

State of Adaptation Action by Parties

Draft annotated outline for the 2026 synthesis report

Recommended action by the Adaptation Committee

The Adaptation Committee (AC), at its 29th meeting, will be invited to consider the information and next steps contained in this note and provide further guidance to the secretariat, as appropriate.

1. Background

1. In 2024, the AC launched its interactive portal on the State of Adaptation Action by Parties, now containing validated country profiles of all 198 Parties to the UNFCCC.¹ The profiles are organized around the elements of the iterative adaptation cycle and the information is based on the Parties' submitted national reports and communications, including biennial transparency reports, adaptation communications, national adaptation plans, nationally determined contributions and national communications.
2. At its 26th meeting, the AC noted the utility, value and user-friendliness of the interactive portal, as well as the applicability of the information to multiple mandates and workstreams. It further discussed the value of developing regular synthesis reports on the State of Adaptation based on the information contained in the country profiles. It agreed to consider options for such reports at AC 27.
3. At AC 27, the AC considered the concept note for regular synthesis reports, including proposals on how to ensure synergy and coherence with other efforts to synthesize global adaptation progress, and engaged in discussions on the outline and periodicity of the synthesis report. It discussed to include in the report actions by Parties that are relevant in the context of the UAE Framework targets and to ensure that the report focuses on synthesizing information and not be too broad in scope. The AC agreed to publish the first report by the end of 2026, taking into account outcomes of the UAE–Belém work programme as well as the NDC and BTR synthesis reports by the secretariat. In addition, it noted the following added value of the synthesis reports:
 - a) Position the AC as the principal body for adaptation which includes maintaining the principal database on adaptation action and providing information to all relevant stakeholders;
 - b) Contribute to identifying further required action and support;
 - c) Inform the organization of the Adaptation Forum;
 - d) Serve as important communication tools, which should include visual elements like graphics;
 - e) Could inform about Parties' reporting practices and inform the mandate to the AC, in collaboration with the LEG and the CGE, on providing recommendations on improving adaptation reporting;
 - f) Facilitate national decision-making.
4. At AC 28, the AC requested the secretariat to inform the AC, at AC 29, of the status of updates to each country profile and to prepare a concept note for the 2026 synthesis report, including a draft annotated outline and a proposed cut-off date for defining the database that will inform the report.

¹ Available at <https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoiNzkyMGNjYjAtMzZhMi00OTRhLWFjEjEtYjRhMDQ5MWNlZlZlIiwidCI6IjhhNmMxMmFkLTQwNmEtNGYzMy1iNjg2LWY3OGZmNTgyMjIwOCIsImMiOiJh9.>

2. Considerations for the 2026 synthesis report

5. The AC may wish to take the following into account when further considering the scope and focus of the 2026 synthesis report on the State of Adaptation Action by Parties (SoA synthesis report).

2.1 Relevant AC mandates

6. The following mandates to the AC relate to the reporting and synthesis of information on adaptation action by Parties and could be addressed through the planned report:

- a) Decision 12/CMA.7, paragraph 15, which “invites the AC to analyse the information on the thematic and dimensional targets referred to in paragraphs 9 and 10 respectively of decision 2/CMA.5, including on means of implementation, contained in biennial transparency reports, adaptation communications, national adaptation plans, nationally determined contributions and national communications through the lens of the thematic and dimensional targets of the United Arab Emirates Framework for Global Climate Resilience with a view to assessing progress under the global goal on adaptation and future global stocktakes”.
- b) Decision 19/CMA.1, paragraph 24, which “invites the relevant constituted bodies and forums and other institutional arrangements under or serving the Paris Agreement and/or the Convention to prepare for the technical assessment [of the global stocktakes], with the assistance of the secretariat, synthesis reports on the information identified in paragraph 36 below in their areas of expertise”.

2.2 Complementarity reports and information portals

7. Table 1 provides an overview of adaptation-related synthesis and progress reports as mandated or planned under the UNFCCC.

Table 1. Adaptation-related synthesis and progress reports mandated or planned under the UNFCCC

Adaptation input to the technical assessment phase of GST II				
Report	Decision	Mandate	Sources	Periodicity
“State of Adaptation Report”	19/CMA.1, para. 23b	Secretariat synthesis report (SYR) on the state of adaptation efforts, experience and priorities, summarizing the most recent information identified in paragraph 36(c)	Adcoms, NDCs, BTRs	At least three months before their consideration in the technical assessment phase of the GST (next one due March 2027)
	11/CMA.1, para. 9	...include in the synthesis report [...] information on the adaptation efforts of developing country Parties, in order to facilitate recognition of such efforts in the GST	Adcoms, NCs, NAPs, NDCs, other relevant reports prepared under the ETF, IPCC and other relevant scientific bodies	
	11/CMA.1, para. 31	...include in the synthesis report an assessment of the support needs for adaptation of developing country Parties	Adcoms, NCs, NAPs, NDCs, other relevant reports prepared under the ETF, IPCC and other relevant scientific	

			bodies, SCF's determination of needs report	
	2/CMA.5, para. 17	...include in the synthesis report information related to the targets referred to in paragraphs 9– 10 [of decision 2/CMA.5] for each future global stocktake		
	3/CMA.6, para. 34	...review progress towards achieving the targets referred to in paragraphs 9-10 of decision 2/CMA.5 and report on its findings in the synthesis report to be prepared as part of the second global stocktake	Adcoms, BTRs	
“Regular” Synthesis report	1/CMA.5, para. 60	Secretariat to prepare a regular synthesis report on adaptation information provided by Parties	BTRs, Adcoms, NDCs	Regular
CB's synthesis reports - AC, LEG, WIM Excom, LCIPP FWG	19/CMA.1, para. 24	Invites the relevant constituted bodies [...] to prepare synthesis reports on the information identified in paragraph 36 below in their areas of expertise.	CB's work, Adcoms, NAPs, NDCs, BTRs,	At least three months before their consideration in the technical assessment phase of the GST (next one due March 2027)
For all of the above	3/CMA.6, para. 22	Final outcome of the UAE-Belém work programme to constitute a source of input, including through reporting by Parties, for the technical phase of the GST by specifying a way to structure and inform the assessment of progress in adaptation		
Reports for consideration after the political consideration of outputs phase				
Report	Decision	Mandate	Sources	Periodicity
Synthesis report to recognize adaptation efforts of developing countries	11/CMA.1, para. 11	Secretariat to prepare a report summarizing the recognition of	State of Adaptation SYR, outputs from the consideration of	Following GSTs, next one anticipated for 2029, use for post-GST communication strategy

		adaptation efforts of developing countries	outputs phase; others.	
Annual / periodic synthesis and progress reports				
Report	Decision	Mandate	Sources	Periodicity
Synthesis report to recognize adaptation efforts of developing countries	11/CMA.1, para. 13	Secretariat, under the guidance of AC and LEG, to prepare synthesis reports on specific adaptation themes. Focus: lessons learned & good practices		Every 2 years starting 2020; next one due in 2026
NDC synthesis report	1/CMA.3, para. 30	Secretariat to annually update the synthesis report on nationally determined contributions	NDCs	Annually
BTR synthesis report	18/CMA 1, para 6	Secretariat to produce synthesis reports on Parties' biennial transparency reports and national inventory reports	BTRs	
NAP progress report	LEG workplan	Aggregated progress made by developing countries in the process to formulate and implement NAPs; progress in achieving the two objectives and addressing the guiding principles of the process as contained in decision 5/CP.17; and support provided and received relevant to the process	Information shared by the countries, relevant organizations and bodies on their work on NAPs	Annually to assist the SBI in assessing progress on NAPs

8. Table 2 below summarizes information on other UNFCCC portals that track and analyze different aspects of global adaptation progress, including their scope and focus.

Table 2. UNFCCC portals tracking and analyzing aspects of global adaptation progress

Portal	Scope of adaptation information	Focus
NAP Tracking Tool (maintained by the LEG)	Progress by developing countries on their NAP formulation and implementation based on country reports, information shared by countries through questionnaires, emails and meetings and on information available on the GCF websites	Status of planning (status of formulation and submission) by country; status of implementation (based on GCF -financed projects and programmes) by country; project pipeline development for submission to the GCF by country;

Climate Data Hub		projected NAP submissions in the next 3 years
	Adaptation-related information as reported under the Enhanced Transparency Framework	Adaptation-related finance, technology and capacity-building provided or received; planned to be expanded to cover more in-depth information on adaptation and resilience

9. Table 3 summarizes information on other international online portals and global reports that track and analyze different aspects of global adaptation progress, including their scope, focus and periodicity.

Table 3. International online portals and global reports that track and analyze different aspects of global adaptation progress

<i>Report/portal</i>	<i>Scope</i>	<i>Focus</i>	<i>Periodicity</i>
UNEP Adaptation Gap Reports	Sources include scientific literature, internationally funded project documents and countries' reports to the UNFCCC; covering progress by developed and developing countries, while placing a particular focus on developing countries, SIDS and LDCs	1) Aggregated progress and gaps in relation to adaptation planning, implementation, and finance (separate numbers for SIDS and LDCs); 2) Deep dive into an annual focus theme and 3) Overall status of progress on adaptation and outlook to future developments, building on the first two items	Annual report
MDB's Common Approach to Measuring Climate Results	Progress by developing countries receiving support from MDBs	Common framework to define, measure, and link global progress on climate mitigation and adaptation with climate results of MDB activities, using a set of common indicators	MDBs will report on results achieved through their respective systems and reporting processes
NAP Global Network's NAP Trends	Progress in NAP formulation by developing countries undertaking the NAP process, based on NAP documents submitted to NAP Central	Summaries of information contained in NAP documents and analyses of trends across countries, e.g. on key themes or enabling factors, by country and for some information aggregated by region, LDCs or SIDS	Continuous updates

3. Proposed approach to the 2026 SoA synthesis report

10. The following approach is proposed for the development of the 2026 SoA synthesis report considering the details presented in chapter 2 above.

3.1 Scope and focus

11. The 2026 and future SoA synthesis reports could consist of a static and a flexible part.

12. The static part of the 2026 and each future SoA synthesis report could feature simple statistics of the number and type of countries that match the filters available on the SoA portal or combinations thereof. This would represent a regular snapshot of the information included in the portal and contribute to the assessment of global adaptation progress.

13. The flexible part of the synthesis reports could focus on delivering information in response to a particular mandate or on a specific theme, using the information contained in the portal. The 2026 report could constitute a first step in responding to the mandate contained in decision 12/CMA.7, para 15 and focus on a predominantly qualitative description of the information shared by Parties relevant to the thematic and dimensional targets of the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience, including on means of implementation. The analysis would not assess the progress itself, but describe the focus and scope of Parties' reporting. It would thus at the same time deliver valuable findings in the context of the mandate to the AC, in collaboration with the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) and the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), to develop recommendations on how to improve reporting on adaptation action and progress as contained in decision 2/CMA.5, para 45.

14. The final 2026 synthesis report could constitute part of the AC's input to the technical phase of the second global stocktake.

15. A proposed draft annotated outline of the 2026 SoA synthesis report is presented in the annex.

3.2 Analytical basis

16. The report will be based on the information contained in the SoA interactive portal, which presents information submitted through BTRs, Adcoms, NAPs, NDCs and NCs. The cut-off date for the analytical basis is proposed to be 31 May 2026 until which date the portal is expected to be fully updated.

4. Next steps

17. The AC may wish to take note of the following next steps and provide further guidance to the secretariat, as appropriate, at AC 29:

- a) Secretariat to prepare a first draft of the 2026 SoA synthesis report for intersessional consideration by the AC, taking into account inputs received at AC 29, and following the cut-off date for the analytical basis of 31 May 2026;
- b) Secretariat to develop the final draft of the report for consideration at AC 30 and as input to the planned 2026 Adaptation Forum.

Annex

Draft annotated outline of the 2026 SoA synthesis report

1. Introduction

- Background of the AC's work on the state of adaptation action (SoA) by Parties
- Brief description of the SoA methodology, including its structure, sources, and the validation and updating process
- Introduction to the mandates that the report will address (decision 12/CMA.7, para. 15, decision 19/CMA.1, para 45 and 2/CMA.5, para 45)

2. Objective and scope of the synthesis report

- Objective:
 - Provide a snapshot of the information on adaptation action as contained on the SoA interactive portal and as reported by Parties in their biennial transparency reports, adaptation communications, national adaptation plans, nationally determined contributions and national communications and
 - Describe the focus and scope of Parties' reporting on the thematic and dimensional targets referred to in paragraphs 9 and 10 respectively of decision 2/CMA.5, including on means of implementation
- Scope:
 - Quantitative and qualitative analysis of the information on the SoA portal of all 198 Parties to the UNFCCC submitted until 31 May 2026

3. Snapshot of information on adaptation action

- Simple statistics/infographics of the number of countries that match the filters available on the SoA portal
- Simple statistics/infographics of the number and type of countries that match combinations of selected filters, answering questions such as
 - *Who (which Party? from which region? With which type of special climate-relevant geographic characteristic?) is where in the iterative adaptation cycle (risk assessment – planning – implementation – monitoring, evaluation and learning) and how is it planning or implementing adaptation action (institutions, engagement, inclusivity, type of planning instrument, sectors/priorities, means of implementation, cooperation)?*
- Filter combinations could inform on adaptation progress and types of approaches, for example
 - Governance approach, e.g.
 - World region + type of adaptation-specific framework and regulations + institutional arrangement
 - Progress along the iterative adaptation cycle, e.g.
 - World region + scale for which risk and impact assessments are in place or climate services available
 - Adaptation planning (NAP, NDC, AdCom, other national adaptation plan/strategy, adaptation strategies/plans at levels other than the national) + level of implementation
 - Domestic/development priorities covered by the plans + Implementation of activities and progress towards domestic/development priorities
 - MEL system for adaptation + information on outcomes/effectiveness

- Planning and implementation approaches, e.g.
 - World region + climate (adaptation) finance strategy + direct access entities
 - Key climate hazards + actions on climate-induced displacement, migration and relocation
 - World region + cooperation at national, regional and international level
 - Planning instrument + consideration of other multilateral frameworks
- Gap finder, e.g.
 - Risk assessment in place + no climate services
 - Risk assessment in place + no NAP submitted
 - NAP or other national adaptation plan/strategy + no MEL system
 - MEL system + no progress reports + no information on outcomes/effectiveness
 - No climate (adaptation) finance strategy + no direct access entities
 - NAP + no technology needs assessment, including technology needs for adaptation
- Short country examples or case studies could be included throughout

4. Analysis of the information on the thematic and dimensional targets referred to in paragraphs 9 and 10 of decision 2/CMA.5, including on means of implementation

a. Analysis of the information on the thematic targets

- Qualitative analysis of the information related to the thematic targets including the following aspects:
 - Implicit or explicit reporting on the targets
 - Extent to which the sub-elements of the target are covered by the reporting
 - Type of information provided: activity-related or outcome/effectiveness-related
 - Similarities and differences in the information provided

b. Analysis of the information on the dimensional targets

- Qualitative analysis of the information related to the dimensional targets including the following aspects:
 - Implicit or explicit reporting on the targets
 - Extent to which the sub-elements of the target are covered by the reporting
 - Type of information provided: activity-related or outcome/effectiveness-related
 - Similarities and differences in the information provided

c. Analysis of the information on the means of implementation

- Qualitative analysis of the information related to the means of implementation, including the following aspects:
 - Implicit or explicit reporting on the three means of implementation relevant to the implementation of the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience
 - Type of information provided: activity-related or outcome/effectiveness-related
 - Similarities and differences in the information provided

Documentation information

<i>Version</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>
01.0	25 March 2026	AC29 This concept note including its next steps is for consideration by the AC.

Keywords: National adaptation plans, means of implementation, Adaptation, Resilience.
