

Decision -/CP.26

Glasgow work programme on Action for Climate Empowerment

The Conference of the Parties and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement,

Recalling Articles 4 and 6 of the Convention and Article 12 of the Paris Agreement,

Also recalling decisions 15/CP.18, 19/CP.20, 17/CP.22, 15/CP.25 and 17/CMA.1,

Further recalling decisions 17/CP.22 and 17/CMA.1, in which it was decided that efforts related to implementing Article 6 of the Convention and Article 12 of the Paris Agreement should be referred to as Action for Climate Empowerment,

Reaffirming the importance of all six elements of Action for Climate Empowerment – education, training, public awareness, public participation, public access to information and international cooperation on climate change – to achieving the objective of the Convention and the purpose and goals of the Paris Agreement,

Recognizing that Action for Climate Empowerment plays a key role in promoting the changes in lifestyles, attitudes and behaviours needed to foster low-emission, climate-resilient and sustainable development,

Reaffirming the key role that a broad range of stakeholders, such as national, regional and local governments, educational and cultural institutions, museums, the private sector, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, international organizations, decision makers, scientists, the media, teachers, youth, women and indigenous peoples, play in ensuring Action for Climate Empowerment,

Acknowledging the importance of linkages between activities undertaken to support Action for Climate Empowerment and other relevant international arrangements, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Education for Sustainable Development for 2030, as well as regional agreements,

Noting with appreciation the contributions of Parties and observers, including the members of the United Nations Alliance on Climate Change Education, Training and Public Awareness, to supporting Action for Climate Empowerment work undertaken to date,

Recognizing the importance of taking a long-term, strategic and country-driven approach to Action for Climate Empowerment at the local, national, regional and international level, including strengthening support for local, national and regional institutional and sectoral expertise and capacity for its implementation,

Acknowledging the growing interest and engagement of youth in climate action and the critical role of youth as agents of change, and *calling for* further enhancement of youth participation in climate change processes and in unleashing the potential of Action for Climate Empowerment,

Recognizing that ensuring the availability of and access to sufficient financial resources and technical support for adequately implementing Action for Climate Empowerment continues to be a challenge for all Parties, but particularly for developing country Parties,

Having completed the review of the Doha work programme on Article 6 of the Convention,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the relevant submissions from Parties and relevant organizations¹ and the relevant reports prepared by the secretariat;²
2. *Acknowledges* that the Doha work programme on Article 6 of the Convention provided good guidance for action on implementing the six elements of Action for Climate Empowerment;
3. *Recognizes* the importance of enhancing the implementation of Action for Climate Empowerment across all relevant areas of implementation of the Convention and the Paris Agreement;
4. *Adopts* the 10-year Glasgow work programme on Action for Climate Empowerment, contained in the annex, taking into account the elements identified as effective in supporting implementation as well as gaps, needs and opportunities for improvement;
5. *Invites* Parties and relevant non-Party stakeholders to engage in and support implementation of the Glasgow work programme while maintaining a country-driven approach;
6. *Also invites* multilateral and bilateral institutions and organizations, including the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism, as appropriate, to provide financial support for activities related to implementing Action for Climate Empowerment;
7. *Encourages* Parties to strengthen the integration of Action for Climate Empowerment into the development and implementation of national climate policies, plans, strategies and action, including by developing and implementing a national strategy that covers all six elements of Action for Climate Empowerment and facilitates broad cross-sectoral coordination and collaboration;
8. *Also encourages* Parties to continue designating, assigning responsibilities to, and providing support, including technical and financial support, and access to information and materials to national Action for Climate Empowerment focal points;
9. *Further encourages* intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in a position to do so to provide technical or financial support for Action for Climate Empowerment activities;
10. *Requests* the secretariat to promote partnerships with other organizations, the private sector and donors in order to support implementation of the Glasgow work programme;
11. *Also requests* the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to:
 - (a) Facilitate implementation of the Glasgow work programme under the guidance of its Chair, subject to the availability of financial resources;
 - (b) Hold an annual in-session Action for Climate Empowerment dialogue at its first regular session of each year with the participation of Parties, representatives of relevant constituted bodies, and relevant experts, practitioners and stakeholders that focuses on the progress of implementation of the Glasgow work programme and on its four priority areas: policy coherence; coordinated action; tools and support; and monitoring, evaluation and reporting;

¹ As per decision 15/CP.25, paras. 2–4.

² FCCC/SBI/2020/9, FCCC/SBI/2020/INF.4 and FCCC/SBI/2021/1.

(c) Focus the first in-session dialogue, to be held at its fifty-sixth session (June 2022), on the engagement of children and youth in implementation of the four priority areas of the Glasgow work programme referred to in paragraph 11(b) above;

(d) Consider, at its second regular session each year, the annual summary report to be prepared by the secretariat on progress in implementing activities under the Glasgow work programme (see para. 12(a) below);

(e) Undertake the development of an action plan at its fifty-sixth session focusing on immediate action through short-term, clear and time-bound activities, guided by the priority areas set out in the Glasgow work programme, with a view to recommending a draft decision on this matter for adoption by Conference of the Parties at its twenty-seventh session (November 2022) and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement at its fourth session (November 2022);

(f) Convene at its fifty-sixth session an in-session technical workshop for Parties on how priority areas listed in paragraph 11(b) above can guide implementation of the six elements of Action for Climate Empowerment, through a short-term action plan guiding, inter alia, the organization of the annual in-session Action for Climate Empowerment dialogue;

(g) Undertake a midterm review of progress at its sixty-fourth session (2026) and a final review of progress at its seventy-fourth session (2031) of the Glasgow work programme to evaluate its effectiveness, identify any emerging gaps and needs, and inform any consideration of improving the work programme, as appropriate;

12. *Further requests* the secretariat to assist the Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation with activities related to the facilitation of implementation referred to in paragraph 11(a) above, and under the guidance of the Chair, to:

(a) Prepare an annual summary report on progress in implementing activities under the Glasgow work programme for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its second regular session of each year;

(b) Prepare a synthesis report ahead of the midterm review and the final review of the Glasgow work programme on the integration of Action for Climate Empowerment into relevant reports and communications submitted by Parties to the secretariat as part of the UNFCCC process for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its sixty-fourth and seventy-fourth sessions respectively;

13. *Invites* Parties and observers to submit their views on matters to be addressed at the in-session workshop referred to in paragraph 11(f) above via the submission portal³ by 28 February 2022;

14. *Takes note* of the estimated budgetary implications of the activities to be undertaken by the secretariat referred to in paragraph 12 above and paragraphs 6(b–c) and 11 in the annex;

15. *Requests* that the actions of the secretariat called for in this decision to be undertaken subject to the availability of financial resources.

³ <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/submissionsstaging/Pages/Home.aspx>.

Annex

Glasgow work programme on Action for Climate Empowerment

[English only]*

I. Guiding principles

1. The Glasgow work programme on Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) sets out the scope of and provides the basis for activities related to implementing ACE in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and the Paris Agreement. The work programme serves as a flexible framework for country-driven action that addresses the specific needs and circumstances of Parties and reflects their national priorities and initiatives while building long-term capacity and expertise in developed and developing countries for implementing ACE, including by promoting strong domestic enabling environments.
2. The Glasgow work programme builds on work undertaken in response to relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties (COP) and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA).⁴
3. The Glasgow work programme shall be guided by:
 - (a) A country-driven approach;
 - (b) Cost-effectiveness;
 - (c) Flexibility;
 - (d) A gender and intergenerational approach;
 - (e) A phased approach that integrates activities under Article 6 of the Convention and Article 12 of the Paris Agreement into climate change programmes and strategies;
 - (f) The promotion of partnerships, networks and synergies, in particular synergies among conventions;
 - (g) An interdisciplinary multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder and participatory approach;
 - (h) A holistic systematic approach;
 - (i) The principles of sustainable development.

II. Scope

4. The Glasgow work programme comprises activities under four action-oriented priority areas and the six ACE elements that Parties, taking into account national circumstances, and non-Party stakeholders may carry out to enhance implementation of ACE, including through cooperation, collaboration and partnerships.

III. Priority areas

5. Four thematic priority areas have been identified as relevant to addressing gaps and challenges in implementing the six ACE elements and for creating opportunities to accelerate that implementation.

* This annex will be made available in all six official languages in the report on the session.

⁴ Decisions 15/CP.18, 19/CP.20, 17/CP.22, 15/CP.25 and 17/CMA.1.

A. Policy coherence

6. Recognizing that activities related to ACE are also carried out under workstreams that are part of the UNFCCC process, as well as under frameworks and processes of the United Nations system and in multiple sectors and strategies at the national level, the priority area of policy coherence has the aim of strengthening coordination of work under ACE. Efficient and effective ACE implementation can be enabled by undertaking the following at the international level:

(a) Inviting all constituted bodies under the Convention and Paris Agreement to include in their regular reports information on how ACE is implemented under their respective workstreams;

(b) Inviting the Presidencies, with the support of the secretariat, to convene an in-session event, to be held at each session of the COP and CMA, focused on a thematic area relevant to the Convention and the Paris Agreement to promote coherence and strengthen coordination of work on ACE undertaken by constituted bodies and other United Nations entities and under other United Nations processes;

(c) Encouraging the secretariat and other United Nations and intergovernmental organizations to strengthen their collaboration with a view to ensuring the provision of coordinated support to Parties for their activities related to ACE and avoiding duplication of work.

7. At the national level, Parties are encouraged to strengthen integration of ACE into the development and implementation of national climate policies, plans, strategies and action, including by developing and implementing a national strategy that covers all six ACE elements and facilitates broad cross-sectoral coordination and collaboration.

8. In addition, at the national level, Parties are also encouraged to continue designating, assigning responsibilities to, and providing support, including technical and financial support, and access to information and materials to national ACE focal points. Such responsibilities could include identifying areas for possible international cooperation and opportunities for strengthening synergies with action under other conventions, and coordinating the preparation of the chapter on ACE in national communications, ensuring that relevant contact information, including weblinks, is provided therein.

B. Coordinated action

9. This priority area has the aim of continuing to build long-term, strategic, operational, multilevel, multi-stakeholder, intergenerational partnerships that bring together different expertise, resources and knowledge to accelerate ACE implementation. Such partnerships can be fostered by undertaking the following activities at the international level:

(a) Holding an annual in-session ACE dialogue at the first regular session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation each year with the participation of Parties, representatives of relevant constituted bodies and relevant experts, practitioners and stakeholders that focuses on the progress of implementation of the Glasgow work programme and on its four priority areas:

(i) Policy coherence;

(ii) Coordinated action;

(iii) Tools and support;

(iv) Monitoring, evaluation and reporting;

(b) Organizing an annual youth forum in collaboration with children and youth organizations, including the constituency of youth non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other youth NGOs;

(c) Inviting Parties and stakeholders to develop international, regional and national programmes and activities, including the preparation of training and education materials and tools, using local languages where applicable and practical.

10. At the national level, Parties are encouraged to:

(a) Prepare assessments of needs specific to national circumstances in the area of ACE implementation, including use of social research methods and other relevant instruments to determine target audiences and partnerships;

(b) Strengthen in-country coordination and institutional arrangements at different levels to avoid duplication of efforts, promote knowledge-sharing, foster local networks and enhance collaboration among all stakeholders in relation to ACE implementation.

C. Tools and support

11. This priority area is aimed at enhancing access to tools and support for building capacity and raising awareness among Parties, national ACE focal points and non-Party stakeholders with regard to ACE. ACE implementation can be enhanced by undertaking the following activities at the international level:

(a) Requesting the secretariat to:

(i) Strengthen the network of national ACE focal points at the international and regional level, including by facilitating regular exchanges of views, good practices and lessons learned to build and strengthen capacity and skills, and by facilitating peer support for ACE implementation;

(ii) Raise awareness of and promote bilateral and multilateral initiatives and programmes related to ACE implementation;

(iii) Enhance communication and information-sharing about ACE and its six elements through existing UNFCCC web-based resources and communication activities;

(b) Inviting relevant international organizations, including United Nations organizations, and other non-Party stakeholders to:

(i) Support implementation of ACE activities through their work programmes and through specific programmes focused on climate change, including, as appropriate, by providing and disseminating information and resources, such as visual materials that could be easily translated and adapted, and by providing financial and technical support;

(ii) Facilitate partnerships and networking among Parties, intergovernmental organizations, NGOs, academia, the private sector, state and local governments and community-based organizations with the aim of jointly designing, implementing and evaluating ACE activities and policies;

(iii) Contribute to implementation of the Glasgow work programme in their areas of competence;

(iv) Support Parties in developing long-term, strategic and country-driven approaches to ACE that are linked to national climate change objectives, and in strengthening relevant national institutions;

(v) Design and implement training programmes, develop guidelines and provide other direct support to national ACE focal points;

(vi) Facilitate, in partnership with Parties and civil society actors, the organization of global, regional, subregional and national workshops focusing on specific priority areas of the Glasgow work programme.

12. At the national level, Parties are encouraged to determine the most efficient and cost-effective way to implement ACE activities, and to develop funding instruments at the national level, where appropriate, to support such activities, in particular at the subnational and local level.

13. Parties are also encouraged to establish partnerships with other Parties, as well as with intergovernmental organizations, NGOs and other stakeholders, to facilitate implementation of ACE activities, including with a view to developing institutional and technical capacity to:

(a) Identify gaps and needs related to ACE implementation;

(b) Assess the effectiveness of ACE activities;

(c) Consider linkages between ACE activities, implementation of policies and measures to mitigate and adapt to climate change, and other means of implementation under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, such as technology transfer and capacity-building.

14. Parties are further encouraged to build the capacity of youth to embark on and lead ACE implementation and promote youth participation in relevant climate processes at the national and international level, including by including youth in national delegations at UNFCCC meetings.

D. Monitoring, evaluation and reporting

15. This priority area is aimed at strengthening monitoring, evaluation and reporting of the implementation of all six ACE elements at all levels, according to Parties' specific priorities, needs and national circumstances. Monitoring, evaluation and reporting can be strengthened by undertaking the following activities at the international level:

(a) Inviting Parties to provide information in their national communications, where possible, and in other reports on activities and policies involving ACE implementation, reporting on accomplishments, lessons learned, experience, and challenges and opportunities, noting that the six ACE elements provide a useful guide for this reporting;

(b) Inviting United Nations agencies, intergovernmental organizations and other non-Party stakeholders to submit information to the secretariat on ACE implementation at all levels for inclusion in the annual summary report on progress in implementing activities under the Glasgow work programme.

16. At the national level, Parties are encouraged to share with the general public and all stakeholders the findings contained in their national communications and national action plans or domestic programmes on climate change regarding ACE implementation, using tools such as social media to reach and engage multiple stakeholders, as appropriate. Parties are also encouraged to promote greater involvement of non-Party stakeholders to support them in monitoring, evaluating and reporting ACE activities.

IV. Implementing the six elements of Action for Climate Empowerment

A. Parties and non-Party stakeholders

17. As part of their national programmes to implement the Convention and the Paris Agreement, and taking into account national circumstances, Parties and non-Party stakeholders are encouraged to undertake activities under the six ACE elements, which are listed in paragraphs 18–23 below.

1. Education

18. Parties and non-Party stakeholders are encouraged to collaborate on, promote, facilitate, develop and implement formal and non-formal education and training programmes focused on climate change at all levels, targeting the involvement of women and youth in particular, including by organizing exchanges or secondments of personnel to provide training for experts.

2. Training

19. Parties and non-Party stakeholders are encouraged to collaborate on, promote, facilitate, develop and implement training programmes focused on climate change for groups with a key role in climate action, such as scientific, technical and managerial personnel, journalists, teachers and community leaders at the international, national, regional, subregional and local level, as appropriate. Technical skills and knowledge are required to adequately address and respond to climate change issues.

3. Public awareness

20. Parties and non-Party stakeholders are encouraged to cooperate in, promote, facilitate, develop and implement public awareness programmes on climate change and its effects at the national and, as appropriate, subregional, regional and international level by, inter alia, encouraging individuals to contribute to and take their own action to address climate change, supporting climate-friendly policies and fostering behavioural change, including through the use of popular media, noting the important role that social media platforms and strategies can play in this context.

4. Public access to information

21. Parties and non-Party stakeholders are encouraged to facilitate public access to data and information by providing information on climate change initiatives, policies and results of actions that enables the public and other stakeholders to understand, address and respond to climate change. This should take into account such factors as quality of Internet access, level of literacy and language differences.

5. Public participation

22. Parties and non-Party stakeholders are encouraged to promote public participation in addressing climate change and its effects and in developing adequate responses by facilitating feedback, debate and partnership in relation to climate change activities and relevant governance, noting the important role that social media platforms and strategies can play in this context.

6. International cooperation

23. Parties and non-Party stakeholders are encouraged to promote subregional, regional and international cooperation in undertaking activities within the framework of the Glasgow work programme, which has the potential to enhance the collective ability of Parties to implement the Convention and the Paris Agreement. Intergovernmental organizations and NGOs can also contribute to its implementation. Such cooperation can further enhance synergies of action under different conventions and improve the effectiveness of all sustainable development efforts.

B. Parties

24. As part of their national programmes and activities in implementing the Convention and the Paris Agreement, and within the framework of the Glasgow work programme, Parties could undertake the activities listed in paragraphs 25–30 below, as appropriate.

1. Education

25. Parties are encouraged to:

(a) Integrate climate change learning into the curricula of schools and other institutions that provide formal education, and support non-formal and informal education on climate change, including respect for and inclusion of indigenous and traditional knowledge;

(b) Strengthen education, training and skills development in national institutions to deliver action on climate change learning.

2. Training

26. Parties are encouraged to:

(a) Develop tools and methodologies for supporting climate change training and skills development through collaboration, and provide training programmes for groups with a key role in climate change communication and education, including journalists, teachers, academics, youth, children and community leaders;

(b) Enhance the capacity of teachers and academics to integrate climate into their curricula by developing materials and promoting training focused on climate change at the regional and international level, where appropriate;

(c) Train government officials from different ministries and departments, including those working in local government, on how climate change relates to their respective areas of work with a view to strengthening institutional and technical capacity.

3. Public awareness

27. Parties are encouraged to:

(a) Inform the public on the causes of climate change and sources of greenhouse gas emissions, as well as on actions that can be taken at all levels to address climate change;

(b) Encourage the public to contribute to mitigation and adaptation actions as part of public awareness programmes;

(c) Develop strategies for communicating on climate change on the basis of targeted sociological research with a view to encouraging behavioural change;

(d) Conduct surveys, including of knowledge, attitudes, behaviour and practices, to establish the level of public awareness of climate issues, which can serve as a basis for further work and support the monitoring of the impact of activities;

(e) Develop criteria for identifying good practices for ACE and disseminate information thereon, at the national or regional level according to national circumstances and capacities, and promote the sharing of such practices;

(f) Conduct government campaigns to inform the public on issues such as climate change, climate action and vulnerabilities, including through social media, electronic communication, festivals and cultural events, or by partnering with urban and rural local communities;

(g) Create communities of practice, knowledge and learning that are available and accessible to a wide range of stakeholders, including women, children and youth, the elderly and persons with disabilities.

4. Public access to information

28. Parties are encouraged to:

(a) Increase the availability of copyright-free and translated material on climate change, in accordance with laws and standards relating to the protection of copyrighted material;

(b) Seek opportunities to widely disseminate information on climate change. Measures could include translating information into other languages, as appropriate, and distributing simplified versions of key documents on climate change, including Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Assessment Reports;

(c) Include accurate information on climate change science and mitigation on national and subnational government websites;

(d) Make scientific information on climate change mitigation and adaptation freely available and accessible to the general public;

(e) Make national climate reports available in local languages for vulnerable communities, including people with special needs;

(f) Improve public access to information on climate change at the national and local level using a range of methods and tools, taking into account the different ways particular communities, groups and individuals, including women and children and youth, may be impacted by climate change.

5. Public participation

29. Parties are encouraged to:

(a) Seek public participation and input, including from youth, women, civil society organizations and other groups, in formulating and implementing efforts to address climate change and in relation to preparing national communications, and encourage the involvement and participation of representatives of all stakeholders and major groups in the climate change negotiation process;

(b) Foster the participation of all stakeholders in ACE implementation and invite them to report thereon. In particular, enhance the active participation of youth, women, civil society organizations and the media;

(c) Establish public–private or public–non-profit partnerships between national ACE focal points for implementing ACE activities (e.g. university partnerships);

(d) Hold frequent, inclusive civil society consultations on climate decision-making, including follow-up processes with specific outcomes such as feedback surveys that enable participants to express how they feel their input was used;

(e) Develop guidelines for enhancing public participation in climate change decision-making and the inclusion of children and youth, and for assisting local governments and the public in climate change decision-making.

6. International cooperation

30. Parties are encouraged to:

(a) Seek to enhance cooperation and coordination in developing and implementing ACE activities at the international and regional level. This includes identifying partners and building networks with other Parties, intergovernmental organizations, NGOs, the private sector, provincial and local governments, and community-based organizations. Parties should also promote and facilitate the exchange of information and materials and the sharing of experience and good practices;

(b) Promote and encourage regional programmes and projects developed by Parties, intergovernmental organizations, NGOs, the private sector, provincial and local governments, and community-based organizations that support the implementation of ACE and promote the sharing of experience, including through the dissemination of best practices and lessons learned and the exchange of information and data.
