**Kiki Bertens**

**Press Conference**

E. SVITOLINA/K. Bertens

2-6, 6-4, 6-2

THE MODERATOR: Questions, please.

**Q. You had a really strong start to the match. Curious what the key was and what made the difference in the end?**

KIKI BERTENS: Yeah, I think it was really good match. I think the first set I played really good, aggressive, and then I think I got broken. A little bit unlucky in the end of second. I think she also started to play better, more aggressive.

Then third set, yeah, my body felt a little bit tired, but I gave everything today. She was just the better one in the end.

**Q. It's been such a strong year for you. Curious what it means to be in Zhuhai, to have been able to qualify for a year-end event, and what that does for your confidence and motivation heading into next season?**

KIKI BERTENS: I think a lot. I really see it is a bonus on a great year. I think last year I ended the year outside top 100. I was 104 starting the year and now I'm 22. I am really happy with the year I had. My second career title, my semifinal in Paris.

So I have some great memories about last year. I'm really happy to have, yeah, this tournament as a bonus at the end of the season.

**Q. Being that it's a round robin format, the fact you won a set gives you a perhaps a chance to go into the semifinal. What will you take into your next match against Vesnina?**

KIKI BERTENS: Well, it was also funny that I never played against Svitolina or Vesnina, so both first time. It was really nice. I think the only two players here that I never played, so that was really, really nice for me.

Yeah, I think in this format it's just like another match. Maybe it's going to be my last match of the year, maybe not. I am just going to put all my energy in there and give everything, and then we'll see what happens after the matches.

**Q. You practice with Zhang Shuai way before the match. Are you good friends?**

KIKI BERTENS: Well, if she ask me to warm up again, of course. I think it was fun. The warmup was nice. I watch her match and she played unbelievable match.

Yeah, I'm happy for her.