariat continued assisting the SSC by compiling, digitising and sharing the materials developed by participants during the Expert Meeting. The Secretariat has provided input to the draft report of the GDEI Expert Meeting, which is currently being developed under the SSC's leadership.

The Secretariat continued to support the delivery of GDEI training services as mandated by the Panel, per the respective TORs developed by the GAT. Following the completion of a competitive procurement process, the contract for the GDEI trainers was awarded to Ernst & Young Ltd. in October 2025. The trainers subsequently delivered an introductory session at the First Joint Lead Authors Meeting (LAM1) in Paris and conducted a training session for the Coordinating Lead Authors (CLAs) at the SR Cities LAM3 in January 2026, Oslo, Norway.

In addition, the trainers recently conducted a training session after the BUR-70 on 27 February 2026 for the Bureau members, Task Force Bureau co-chairs, TSU's and Secretariat staff. A pre-training survey was conducted, and a post-training survey has been shared with the participants of the training. The training was attended by a total of 46 participants, with 30 attending in-person and 16 participating online. Planning for GDEI training sessions to be delivered during upcoming LAMs for other IPCC assessment and methodology reports is currently underway.

2.5 Technical Support Unit Liaison Group Meetings

During the reporting period, the Technical Support Unit Liaison Group (TSU LG) met two times. As of October 2025, these meetings began taking place bimonthly at the proposal of one Working Group TSU head and supported by all meeting participants. The Secretariat organised and ran the virtual meetings of the Group and prepared its agendas, minutes, and documents as necessary. These meetings, which are chaired by the Deputy Secretary, continued to serve as a platform for coordination and sharing information with the view to implement the strategic decisions of the ExCom or address issues that require attention from the Secretariat.

2.6 Other meetings

In addition to the above, during the reporting period, the Secretariat provided support to the organization of the following meetings:

- Second Lead Author Meeting of the Short-Lived Climate Forcers, Istanbul, Türkiye from 6 to 9 October 2025 (*54 Participants supported*).
- Joint IPCC-WMO-MERI pavilion at COP30, Belem, Brazil from 10 to 21 November 2025 (*1 participant supported in addition to the Secretariat delegation to the COP30*).

- Co-sponsored Workshop on Earth System High Impact Events, and Tipping Points and their Consequences, Paris, France, 26 to 28 November 2025. (23 participants supported).
- First Joint Lead Author Meeting for the three Working Groups, Paris, France from 1 to 5 December 2025. (251 participants supported).
- Task Group on Data Support for Climate Change Assessments (TG-Data), Frankfurt, Germany, from 11 to 13 December 2025 (10 participants supported).
- Third Lead Author Meeting on Special Report on Climate Change and Cities, Oslo, Norway from 12 to 16 January 2026 (46 participants supported).
- 39th Meeting of Task Force Bureau, Hayama, Japan from 13 to 14 January 2026 (6 participants supported).
- Co-located Workshops on Engaging Diverse Knowledge Systems and on Methods of Assessment, Reading, UK from 10 to 13 February 2026 (36 participants supported).
- Expert Meeting on Methodologies, Metrics & Indicators for Assessing Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation, Accra, Ghana from 3 to 5 March 2026 (27 Participants supported).

The Secretariat provided travel support to a total of 454 participants for the meetings listed above. In addition to the travel, the Secretariat support included negotiation of the Letters of Agreement, as applicable, input to and issuing the call for nominations of meeting participants, including through the online nomination platform developed by the Secretariat, as well as preparing and sending out invitations to the selected participants.

The Secretariat supported the preparation for the two co-located Workshops on Engaging Diverse Knowledge Systems and on Methods of Assessment that took place in the first quarter of 2026. In addition, the Secretariat has also been supporting Working Group III and TFI in finding and coordinating with potential hosts for their upcoming second Lead Author Meetings in May 2026.

The Secretariat also coordinated the planning of the joint IPCC-WMO-MERI pavilion at COP30, which focused on enabling remote participation and ensuring all pavilion events were streamed live across IPCC's social media platform.

3. Update on the implementation of the decisions from the Panel and Bureau

At IPCC-62, and IPCC-63 the Panel made various decisions, some of which outlined a set of implementation actions that required input of and support from the Secretariat during the reporting period. The sub-sections below summarize the actions taken by the Secretariat towards the implementation of these decisions.

3.1. Planning for the seventh assessment cycle

At IPCC-62, by [Decision IPCC-LXII-8](#), the Panel agreed on the outlines for the three Working Groups contributions to the Seventh Assessment Report. By the same decision, the Panel invited the Working Groups to start their work by initiating the call for nominations for the authors and convene the LAM1 in 2025. The Secretariat continued to support the implementation of this decision including by arranging travel for the LAM1 meeting participants and coordinating the Host Country Agreement.

At IPCC-63, by [Decision IPCC-LXIII-7](#), the Panel invited Working Groups to continue their work as indicated by the 2026 budget, as contained in the Decision IPCC-LXIII-5 and deferred further consideration of the workplan for the preparation of the Working Group contributions to the IPCC Seventh Assessment Report to future sessions. During the reporting period, the Secretariat continued to support the implementation of this decision, including by arranging travel for eligible participants and negotiating and processing letters of agreement for the upcoming LAM2 meetings of WGs, as applicable.

3.2. Human resources strategic planning

Following the approval of the respective budget by the Panel at the IPCC-62, through [Decision IPCC-LXII-7](#), the Secretariat launched the tender in May 2025 to procure services for the development of Secretariat's Human Resources (HR) strategy. Following a competitive selection process conducted as per the WMO regulations, the contract between WMO and the selected service provider was awarded in January 2026 and is scheduled for a duration of six months. Two meetings have been held so far including an inception meeting with the consultants. The Secretariat continues to provide the information required for them to carry out the assignment. The final output will be a strategic human resource plan featuring recommendations to address identified deficiencies and address future staffing requirements with the view to present to the Panel for review and consideration at IPCC-65 as per the Panels request through decision [IPCC-LX-10](#). para 27 at the IPCC-60.

3.3 Publications and Translation

In accordance with para 22 of Decision IPCC-LXIII-5 at IPCC-63, the Panel requested the Secretariat to optimize the utilization of funds related to scientific editing services for the Sixth Assessment Cycle by focusing on the Summaries for Policymakers and Glossaries, and requests the Secretariat to ensure scientific editing and translation is completed for relevant products related to upcoming reports within one year of completion of each report. In response to this decision, the Secretariat has initiated discussions at the ExCom level with the view to initiating the work of the Publications and Translations Committee, whose Terms of Reference were agreed by the Panel at IPCC-61 through Decision [IPCC-LXI-11](#). The WGs and TFI Co-Chairs have been invited to nominate members to the Committee (two from each WG and the TFI). Additionally, the Secretariat has considered initiating a process of surveying Focal Points regarding their interest in receiving hard copies of the IPCC reports.

3.4 Pre-plenary briefing sessions

Following para 2 of the decision [IPCC-XLVII-4](#), referenced in para 23 of decision [IPCC-LXIII-4](#) adopted at IPCC-63, the Panel requested the Secretariat to provide a report at IPCC-64 on the pre-plenary briefing session organised during IPCC-61, including budgetary implications, with a view to informing the Panel's decision on holding similar pre-plenary briefings in future sessions. The Secretariat has developed a meeting document ([IPCC-LXIV/Doc. 3](#)) on this matter to be presented to the Panel for its consideration at IPCC-64.

4. IPCC trust fund

During the reporting period, the Secretariat carried out a wide range of financial management activities. At BUR-70, the Secretariat provided the IPCC Bureau with an update on the IPCC's overall financial situation and fundraising requirements, while also monitoring contribution levels, updating financial projections for the Seventh Assessment Report cycle, and intensifying fundraising efforts. The Secretariat supported the preparation of the 2025 IPCC financial statements and responded to queries from external auditors. It concluded contribution agreements with donors, issued invoices, acknowledged contributions, and prepared the corresponding donor reports. In parallel, it finalized Letters of Agreement with implementing partners, initiated the transfer of funds, and reviewed financial statements they submitted. The Secretariat also approved and processed the procurement of goods and services, as well as travel for funded participants attending IPCC meetings. Throughout the period, it continued to provide financial advice and guidance to IPCC Bureau Members, Working Group Technical Support Units, donors, implementing partners, and other IPCC stakeholders.

5. Information management and IT support

Following the approval of the outline of the Methodology Report on CDR & CCUS during IPCC-63, the Secretariat, in coordination with the TFI, launched the author nomination portal. During the nomination period (10 November to 12 December 2025) 559 experts were nominated for the Methodology Report. In parallel the Secretariat has also been supporting with the preparations for the

review of the First Order Draft (FOD) of the Methodology Report on Short Lived Climate Forcers (SLCF). Registration opened on 1 December 2025, resulting in approximately 1100 experts registered to review. The platform was accessible during the review period from 5 January to 27 February 2026 resulting in over 6300 comments.

In collaboration with the Working Group II TSU, the Secretariat developed and launched the platform to facilitate the expert review of the FOD for the Special Report on Climate Change and Cities, which took place from 17 October to 12 December 2025. The review process was supported by more than 4500 registered experts which resulted in more than 30,000 comments. Throughout the nomination and review period of the reports, the Secretariat actively provided support to the Focal Points and experts, addressing both technical and non-technical queries related to the system.

The Secretariat is currently engaged in several ongoing IT projects and enhancement initiatives to further support the work of WG's and the Secretariat's core activities:

1. Updated the dashboard to reflect the planning calendar and facilitate the onboarding of new Focal Points.
2. Extended the Conflict-of-Interest application through ongoing updates following requests from WGIII and TFI.
3. Completed development of the Author Dashboard for WGIII to complement the Author Portal.
4. Updated the travel portal to enhance support for the Trust-Fund supported authors and delegates.
5. Designed a new application to support various IPCC meetings, intended to function separately from the Paper Smart system used for IPCC Sessions.
6. Designed a dedicated system for the review of all three WG's contributions to the Seventh Assessment Report. The applications for the review of the Zero Order Draft (ZOD) were launched on 23 February 2026.

6. IPCC error protocol

The Secretariat continued to provide support for the management of the IPCC Error Protocol and provide regular updates to the ExCom. Since October 2025, the Secretariat has received and registered four error claims. Three of these cases were assigned to the Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (TFI). The remaining case, relating to the Synthesis Report for the Sixth Assessment Report (SYR), was assigned to the IPCC Chair and the ExCom. At the time of reporting, two cases remained under consideration.

7. IPCC communication and outreach

During the reporting period, the Secretariat's communications, media and outreach work focused on key IPCC activities – namely the IPCC-63 and its outcomes in October and communications efforts related to the first-ever joint Lead Author Meeting in December, and IPCC public-facing engagements in key international fora such as COP30. The communications team continued to facilitate interview requests for the Chair, Vice-Chairs, and Bureau members as well as assisted in identifying and supporting IPCC speakers at relevant events and conferences.

The team also supported coordination, facilitation, and input for speaking engagements by IPCC leadership at various events during the 30th session of the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP-30) in Belem, Brazil, including recording and post-production of Chair's five video messages for mandated, ministerial and high-level events.

During the reporting period, the Secretariat organised four meetings of the Communications and Outreach Action Team (COAT), which focused on various activities tasked by the ExCom. Based on the mandate received from ExCom, the COAT initiated the work on the review of the IPCC Communications Strategy's Implementation Plan. The exercise is being led by Secretariat. The TSUs were tasked with consulting their respective Bureaus and feeding back into the mapping document developed by the Secretariat.

In October 2025, the Secretariat organised four media training sessions for the Bureau members. These were delivered through a service provider hired for delivering such services. The outcomes of these sessions and the media relations guidelines were shared with the IPCC Bureau. In total, 22 Bureau members attended the training.

At the time of writing this report, the communications team is also preparing for a regional outreach event to be held in Bangkok for Asia-and Southwest Pacific regions, scheduled after the conclusion of IPCC-64. For more information, please refer to the report [IPCC-LXIV/INF. 5](#) on Communication and outreach activities.

8. Conflict of interest policy

In support of the Conflict-of-Interest Committee (COI), the Secretariat continued to support and facilitate the required annual COI reporting both of IPCC Bureau and TFI Bureau members as well as COI reporting of the Working Group and Task Force Bureaux including with reference to TSU professional staff, taking into account the updated COI disclosure form. The Secretariat further supported the 26th COI Committee meeting (26 February 2026) in their evaluation of submitted COI forms and Working Group COI reports, providing advice regarding timing on consideration of COI issues outside of the annual review of Bureau and TFI Bureau member forms and procedural steps for updating COI declarations.

9. Engaging with IPCC Focal Points, UN system with UNFCCC, other relevant UN bodies and other stakeholders

9.1 IPCC focal points

During the reporting period, the Secretariat continued its regular communications with member government-designated Focal Points and Ministries of Foreign Affairs (if no Focal Point has been designated) and Observer Organizations. Key communications included but were not limited to matters related to BUR-70, IPCC-63, IPCC-64, and contributions to the IPCC Trust Fund. Additionally, the Secretariat issued a call for author nominations for the Methodology Report on Carbon Dioxide Removal Technologies, Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (CDR & CCUS), and for experts to review the first draft of the Special Report on Climate Change and Cities and the Methodology Report on Short-Lived Climate Forcers.

Other communications with IPCC Focal Points and government representatives were related to the hosting and conducting of IPCC Sessions and other meetings, as well as responses to meeting invitations and various letters. More than 110 letters were sent to Governments, Observer Organizations, and IPCC Focal Points, with over 30 bilateral meetings coordinated, including in the margins of other events such as UNFCCC COP30, and UNEA-7, etc. The IPCC Secretariat continued to update the IPCC Focal Points through the quarterly electronic Newsletter. Since October, the Secretariat has shared the 27th (October to December 2025) issue.

The Secretariat also received numerous requests for admission of new Observer Organizations, reviewed these in alignment with the policy for admitting Observer Organizations, and submitted these to the IPCC Bureau for their review. These are to be subsequently submitted to the Panel through document [IPCC-LXIV/Doc. 2](#). Based on the information in this document, the IPCC decided to grant 20 new organizations IPCC observer status ([Decision IPCC-LXIII-3](#)).

9.2 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Joint Working Group (JWG) meetings continued to provide an informal platform for scientific and technical collaboration between the IPCC and UNFCCC, and they usually take place ahead of the SBs or COPs. In the absence of a JWG meeting prior to COP30, which was not feasible due to the close scheduling of IPCC-63 and COP30, a written update on IPCC activities was prepared by the IPCC Secretariat for the respective UNFCCC team ahead of the COP30.

The Secretariat continued its engagement with the UNFCCC secretariat following COP30 to unpack its outcomes in the context of the IPCC and has begun planning for the IPCC's engagement during the upcoming sessions of the Subsidiary Bodies.

9.3 Other UN bodies and organizations

The Secretariat coordinated and supported several engagements where the Chair of the IPCC was invited as a keynote speaker and panellist during the 7th Session of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-7). The session took place in Nairobi, Kenya, from 8 to 12 December 2025. During the session, the Chair participated in-person at the MEAs Day High-Level Leadership Dialogue, Multistakeholder Dialogues, and at the Ministerial Roundtable on Global Environmental Governance.

Additionally, on 8 December 2025, the Deputy Secretary of the IPCC participated in a UNEA-7 side event hosted by the Swiss Government, titled "Synergies in the Chemicals and Waste Cluster: The Role of Emerging and Established Instruments."

During this reporting period, the Secretary participated in the Science-Policy Day and spoke at the event "Strengthening the Science-Policy Interface to Address the Triple Planetary Crisis" held at the International Environment House in Geneva, Switzerland, on 17 December 2025. The Chair also contributed virtually at this event.

On 3 February 2026, the Chair of IPCC spoke at the 12th Session of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) in Manchester, UK. He provided an update on the seventh assessment cycle products and collaboration with IPBES. The Secretariat also attended the event and continued to strengthen the collaboration with the IPBES Secretariat, including through regular meetings. The IPCC Secretary and the IPBES Secretary met during IPCC-63, and the Chair and the IPCC Deputy Secretary met with the IPBES leadership during UNEA-7.

9.4 Engagement with other stakeholders (youth, Indigenous Peoples, business organizations, etc)

At the UNFCCC COP30 and UNEA-7, the Secretariat supported the Chair and the Vice-Chairs in their engagements with various stakeholders, country groups and different constituencies, including but not limited to Business and industry non-governmental organizations (BINGO), Environmental non-governmental organizations (ENGO) representatives, the Indigenous Peoples Organizations (IPO), Local government and municipal authorities (LGMA), Research and independent non-governmental organizations (RINGO), Youth non-governmental organizations (YOUNGO), Women and Gender Constituency (WGC), the Farmers and the Trade Unions non-governmental organizations (TUNGO).

10. Staffing

As of March 2026, the Secretariat counts 17 staff members. This includes one Junior Professional Officer who has been supporting the Secretariat on a temporary basis.

By [Decision IPCC-LXII-7](#) made at IPCC-62, the Panel decided to convert the temporary P3 position to a fixed term P3 position. Following the job advertisement in May 2025 and a competitive selection process in line with the respective WMO rules and regulations, the position has been filled as of January 2026.

11. Scholarship programme

The Secretariat continued to play a central role in coordinating and providing administrative support to the IPCC Scholarship Programme. During the reporting period, the Secretariat provided support to the Science Board during the selection process of four individuals funded through the Scholarship Programme Trust Fund. These awards contribute to strengthening scientific capacity and supporting

early-career researchers from developing countries. Agreements between the IPCC and the selected scholars were drafted and processed in accordance with the regulations of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), ensuring full compliance with applicable administrative and financial regulations. At the time of reporting, the disbursement of funds was underway.

Furthermore, the Secretariat sustained engagement with external funding partners in the context of the ongoing Eighth Round of Awards (2025 – 2027). Tripartite agreements between the IPCC, the Cuomo Foundation, and the four scholarship recipients have been finalised. Continued partnership efforts with the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation and other stakeholders remain ongoing to support and expand the impact of the programme. Further details on the activities of the IPCC Scholarship Programme are provided in Document [IPCC-LXIV/INF.3](#).

12. Legal documents

During the reporting period, the Secretariat prepared, negotiated, or concluded 39 legal agreements, encompassing various arrangements:

- (3) Host Country Agreements (HCA): Hosting Agreement and Inter-Institutional Agreement with Peru for IPCC-63; ESCAP Bangkok hosting of IPCC-64; draft Hosting Agreement of WGI approval (Finland).
- (23) Letters of Agreement (LoAs) for Trust Fund Data Distribution Center (DDC) partner funding LoA: CIESIN (Center for Integrated Earth System Information); MDW (MetaDataWorks); DKRZ (Deutsches Klimarechenzentrum); Hungary extra-budgetary support; IPCC Emission Factor Database management and support; Development of the TFI website; IPCC Inventory Software maintenance and development; TFI Software and EFDB user feedback meeting in Valdivia Chile; WGII support of WGIII author portal; UKMP (Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia Pakarunding) WGIII TSU support; LAM2 SR Cities Mombasa; WG II Co-Chair support; WGIII Co-Chair support; Amendment LoA with Columbia University; WGII EM on Adaptation Methodologies, Metrics and Indicators Ghana; IPCC Scholarship recipient agreements (four developing country graduate students); WGI LAM2 Chile; Atlas EM Chile; WGII LAM2 Bahamas; TFI LAM1 Italy (FAO);
- (1) Letter of Appointment for Scholarship Fund Board of Trustee member;
- (2) UN to UN Agreement (UNEP) on Research4Life publication access for TFI authors; Elsevier agreement for publication access to AR7 authors.
- (10) Memoranda of Agreement: joint LAM1 in Paris, France; SR Cities Digital Case Study Gallery Agreement with UCCRN; France contribution Agreement for benefit joint LAM; Denmark contribution agreement; Agreement on publication access for developing country scientists; Canada contribution amendment EM GDI; FAO Co-Sponsorship on Agriculture and Food; MERI with WMO support for Secretariat travel: CGIAR IWMI Co-sponsored Expert Meeting on Addressing Water Risks and Building Resilience through Climate Change; Indemnification Agreement for TFI dataset purchase through IGES host.

13. Challenges faced during the reporting period

Timelines for the AR7 Assessment Report: As the Panel continues deferring the AR7 timeline discussions to future sessions, this continues to challenge the overall planning process for the Secretariat including arrangements for related upcoming meetings.

Financial Situation: The IPCC's financial situation has come under strain, including in light of current geopolitical challenges. In 2024, expenditures from the IPCC Trust Fund exceeded contributions and continued to do so at a growing rate in 2025. As of 1 January 2026, the opening cash balance of the IPCC Trust Fund stood at CHF 14,731,245, compared to CHF 17,847,343 on 1 January 2025, representing a reduction of CHF 3,116,098. Voluntary contributions received between January and December 2025 totalled CHF 3,804,902, falling well short of the 2025 expenditure of CHF 6,921,000.¹

¹ The figures in this paragraph are preliminary and subject to revision pending the completion of the ongoing IPCC year-end financial closure for the financial year 2025.

Current projections indicate that this trend will persist without a substantial increase in contributions, resulting in significant annual deficits and the depletion of the IPCC Trust Fund's cash balance before the completion of the Seventh Assessment Report cycle. This would prevent the implementation of activities required to complete the AR7.

To safeguard the IPCC's long-term financial sustainability, annual contributions must match annual expenditures, which are projected to reach up to CHF 10 million under the budget approved as per [Decision IPCC-LXIII-5](#), and therefore well above the historical maximum of approx. CHF 7 million. Alternatively, current projections suggest that, at the very minimum, annual contributions of CHF 6 million are required every year until 2029 to sustain the IPCC Trust Fund through AR7. However, even at this level, cash reserves would decline sharply to approx. CHF 5 million by the end of 2029. For further details on the IPCC's financial situation and related fundraising requirements, please refer to document IPCC-LXIV/INF. 12.

To address this challenge, the Secretariat has continued to advance its resource mobilisation process. A letter soliciting increased contributions from member governments was sent on 11 July 2025. Additionally, the Secretariat has implemented cost saving measures such as reducing staff travel when possible, mobilizing funding from external resources for COP pavilions, planning back-to-back meetings, etc.

Administrative workload: The Secretariat continues to face significant administrative challenges related to travel arrangements, particularly due to the high volume of IPCC meetings. This includes the joint LAM1, for which travel and visa support was provided to 251 participants out of a total of 700 attendees, far exceeding the scale of a typical Panel session. Furthermore, as of December 2025, the administrative team has been expected to support travel and visa related arrangements for 15 meetings, including seven Lead Author Meetings, two Expert Meetings, two Workshops, one Plenary Session, one Bureau Session, one Task Force Bureau Session, and one Outreach Meeting, involving a combined total of over 1000 funded participants.

This congestion of meetings has placed substantial pressure on travel arrangement processes, which is further compounded by the timing of travel processing and the requirement to create new or updated supplier profiles in Quantum, the newly introduced ERP system of WMO, for most Trust Fund supported participants. The supplier creation process alone requires approximately two weeks per participant, in addition to the preparation and follow-up of travel requests, making it increasingly difficult to consistently meet the WMO 21-day travel requests submission deadline, despite sustained efforts to expedite workflows. This does not include the travel approval process and the numerous engagements with meeting participants arising from, for example requests for private deviations, or various questions raised, which add additional challenges to the process. More recently, air space closures across the West Asia region due to the recent outbreak of war has added another layer of complexity which requires the Secretariat travel team to coordinate alternative routes and help manage any resulting uncertainties for the travelling participants in the coming months.