



COP29
Baku
Azerbaijan

Distinguished delegates, dear colleagues, dear friends

With the closing of the subsidiary bodies tonight, we now stand at the mid-way point of COP29.

This juncture offers us a moment for reflection and renewed determination as we pivot toward the critical work ahead.

I want to express my deep gratitude to our esteemed Chairs, Harry Vreuls and Ambassador Nabeel Munir.

Through their skilled leadership, and with the tireless support of numerous co-facilitator pairs, we have reached a point where, we are starting to reap some successes.

Over the past days, we have witnessed collaboration, dialogue, and compromise.

The progress that we have collectively achieved so far, reminds us of the immense power that we hold when we come together as a global community.

As we transition into the next critical phase of COP 29, let us build on the momentum of this week.

To move us forward, I will be taking the following approach:

Firstly, on Monday morning, I will convene plenaries of the governing bodies to:

- receive the reports of the SB Chairs and the outcome of work of the subsidiary bodies;
- adopt those draft decisions that are ready; and
- provide more details on the way forward for working in week 2 and towards an orderly closure of the conference next week.

Secondly, given its importance at this COP, I want to specifically clarify the status and next steps.

Across all issues, I envisage three tracks:

- Ministerial consultations focusing on outstanding political issues.
- Continued technical work on a limited set of issues, into which emerging political agreements can be incorporated; and
- Complimentary presidency consultations

When necessary, Heads of Delegation will be engaged to drive progress in both the ongoing technical negotiations and the Presidency consultations.

Immediately after Monday's plenary, I will initiate ministerial work on the most critical political issues.

I will invite the pairs of Ministers that I have previously announced to lead consultations on the issues deemed to require political attention, to make progress and facilitate compromise on outstanding issues.

As a reminder, the pairs of Ministers are:

- **NCQG:** Yasmine Fouad (Egypt) and Chris Bowen (Australia)
- **Adaptation:** Eamon Ryan (Ireland) and Franz Tattenbach (Costa Rica)
- **Article 6:** Grace Fu Hai Yien (Singapore) and Simon Watts (New Zealand)
- **Mitigation:** Tore Onshuus Sandvik (Norway) and Dion Travers George (South Africa)

After fully taking stock, additional pairs may be required. I will announce any necessary additions in due course.

We further intend to bring discussions into single settings at Head of Delegation and at ministerial levels complemented by shuttle diplomacy to resolve specific political issues swiftly and effectively.

Specifically on the issue of the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance, I would like to sincerely thank Ms. Fiona Gilbert and Mr. Zaheer Fakir for having taken on the role as Co-Chairs of the Contact Group CMA agenda item 11 (a) on the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance, which we established on Monday, 11 November 2024.

As indicated on Monday, the work of the Contact Group concluded today, and we received the report of the Co-Chairs, Ms. Gilbert and Mr. Fakir on the outcome of the work of the contact group.

We would like to thank Parties for their work in the context of the Contact Group.

Going forward, I will provide further information in this regard during our Plenary on Monday morning, 18 November 2024.

Dear colleagues, transparency and inclusivity are the cornerstone of our work. I will convene regular stocktaking plenaries to provide updates on the progress of negotiations.

These plenaries will be complemented by status reports to be posted regularly on the UNFCCC website, including draft texts as they emerge.

My team and I will also continue to use various other means of communications to ensure that delegates are kept well informed.

As we approach the final negotiations, I urge you to bring renewed determination, a spirit of compromise, and a focus on our shared mission.

The world is looking to us for leadership, courage, and results. We cannot afford to fall short of their expectations.

Thank you for your hard work so far. Let us continue to rise to this historic challenge. The world needs us. Let us not let them down.

As you rest tomorrow and perhaps take time to explore the rich culture and hospitality of Azerbaijan and its vibrant capital, Baku, I ask that you return on Monday ready to accelerate our collective efforts.

I remain steadfast in my commitment to working with all of you in an open, transparent, and inclusive manner to achieve ambitious and impactful outcomes.

Together, let us demonstrate to the world that multilateralism is not only alive but capable of delivering the transformative solutions our planet urgently needs.

See you again on Monday morning.