



United Nations  
Climate Change



COP29  
Baku  
Azerbaijan

Reference: World Leaders Climate  
Action Summit/  
High-Level Events  
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## INFORMATION NOTE TO HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT ATTENDING THE WORLD LEADERS CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT

**12 – 13 November 2024**  
**Republic of Azerbaijan**

### **High-Level Events during the Summit**

Further to the invitation from His Excellency Mr. Ilham Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, to Heads of State and Government to participate in the World Leaders Climate Action Summit on Tuesday, 12 and Wednesday 13 November 2024, and the [Message to Parties and observer organizations on preliminary arrangements for the Summit and the first part of the high-level segment for Heads of State and Government](#), the secretariat would like to provide information on High-Level events during the Summit.

Following the formal opening of the Summit, led by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan on 12 November, the programme of events for the participation of Heads of State and Government (HoS/G) on 12 and 13 November will include the delivery of national statements, high-level round tables, high-level special events hosted by the COP 29 Presidency and high-level Party Events organized by other World Leaders.

#### **High-Level Round Tables**

3 high-level round tables will be held during the Summit as follows:

Tuesday, 12 November 2024

- 14:00 – 15:30 High-Level Roundtable on Energy: Advancing Climate Mitigation Action
- 16:00 – 17:00 High-Level Roundtable on Enabling Climate Finance: The Make-or-Break Moment for Sustainable Future

Wednesday, 13 November 2024

- 14.15 – 15.45 High-Level Roundtable on Turning Ambition into Action: Scaling up Adaptation Finance for Achieving the Global Goal on Adaptation

Round tables will be open to all HoS/G, with participation in a 1+1 format (one principal and one accompanying person).

Access to heads of United Nations and related organizations and specialized agencies, heads of inter-governmental organizations admitted as observers by the Conference of the Parties and invited guests will be by invitation of the hosts. Invitees will be contacted directly by the organizer and will be provided with tickets to access the events. Tickets will be distributed at the Distribution Desk located in the Services Hub in Zone C at the Conference venue.

Detailed descriptions of each of the 3 round tables are included in concept notes in the annex to this communication.

Heads of State and Government are kindly requested to indicate their interest to the round tables in which they would like to participate. The Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan will ensure participation in at least one of the three round tables according to availability, on a first-come, first-served basis.

Heads of State and Government will also need to indicate their intention to deliver a statement during the round tables in line with the guiding questions presented in the concept note for the respective round tables. Statements should not exceed 2 minutes to enable inclusive deliberations on a first-come, first-served basis. The requested information should be sent to [cophlpe@unfccc.int](mailto:cophlpe@unfccc.int) by 4 November 2024.

A follow-up communication will be sent by the host organizer to all HoS/G, indicating the round tables in which they have been selected to participate.

### **High-Level Special Events**

High-level Special Events will also be held during the Summit as follows:

- High-Level Launch of the Annual High-Level Dialogue on Coordination and Complementarity for Funding Arrangements Responding to Loss and Damage ([asmar.yusifzada@cop29.az](mailto:asmar.yusifzada@cop29.az))
- From Pledges to Action: Full Operationalization of the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage ([asmar.yusifzada@cop29.az](mailto:asmar.yusifzada@cop29.az))
- COP29 Summit on Methane and Non-CO2 Greenhouse Gases ([mahmud.mahmudov@cop29.az](mailto:mahmud.mahmudov@cop29.az))
- High-Level Panel Discussion on Climate Security co-organized with the Munich Security Conference ([f\\_rzayeva@pa.gov.az](mailto:f_rzayeva@pa.gov.az))
- Adverse impacts of Climate Change on Decline of Water Basins ([Elchin.V.Guliyev@cop29.az](mailto:Elchin.V.Guliyev@cop29.az))
- Leaders' Summit of The Small Island Developing States on Climate Change ([anar.yusifzade@cop29.az](mailto:anar.yusifzade@cop29.az); [nigar.bayramli-hamidova@cop29.az](mailto:nigar.bayramli-hamidova@cop29.az))
- World Economic Forum (WEF) - The Power of Collaboration: Unifying Forces for Net-Zero ([yusif.abdullayev@azpromo.gov.az](mailto:yusif.abdullayev@azpromo.gov.az))

High-Level Special events will be open to all HoS/G and their entourage, according to room capacity. These events are organized or hosted by and with the participation of the COP29 Presidency. Heads of State and Government and their entourage are kindly requested to express their interest in participating in special events by contacting the designated focal points indicated above for each respective event by 4 November 2024.

Access to heads of United Nations and related organizations and specialized agencies, heads of inter-governmental organizations admitted as observers by the Conference of the Parties and invited guests will be by invitation of the hosts. Invitees will be contacted directly by the organizer and will be provided with tickets to access the events. Tickets will be distributed at the Distribution Desk located in the Services Hub in Zone C at the Conference venue.

Detailed descriptions of each of the special events will be published on the website of the COP29 Presidency.

### **High-Level Party Events**

A series of High-Level Party Events (HLPE) will take place over the two days of the Summit. These events are organized or hosted by and with the participation of other HoS/G. The list of HLPE that will take place during the Summit can be found [here](#). The UNFCCC secretariat is not responsible for HLPE. Invitations and access to the HLPE will be managed by the host of the event. Contact information for each event can be found in the overview schedule of the events.

Tickets will be needed to access the HLPE. The tickets will be distributed by the host of the event.

Highest considerations.



## Annex

### **Round Table Concept Notes**

#### **Leaders' Roundtable on Energy: Advancing Climate Mitigation Action 12 November, 14.00-15.30, Meeting Room 21**

##### **Overview and context:**

The Leaders' Roundtable on Energy at COP29, co-chaired by H.E. Mukhtar Babayev, the COP29 President, and the Executive Director of the International Energy Agency (IEA), Dr. Fatih Birol, is the final event in the series of COP29-IEA High-Level Energy Transition Dialogues which the COP29 Presidency and the IEA have convened this year. World leaders will have the opportunity to call for what they want to see from the world at COP29 to keep 1.5°C within reach, and to share the actions which they are taking to achieve this pathway, including regarding implementation of the first Global Stocktake. Leaders are encouraged to be ambitious, optimistic and open minded.

The COP29 Presidency and the IEA, supported by the UNFCCC Secretariat, convened the series of High-Level Energy Transition Dialogues to both discuss the level of ambition and actions required to achieve just and equitable 1.5°C-aligned transitions, and contribute to energy-related outcomes for COP29. The Dialogues have engaged Ministers, CEOs and other decision-makers, reflecting a holistic global view of the energy system. Participants have candidly shared their ambitions, challenges and solutions to keep 1.5°C within reach, including how to effectively implement the energy outcomes of the Global Stocktake. This includes achieving the global goals on methane, renewable energy, and energy efficiency; supporting the process of mapping energy ambitions and actions into nationally determined contributions (NDCs); and identifying and developing key energy priorities for COP29, with a focus on the enabling factors of finance, technology transfer, capacity building and policy cooperation to accelerate clean energy transitions globally.

##### **Attendance level and confirmed participants**

The Roundtable will be attended by Heads of State and Government, and leaders of international organizations and CEOs.

##### **Speaking opportunities for participants**

We welcome world leaders to make brief and concise announcements and share new practical actions that their country / organization is taking to accelerate the energy transition. Alongside this, we welcome world leaders to share their high ambition for COP29 and global climate action.

The COP29 Presidency and the IEA will share more details on the Roundtable and support your preparation. Please engage with [iea.sherpa@iea.org](mailto:iea.sherpa@iea.org) to set up a potential briefing.

## **Guiding questions**

- \* What new practical actions are your country/organisation taking to accelerate the global energy transition?
- \* What is your country/organisation aiming for at COP29 to help deliver full and timely implementation of mitigation elements of the first GST, including regarding new nationally determined contributions (NDCs) and national actions?
- \* How could the outcomes of COP29 support developing countries to implement the energy goals set at COP28?

## **High-Level Roundtable**

### **Enabling climate finance: the make-or-break moment for sustainable future**

**12 November, 16.00-17.00**

#### **Context**

Climate finance is a critical enabler of progress towards achieving the Paris Agreement goals, playing a fundamental role in enhancing ambition and driving action on both mitigation and adaptation, as well as addressing loss and damage effectively. While positive progress has been made in recent years, current total global investments and public finance continue to fall far below the average needs to meet the Paris Agreement goals. This financing gap is particularly concerning developing countries including those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change and have significant capacity constraints. In this regard, there is a crucial need for new financial models and a reformed financial architecture that helps to increase climate finance and address the barriers, risk perceptions and inequities in access to finance.

The COP29 Presidency's top negotiation priority is to agree on a fair and ambitious New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on Climate Finance. The NCQG will succeed the previous commitment by developed countries to collectively mobilize USD \$100 billion per year for climate action in developing countries through 2025 in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation. The Presidency is of the firm conviction that an agreement on the NCQG, which takes into account the needs and priorities of developing countries, should represent progress beyond previous efforts, delivering multiples, adequate to the scale and urgency of the problem along with strong qualitative elements.

To that end, COP29 leadership has been working intensively with Parties, including through the NCQG Ministerial Pair informal consultations, to help build and secure consensus. In tandem, the Presidency is driving further climate finance through the Presidency Action Agenda, including initiatives such as the Climate Finance Action Fund (CFAF), Baku Initiative for Climate Finance, Investment and Trade Dialogue (BICFIT Dialogue) as well as through engagements with the Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs).

As part of the COP29 World Leaders Summit Azerbaijan will convene a high-level roundtable as an opportunity for world leaders, IFIs and MDBs to engage in a focused discussion on how this year's COP29 efforts will provide momentum towards meaningful progress on climate finance, including towards the establishment of the NCQG in view of its importance for the future of global climate action and reaching the goals of the Paris Agreement.

## **Objectives**

The High-Level Roundtable on “Enabling climate finance: the make-or-break moment for sustainable future” provides an opportunity to discuss how we can scale up the provision of public finance and the mobilisation of private finance with the speed and scale required to meet the growing needs of developing countries.

To create the fiscal space that is desperately needed in many developing countries and to increase financial flows from all sources, noting the significant role of public funds, including innovative finance, we require bold leadership and courageous political will.

## **Logistical Details**

- Date and time: 12 November, 16.00-17.00
- Format: Roundtable, with framing remarks and conversation structured around three discussion points
- Location: Meeting Room 21

## **Guiding questions:**

- How has your country enabled climate finance in 2024, and how will you enable climate finance moving forward? What do you need to make this happen?
- What can governments, international financial institutions, and investors do to further create a financial architecture fit for scale-up public finance and leverage additional financial flows commensurate with the risks posed by climate change? What are the short, medium, and long term actions that can facilitate such changes?
- What are the opportunities for the UNFCCC climate finance discussions to better connect with processes and changes outside the UNFCCC framework, ensuring better coordination and resource mobilization at scale for meaningful climate action?

## **High-level Roundtable on Turning Ambition into Action: Scaling up Adaptation Finance for Achieving the Global Goal on Adaptation**

### **Background**

Countries facing extreme heat, rising sea levels, water scarcity, and other compounded environmental threats are grappling with severe risks to achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). With climate impacts spreading faster and wider, the world is at a critical juncture—where scaling up adaptation is no longer a choice but a necessity.

In 2021, the global community introduced the Glasgow-Sharm el-Sheikh work programme on the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA). Building on this, the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience, launched at COP 28, marked a significant step in establishing thematic and dimensional targets designed to guide progress toward the GGA and assess overall achievements.

Despite the considerable progress made in increasing adaptation efforts over recent years, the First Global Stocktake (GST) concluded that current adaptation efforts are not on track to meet the adaptation goal of the Paris Agreement. The GST called for urgent, incremental, transformational and country-driven adaptation action based on different national circumstances, while significant challenges developing countries face in accessing finance for implementing their National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and Adaptation Communications. Responding to the GST, all Parties should have NAPs, policies and planning processes in place by 2025 so that we can make progress in implementing them by 2030. COP 29 will assess the progress made in the process to formulate and implement NAPs. Moreover, the 2023 UNEP Adaptation Gap Report reveals that adaptation finance needs for developing countries will be 10-18 times higher than current public finance flows, a figure over 50% greater than previously estimated. Bridging this financial gap is critical to implementing effective adaptation strategies, which rely on not just funding but also well-structured plans, robust strategies, and technical capacity.

The COP29 Presidency has been actively building momentum to drive greater action on adaptation and address this critical financial shortfall.

COP 29 offers a pivotal moment to turn ambition into action and deliver tangible solutions on scaling up adaptation efforts and closing the adaptation finance gap - a key step in advancing progress on the GGA. In this context, the COP29 Presidency is organizing a High-Level Roundtable which will provide a global platform for leading champions of climate adaptation to collaborate on tracking progress, advocating for this critical agenda, and advancing both new and ongoing initiatives.

### **Session overview and format**

Panelists at this roundtable will discuss the obstacles and opportunities in advancing the progress towards achieving the GGA, and in ensuring an effective implementation of NAPs and strategies to bridge the adaptation finance gap across key thematic areas such as climate-induced water scarcity, food and agriculture supply, health services, infrastructure etc. As we approach the midway point of the UAE-Belém Work Programme, significant progress is envisaged to be made on developing and mapping high-quality adaptation indicators for tracking the GGA. COP29 will also be important in terms of charting a



way forward on how transformational adaptation is defined and understood at different spatial scales and sectors, and how progress in planning and implementing transformational adaptation approaches might be assessed at the global level. The outcome of the discussions will be captured in a Presidency's Summary, which will highlight key points from leaders' statements.

**Guiding questions:**

- What should the UNFCCC process do differently to elevate adaptation to the higher level of urgency and support that it demands?
- What should COP29 deliver towards this paradigm shift on adaptation action and support?
- Given the large diversity of modalities and channels for adaptation action and support, what arrangements can catalyze a periodic assessment of the adaptation landscape, in a way that can ensure synergy alignment and informed decision making?
- What are the most promising financing mechanisms and strategies to bridge the significant adaptation finance gap? How can scaling up adaptation finance enhance ambition and enable adaptation action and support towards the achievement of GGA?

**Logistical Details**

**Date:** 13 November 2024

**Time:** 14:15-15:45

**Venue:** MR 21, Baku Stadium, Azerbaijan

**Duration:** 90 mins.