

Statement from the Faith-Based Organisations
To the High-Level Ministerial Segment of the
29th Session of the Conference of the Parties – COP29 to the UNFCCC
20 November 2024 Baku, Azerbaijan

Mr President,
Distinguished Participants,
Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We stand at a crossroads, facing an existential threat to life on Earth as we know it. The urgency to act cannot be overstated. As people of faith from diverse traditions, we believe the climate emergency must be addressed on a moral level.

We need to take action now to confront and remedy the interconnected crises of climate breakdown, biodiversity loss, and land degradation.

We urge the world to act for ambitious climate action. We need to urgently phase out fossil fuels and adopt a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty.

On climate finance we, as people of faith, appeal to include the concepts of alms, tithe, waqf, zakat and other faith practices which remind us of the duty to support the needs of the most vulnerable.

The new collective quantified goal (NCQG) must respond to real needs, prioritise human rights, emphasise grant-based support for developing nations, and ensure direct access for local communities and Indigenous Peoples.

Loss and damage is integral to climate justice. Both economic and non-economic loss and damage must be addressed by delivering grant-based finance for climate-vulnerable communities while safeguarding the interests of Indigenous Peoples, migrants, women, children, disabled and other groups in precarious situations.

Faith imperatives call for climate action rooted in solidarity, compassion, and justice for all life, prioritising sufficiency, efficiency, and equity.

Intergenerational justice, Indigenous Peoples' rights and gender justice must permeate all aspects of climate solutions,

As people of faith, we believe that in fostering a spirit of hope, trust, and decisive action, we can lift the human family's spirit and create ripples of positive change. Together, we can give the world a reason to feel hopeful about our shared future.

Thank you.