

COPENHAGEN CLIMATE MINISTERIAL

20–21 May 2026

Co-Chairs' Summary

8 June 2026

Introduction

On 20–21 May 2026, Ministers and high-level representatives from nearly 40 countries gathered in Copenhagen for an exchange on issues shaping the global climate agenda. Building on the momentum of the Global Mutirão decision from COP30, discussions centered around the links between negotiations and implementation on the ground and gave important input to the COP-presidencies for their preparations for COP31 and beyond.

Hosted by Acting Danish Minister of Climate, Energy and Utilities Lars Aagaard along with COP30 President H.E. André Corrêa do Lago, COP31 President-Designate H.E. Murat Kurum and the COP31 President of Negotiations the Hon. Chris Bowen MP, the meeting brought together country delegations alongside the UNFCCC Executive Secretary, the UN Secretary-General's Special Advisor on Climate Action, representatives of UNFCCC NGO constituencies and other relevant organizations.

Accelerating NDC implementation

In the plenary, the [NDC Partnership](#) reminded participants that the outcome of the first Global Stocktake showed that the Paris Agreement has catalysed action – but not enough to be in line with the 1.5°C goal. NDC 2.0 have shown to be of improved quality, but gaps remain both in ambition and investment readiness. The NDC Partnership urged institutions to work together to create synergies and accelerate implementation.

[IRENA](#) presented their report, “Transitioning away from fossil fuels: A roadmap based on renewables, electrification and grid enhancement”, which provides data and analysis to support the COP30 Presidency’s Roadmap for Transitioning Away From Fossil Fuels (TAFF) initiative, offering a roadmap based on renewables, electrification, energy efficiency, grids and sustainable fuels. According to IRENA, to remain on a 1.5°C-compatible pathway, electricity must account for 35% of global total final energy consumption by 2035 and over 50% by 2050, with the rising demand mostly met by renewables.

Many participants underlined the important role of science-based NDCs, but also NAPs, in delivering on the Paris Agreement and the 1.5°C goal. In this regard many participants highlighted their concern on the gap between the collective level of ambition in the NDCs and the 1.5°C goal. Various elements of importance for NDC delivery and implementation were mentioned including just transition, sustainable development, rights-based ap-

proaches, renewable energy deployment, grids, storage, electrification, methane reduction, deforestation, Article 6.4, engagement of actors, including of Indigenous Peoples. A number of countries spoke to the important role electrification can play this year, including in light of the global energy shocks. Many spoke to the increasingly compelling economic and national interest reasons for accelerated climate action, in particular for the adoption of renewable energy and investment in electrification, grids and storage to decrease energy cost and improve the reliability, and security of energy access.

On implementation, many participants agreed on the importance of NDCs being based on whole-of-economy, whole-of-society and whole-of-government approaches to fully reap the benefits from the transition. Many participants also underlined the importance of finance, capacity building and technology transfer and noted it as fundamental for developing countries, especially LDCs and SIDS, to accelerate implementation of NDCs.

Participants broadly acknowledged that multilateralism and international cooperation is key to success in accelerating implementation and spoke to ways to work together to accelerate action through coalitions, alliances, the Belém Mission to 1.5, the Global Implementation Accelerator, the roadmaps, the Mitigation Work Programme, the Just Transition Work Programme, the action agenda among others.

Lastly, many participants addressed the remaining NDCs that have yet to be submitted and urged the COP Presidencies to make full use of their bilateral engagement towards COP31 to push for their delivery. The importance of BTRs was also noted by many, with calls for a strong response to the BTR submissions due at the end of this year.

Fit for implementation – external perspectives on the potential for climate action

This session considered how governments, industry, and other stakeholders can work together to sustain momentum and confidence for transition and secure positive feedback loops that further accelerate climate action to the levels needed.

Octopus Energy Generation, highlighted the vast potential of electrification – exemplified by the rapid adoption of electric vehicles, heat pumps and solar PV among consumers - as having not only climate impact but tangible benefits for consumers in the form of energy cost savings. Octopus identified high upfront costs for consumers as a potential barrier for accelerated implementation. The We Mean Business Coalition underlined the continued support for multilateralism from the global business community and stressed the need for governments and decision-makers to listen to climate leaders, among businesses, not only climate laggards. The idea of establishing a business panel at COP31 was presented.

Ilbank underlined the importance of supporting the design of feasible projects as necessary for accelerated implementation. Ilbank called for a shift in focus from negotiations to implementations and highlighted their own model of sustainable urban resilient financing,

as an example to be replicated by others. OECD presented a fact sheet with data supporting the case for climate action. This included data showing that i) the transition is already happening; ii) the transition is a matter of security and resilience; iii) the transition is a driver of jobs, growth, and competitiveness; iv) action is necessary to avoid future costs.

Participants mentioned the importance of governments sending clear signals to the private sector to show the direction wanted. The need for predictable and credible policies and regulation was underlined. Several participants mentioned the potential of electrification and the need to ensure a system fit for it, i.e. a focus on grids, flexibility and storage. It was also noted that electrification should be based on decarbonised energy. The role of finance was discussed, and there was a positive trend of investments of record-level investments in renewable energy, yet a continued need for public finance to help mitigate risks. Finally, there was a suggestion to create a stronger link between blue and green zones at COP, to strengthen dialogue with the business community.

Information session from the COP-Presidencies on the Global Implementation Accelerator and Belém Mission to 1.5

This session provided information from the COP-presidencies on the plans for the Global Implementation Accelerator (GIA) and the Belém Mission to 1.5, which was both initiatives conceived through the Global Mutirão Decision from COP30. The following was presented by the COP-Presidencies:

The Global Implementation Accelerator should be a mechanism to identify and accelerate solutions from the Action Agenda that have the highest potential to trigger positive tipping points. It is developed with the aim of accelerating high-impact solutions such as technologies, procedures and methodologies, based on criteria developed by the COP-Presidencies. The Accelerator is aimed at being a permanent body that will complement the Action Agenda of individual future presidencies. More information is expected at the Bonn session in June.

The Belém Mission to 1.5 is aimed at enabling ambition and implementation of NDCs and NAPs. In this context the initiative will involve activities and engagements throughout 2026, and Parties and actors are invited to contribute with knowledge and expertise, through submissions, consultations and exchanges. The initiative will culminate in a report to be released ahead of COP31, outlining opportunities, barriers, and actionable solutions to keeping 1.5°C within reach and strengthening adaptation and resilience in a changing world. The report will focus on high impact action areas and solutions, as supported by best-available science and evidence.

Driving resilience and accelerating adaptation

The session on driving resilience and accelerating adaptation highlighted the urgency of implementing adaptation action. On science, IPCC underlined that many effects of accelerated warming would be irreversible and that implementation of adaptation was urgent. So far, adaptation had more been focused on planning than on implementation, and adaptation action had been fragmented. IPCC Working Group 2 on Vulnerability and Adaptation is expected to finish its report by mid 2028, and guidelines on assessing adaptation action are under preparation.

The Coalition of Finance Ministers for Climate Action highlighted adaptation as a core macro-fiscal priority. The Coalition explained that climate change is increasingly a macro-economic and fiscal challenge presenting risks of inaction. Low-income countries are already estimated to be 7% poorer today due to climate change impacts. Climate shocks reduce revenues, increase expenditure pressures and worsen debt sustainability. Global GDP per capita is projected to decline by 8% by 2050 under a high-emissions scenario. Adaptation investments were seen to generate a ‘triple dividend’: avoided losses, economic growth and social co-benefits. Adaptation and resilience therefore had to be integrated in macroeconomic planning and budgeting.

The NAP Implementation Alliance launched at COP30 was showcased as important to help countries with implementable and investable NAPs. The alliance would foster collaboration, help improve investment readiness and promote private sector investment. Although there is no “one-size-fits-all”, countries are collectively making progress, including on developing domestic tools to accelerate implementation. The COP31 Youth Champion called for involvement of the young generations in decision making on adaptation.

There was general agreement that adaptation and resilience are necessary for economic growth, productivity and job creation as well as for stability and security. Many participants argued that development models must become more climate-resilient, that adaptation targets must be implemented and tangible outcomes on the ground must be produced, especially in critical sectors such as food, water and health. Several highlighted that there was no need for creating new frameworks, but instead turn the Global Goal on Adaptation into action.

Recognizing that adaptation is context specific, many underlined the need for involvement of sub-national and local actors, who are at the frontline of adaptation action. The need to strengthen international cooperation and share adaptation solutions that work, including technological solutions from the private sector, was highlighted by several.

Participants agreed that more work needs to be done on facilitating access to finance for adaptation and reducing barriers. Many participants recognised the role of public and concessional finance, including as a means of unlocking private-sector investment through de-risking. The challenge was that only 1% of global climate finance currently comes from

the private sector. In discussing ways to scale up finance, some participants mentioned Article 6 finance. In this context, it was mentioned that a useful and tangible outcome from COP31 would be an agreement on a way forward for the Adaptation Fund.

The future of the international climate regime

In light of a changing geopolitical context, worsening climate impacts and a multilateral system under pressure, this session focused on how the international climate regime can continue to be an effective vehicle for driving ambition and implementation on the ground.

Many participants stressed that the Paris Agreement and the UNFCCC have delivered successful frameworks driving ambitions and real-world action which has brought us closer to delivering on our collective targets. There was broad agreement that the current negotiation process has become complex and overloaded with workstreams, negotiations and different reporting requirements. Many participants called for streamlining the process to secure efficiency, transparency and inclusiveness.

Many participants raised the need to bridge the gap between commitments and implementation. In this regard participants emphasized the need to set clear policy directions, scale up climate finance, simplify procedures, improve access to support and ensure effective reporting systems.

Many participants highlighted the growing role of coalitions and initiatives outside of the formal negotiations, including the need to link the Action Agenda more closely to the negotiations. However, it was widely acknowledged that initiatives outside of the negotiations must complement and not replace the formal framework as a party-driven process. In terms of upcoming review of existing work programmes some participants highlighted the need to make them focused and designed in a way to advance delivery on the ground.

Participants raised that the multilateral climate regime should be guided by the best available science and the outcomes of the Global Stocktake, while recognizing different national circumstances. Many raised the need to maintain trust, cooperation and momentum despite geopolitical tensions, and stay focused on delivering ambitious climate action.

From vision to implementation: COP30 Presidency roadmaps

The session focused on the three roadmaps, *Baku to Belém Roadmap to 1.3T*, and the COP30 Presidency's *Roadmaps for Transitioning Away from Fossil Fuels in energy systems, in a just orderly, and equitable manner, accelerating action in this critical decade, so as to achieve net zero by 2050 in keeping with the science (TAFF)* as well as *for Halting and Reversing Deforestation and Forest Degradation by 2030*, and how they can contribute to accelerate the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the first Global Stocktake. Countries emphasized the importance of moving towards practical implementation, while ensuring inclusivity, flexibility, and alignment with best available science, the Paris

Agreement and its 1.5 degree target and UNFCCC principles. Countries broadly welcomed the roadmaps in this regard.

Some participants expressed concern that initiatives outside formal negotiations could undermine multilateralism or impose obligations beyond agreed UNFCCC processes, emphasizing that participation should remain voluntary and party-driven. Many countries stressed the urgency of accelerating action, strengthening accountability, and ensuring that the roadmaps translate climate ambition into concrete outcomes. Several countries emphasized that the roadmaps are deeply interconnected and should reinforce one another.

Finance emerged as a central topic throughout the discussions. Multiple participants highlighted the need to scale up climate finance, implement the USD 300 billion and broader USD 1.3 trillion goals as well as to triple adaptation finance, and ensure accessible, concessional, and reliable support. Countries also stressed the importance of alignment between financial instruments, capacity-building and implementation needs.

Some highlighted their support for the Tropical Forest Finance Facility (TFFF) as an innovative mechanism for forest protection and many underlined the importance of sustainable forest management, land rights, resilience and the important role of local communities.

Several interventions regarding the TFFF roadmap underlined the importance of a just, orderly, and nationally determined transition including the need for science-based pathways, measurable indicators, and long-term planning. Some countries called for a roadmap containing clear milestones aligned with net-zero scenarios, and many underlined the importance of covering both the consumer and producer perspective. Countries also pointed to the importance of renewable energy expansion, electrification, storage, grids, clean cooking, and economic diversification as integral parts of the transition.

Many participants highlighted the Santa Marta Conference as an important political and practical platform for advancing implementation of the transition away from fossil fuels. They stressed that renewable energy deployment must go hand in hand with fossil fuel phase-out, while acknowledging the economic and fiscal implications for producing countries. The conference was by many described as an important platform for sharing experiences and accelerating action.