

Adaptation Forum convened by the Adaptation Committee

Revised draft concept note

Recommended action by the Adaptation Committee

The Adaptation Committee (AC), at its twenty-ninth meeting, will be invited to consider the information contained in this document and provide guidance to the secretariat on the further development and organization of the 2026 Adaptation Forum, including its thematic focus, structure, and engagement with external partners.

I. Background

1. The Adaptation Committee has regularly convened Adaptation Forums since 2013 as one modality for promoting coherence, providing guidance and strengthening adaptation action and support under the Convention and the Paris Agreement.
2. In its workplan for 2025–2027, the AC agreed to convene an Adaptation Forum on the state of adaptation action by Parties, and to consider a concept note on the theme, timeline and potential collaboration partners at its twenty-seventh meeting, with a view to organizing the Forum in 2026.
3. At AC27, the AC considered the concept note for the next Adaptation Forum and agreed to focus it on: “*Technical support, assessing adaptation progress and innovation frontiers for climate resilience.*”
4. The AC also agreed that the Forum should be organized as a three-day hybrid event and requested the secretariat to revise the concept note taking into account inputs received at AC27.
5. At AC28, the AC considered a revised draft concept note and provided additional guidance, including that:
 - (a) the overall framing of the Forum should align with agreements related to the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) including the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience;
 - (b) the agenda for the first day of the Forum should reflect the outcomes of CMA 7 related to the Belém Adaptation Indicators, the Baku Adaptation Roadmap, as well as other relevant decisions adopted at COP 30 and any additional mandates provided to the AC;
 - (c) the third day of the Forum could adopt a forward-looking focus, addressing innovation, foresight, adaptation frontiers, emerging technologies and long-term adaptation pathways;
 - (d) collaboration with external partners, including the Technology Executive Committee and the Climate Technology Centre and Network, could be explored;
 - (e) guiding questions and the identification of speakers should be developed intersessionally by the designated working group;

- (f) participation could be broadened to include practitioners, researchers, private sector actors and philanthropic organizations in addition to negotiators.

6. The AC further noted that the Forum is tentatively planned for the third quarter of 2026, potentially back-to-back with AC 30 and prior to COP 31, taking into account timelines for submissions related to the GGA.

7. The AC requested the working group established on this matter to continue developing the agenda during the intersessional period.

A. Value proposition

8. Adaptation Forums convened by the Adaptation Committee provide a strategic platform for dialogue and knowledge exchange among Parties and stakeholders on emerging issues related to adaptation under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, supporting coherence and informing technical guidance on adaptation action.

9. The 2026 Adaptation Forum will take place at a critical moment for the global adaptation agenda, following key developments related to:

- (a) implementation of the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience;
- (b) implementation of the Baku Adaptation Roadmap as well as emerging mandates for technical work on Belem Adaptation Indicators and methodologies;
- (c) preparations for inputs into the second global stocktake.

10. Recent decisions invite the AC and other constituted bodies to provide technical guidance and support to Parties on implementing the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience and assessing progress toward the global goal on adaptation, including through analysis of information contained in national reports and communications (see booklet [here](#)).

- (a) In this context, the Forum would provide an opportunity to:
- (b) examine how Parties are assessing progress toward the GGA,
- (c) exchange experiences in integrating Belem Adaptation Indicators into national planning and reporting, and
- (d) explore emerging solutions and innovation frontiers for adaptation

11. The Forum will also provide a space to consider how the work of the AC can be strengthened including collaboration with regional networks, research institutions and private sector actors.

12. Furthermore, the Forum may serve as a platform to reflect on emerging processes under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, including the potential launch of the second global stocktake process, as appropriate.

B. Proposed structure

13. The 2026 Adaptation Forum is proposed to be convened as a three-day hybrid event, bringing together Parties and a wide range of stakeholders to exchange experiences and explore future directions for adaptation action.

14. The structure of the Forum could be organized around three interlinked pillars:

- (i) *Aligning technical support and guidance towards the Global Goal on Adaptation*

15. This pillar would examine how technical guidance, tools and support mechanisms can assist Parties in implementing the outcomes of the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience, including through national adaptation planning processes.

(ii) Assessing progress in adaptation action

16. This pillar would explore approaches for assessing adaptation progress, including the use of Belém Adaptation Indicators, monitoring and evaluation frameworks, and reporting mechanisms.

17. Discussions may draw on parties integrating Belém Adaptation Indicators into policy and planning processes.

(iii) Innovation frontiers for adaptation

18. This pillar would explore emerging trends and innovative approaches for strengthening adaptation action, including:

- (a) emerging technologies and digital tools
- (b) foresight and long-term adaptation pathways
- (c) Proactive adaptation responses to the impacts of the temperature goal of the Paris Agreement
- (d) new forms of collaboration across different sectors and actors.

19. This pillar could be developed in collaboration with external partners, including technology and innovation networks.

C. Format

20. The Forum will be organized as a three-day hybrid event, enabling both in-person and virtual participation.

21. Sessions will emphasize interactive dialogue and co-creation, including formats such as:

- (a) roundtables and moderated dialogues;
- (b) breakout discussions;
- (c) visioning exercises and foresight sessions;
- (d) peer exchange among practitioners.

22. External partners may be invited to support the preparation and facilitation of selected sessions through a collaborative steering group model.

D. Participants

23. Participation in the Forum is expected to include approximately 50–100 participants, including representatives of Parties and a range of non-Party stakeholders.

24. Participants may include:

- (a) national adaptation focal points and negotiators;
- (b) members of the Adaptation Committee and other constituted bodies;
- (c) representatives of UN agencies and international organizations;
- (d) practitioners and experts working on adaptation implementation;
- (e) researchers and academic institutions;
- (f) representatives of the private sector and philanthropic organizations;
- (g) civil society organizations and Indigenous Peoples' organizations.

25. The Forum will be open to registered participants, with support for a limited number of eligible Party participants.

E. Expected outcomes

26. The Forum is expected to generate key insights and forward-looking recommendations that may inform ongoing work under the Convention and the Paris Agreement that may inform:

- (a) implementation of the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience including the work on technical guidance, training and support provided by the Adaptation Committee and other constituted bodies;
- (b) implementation of the Baku Adaptation Roadmap including the work related to aligning adaptation action with adequate adaptation responses in the context of the temperature goal of the Paris Agreement;
- (c) collaboration across organizations and networks supporting adaptation implementation;
- (d) future inputs to the global stocktake and other relevant processes under the Convention and the Paris Agreement.

27. The Forum may also help identify knowledge gaps, emerging needs and opportunities for innovation in adaptation policy and practice.

F. Preliminary agenda

28. **Theme:** Technical support, assessing adaptation progress and innovation frontiers for climate resilience (title to be confirmed)

29. **Format:** *Three-day hybrid event* | *Date:* Third quarter of 2026 (*location tbc*)

1. Day 1 – Scene-setting & state of adaptation

Time	Session
09:00 – 10:00	Opening session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High-level opening • Keynote reflections on the evolving global adaptation landscape
10:00 – 10:45	Scene-setting panel What does a future-ready adaptation system look like in the context of the Global Goal on Adaptation?
10:45 – 11:15	Coffee break
11:15 – 12:45	Session I – The state of adaptation action by Parties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch of the Adaptation Committee’s synthesis work on the state of adaptation action • Regional insights: progress, gaps, emerging risks and opportunities
12:45 – 14:00	Lunch break
14:00 – 15:30	Session II – Reflections on outcomes of COP30 related to adaptation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implications of COP30 decisions for adaptation action • Reflections on testing the Belem indicators • National experiences in monitoring and assessing adaptation progress
15:30 – 15:45	Coffee break
15:45 – 17:30	Session III – Co-creation roundtables: Approaches to assessing adaptation progress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interactive breakout discussions on monitoring, evaluation and learning systems

- Approaches to tracking progress under the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience

2. Day 2 – Technical support & innovation frontiers

Time	Session
09:00 – 10:30	Session IV – Technical support and guidance for adaptation implementation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experiences from national adaptation planning and implementation • Addressing gaps and needs in technical support and guidance • Strengthening collaboration across adaptation support providers
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 – 12:45	Session V – The innovation frontier: technologies, solutions and opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frontier technologies for adaptation (eg. AI, climate analytics, digital tools) • Emerging approaches to climate risk management and enhancement of adaptive capacity
12:45 – 14:00	Lunch break
14:00 – 15:30	Session VI – Marketplace of solutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parallel exchanges hosted by regional and thematic actors • Peer learning on scalable adaptation solutions
15:30 – 15:45	Coffee break
15:45 – 17:30	Session VII – Partnering for progress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutional collaboration among constituted bodies and partners • Strengthening regional and global platforms supporting adaptation • Addressing gaps and needs in adaptation implementation

3. Day 3 – Strategic synthesis and forward pathways

Time	Session
09:00 – 10:30	Session VIII – Future pathways for adaptation under the Paris Agreement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does a future-ready adaptation system look like in the context of the Global Goal on Adaptation • How can ensure adequate adaptation responses in the context of the temperature goal of the Paris Agreement • Embedding national adaptation planning into long-term development pathways • Lessons from national and regional long-term adaptation strategies
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 – 12:45	Session IX – Emerging frontiers for adaptation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate risks and impacts • Long-term adaptation pathways and anticipatory action • Emerging tools including foresight, scenario planning and climate intelligence
12:45 – 14:00	Lunch break
14:00 – 15:30	Session X – Strategic dialogue: advancing global adaptation efforts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What priorities should guide adaptation action toward 2030 and beyond • Opportunities for enhanced collaboration among Parties, institutions and partners
15:30 – 15:45	Coffee break
15:45 – 17:30	Session XI – Closing session: Key insights and next steps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of key insights from the Forum

- Reflections from Parties and stakeholders
- Closing remarks

II. Alignment of this revised concept note with AC28 guidance

30. This mapping table showing how each element of AC28 guidance is reflected in this revised concept note:

AC28 Guidance	How it is reflected in the revised concept note	Location in concept note	Assessment
1. Align the overall framing of the Forum with decisions related to the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience	The concept note frames the Forum around assessing adaptation progress and supporting implementation of the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience. The value proposition highlights the role of the Forum in examining how Parties assess progress towards achieving the GGA and in supporting technical guidance.	Background and value proposition sections	Fully reflected
2. Ensure that the agenda for the first day reflects outcomes of CMA 7 related to the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience, and other relevant COP30 decisions	Day 1 includes sessions addressing COP30 outcomes and the Belém Adaptation Indicators. Discussions focus on monitoring and assessing adaptation progress and integrating indicators into national planning and reporting.	Day 1 – Session II and Session III	Fully reflected
3. Include discussion on assessing adaptation progress and monitoring frameworks	Dedicated sessions address monitoring, evaluation and learning systems and approaches to tracking progress under the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience.	Day 1 – Session III	Fully reflected
4. Adopt a forward-looking focus for the third day, addressing innovation, foresight, emerging technologies and long-term adaptation pathways	Day 3 is structured around future pathways for adaptation, systemic and cascading risks, foresight tools, long-term adaptation pathways, and strategic dialogue on advancing global adaptation action.	Day 3 – Sessions VIII, IX and X	Fully reflected
5. Explore collaboration with external partners, including the Technology Executive Committee (TEC) and the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN)	The concept note proposes collaboration with external partners, including technology and innovation networks, and allows sessions to be prepared or facilitated through a collaborative steering group model.	Proposed structure and format sections	Reflected
6. Develop guiding questions and identify speakers intersessionally through a designated working group	The concept note notes that the working group established by the AC will continue developing the agenda and guiding questions during the intersessional period.	Background and next steps sections	Reflected
7. Broaden participation beyond negotiators to include practitioners, researchers, private sector and philanthropic actors	The Participants section explicitly lists practitioners, academic institutions, private sector actors, philanthropic organizations, civil society and Indigenous Peoples' organizations.	Participants section	Fully reflected

8. Organize the Forum as a three-day hybrid event and consider scheduling around AC meetings and COP timelines	The Forum is proposed as a three-day hybrid event, potentially organized back-to-back with AC30 and prior to COP31.	Background and agenda sections	Fully reflected
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III. Next steps

31. The AC may wish to consider the following next steps:

- (a) provide further guidance on the thematic focus and structure of the Forum;
- (b) request the secretariat to further refine the agenda and guiding questions, taking into account relevant COP30 outcomes and any additional mandates identified at AC29;
- (c) request the secretariat to explore collaboration with external partners and relevant constituted bodies;
- (d) request the secretariat to confirm the venue and timing of the Forum;
- (e) request the secretariat to develop a plan for communication, outreach and participation;
- (f) continue intersessional work through the designated working group.;
- (g) Nominate members for the established working group on the matter to guide intersessional work.

Documentation information

<i>Version</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>
0.1.1	20 April 2026	Editorial revision to enhance clarity of paragraph 9b and correct minor spelling inconsistencies.
0.1.0	14 April 2026	The AC is invited to provide further guidance to the secretariat on the next steps of this revised draft concept note

Keywords: Adaptation, Resilience, High-level events
