COP31

Baku High Level Dialogue on Adaptation – Mandated Event

10 November 2026 | 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Meeting Room 19

Concept Note

Context and background

The Baku High Level Dialogue on Adaptation was established at COP29 under Decision 3/CMA.6 as a standing platform, convened jointly by the current and previous COP Presidencies, to identify ways of enhancing implementation of the United Arab Emirates Framework for Global Climate Resilience (UAE Framework). It provides an opportunity for Ministers, senior representatives and practitioners to exchange experiences and perspectives, identify practical solutions, and strengthen efforts to advance adaptation. This Dialogue, the second after the inaugural meeting at COP30, will be co-chaired by the COP31 Presidency, COP31 Presidency of Negotiations and the COP30 Presidency. It aims to elevate adaptation, the UAE Framework and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) at the political level.

The Dialogue takes place against a backdrop of worsening climate impacts across the world. Communities and countries are increasingly experiencing the effects of intensifying floods, droughts, heatwaves, storms, wildfires and other extreme weather events, with significant consequences for lives, livelihoods, ecosystems and economies. At the same time, warnings of an intensified El Niño and the science on 1.5 overshoot serve as a stark reminder of the scale of future climate risks and the urgency of accelerating adaptation action.

The case for adaptation is clear. It is essential for safeguarding communities, protecting development gains, strengthening economic resilience, and enhancing prosperity. These views are reflected in the Belem Mission to 1.5 report, developed by the COP29, COP30 and COP31 Presidencies and to be released ahead of COP31, which highlights the importance of strengthening adaptation and resilience and accelerating implementation in response to growing climate risks in a changing world.

While adaptation efforts are making a difference, finance is not yet flowing at the pace and scale required, and the systems and institutions needed to accelerate implementation are not delivering outcomes that meet the growing needs of countries and communities.

Parties and stakeholders have called for COP31 to respond to these challenges and have identified adaptation as a critical priority for urgent acceleration. At COP31, Parties will continue to strengthen the global adaptation architecture, including through ongoing efforts to better align adaptation planning and implementation with the UAE Framework. Parties will continue advancing the Global Goal on Adaptation, including through work on modalities under the Baku Adaptation Road Map, and NAPs will remain central to adaptation discussions. As of November 2026, 93 Parties have submitted their NAPs demonstrating their important role in identifying adaptation priorities, coordinating action and aligning

resources with national needs. Discussions on support for implementation will also continue, including the call for efforts to at least triple adaptation finance by 2035.

Recognising both the urgency of climate risks and the progress made to date, the Dialogue will invite participants to showcase successful adaptation efforts and share lessons learned on how adaptation action is already delivering benefits for communities, development and prosperity. It will explore opportunities to accelerate adaptation action by translating plans, priorities and targets into effective action on the ground, including through the implementation of NAPs. It will also identify systems, finance, mechanisms, or approaches that could be better leveraged to advance adaptation implementation and overcome persisting barriers.

Objectives

The Dialogue will:

- Elevate adaptation as a political, economic and development priority.
- Demonstrate that adaptation actions, including NAP processes, are working, making a difference and providing key vehicles for effective implementation.
- Identify practical ways for accelerating adaptation implementation, particularly opportunities to unlock finance for adaptation.
- Explore approaches like locally led adaptation, and key issues such as equity, investment, and means of implementation

Participants

Participants will include Ministers, senior Party representatives, intergovernmental and multilateral organisations, adaptation practitioners, civil society including youth, financial institutions and private sector representatives.

Outcomes

The Dialogue co-chairs (COP31 Presidency, COP31 Presidency of Negotiations and COP30 Presidency) will develop a concise Chair's summary reflecting the views expressed and capturing key themes and practical initiatives which governments and adaptation actors are progressing.

Agenda

Session	Details
Welcome and high-level opening remarks	Delivered by Australia, Türkiye, Brazil and the UNFCCC
Session 1: Lessons and perspectives on moving from adaptation planning to implementation *Panel discussion*	This panel session will bring together country representatives and non-state actors to share evidence, experiences and lessons from advancing adaptation action. Discussions will explore opportunities and challenges associated with implementation, including finance, locally led approaches and initiatives designed to support adaptation action.
Session 2: Leadership insights for implementation	This session will provide an opportunity for ministers and high-level representatives to share perspectives on accelerating adaptation

Ministerial and high-level interventions	implementation, strengthening resilience and advancing National Adaptation Plans. *Guiding questions* • *What is working to advance adaptation action, including through NAPs, and what approaches, systems and finance could be better leveraged to accelerate implementation?* • *How can COP31 advance adaptation action, and what can help adaptation efforts reach communities most at risk, including enhanced access to finance?*
Closing: Towards COP32	Closing session reflecting on key messages to take forward to COP32.