



Date: 29 October 2026
Reference: ES/MTP/O/QR3 2026
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MESSAGE TO PARTIES AND OBSERVERS

UN Climate Change Quarterly Update: Q3 2026

Dear colleagues,

Climate multilateralism is delivering important progress, and Parties are increasingly taking whole-of-economy, whole-of-society approaches to climate policymaking. However, collective progress remains substantially insufficient, based on science, to keep the 1.5 °C warming limit within reach for this century. While many Parties, and other climate action stakeholders are finding opportunities to further accelerate and implement national targets and pledges, many are also continuing to face significant barriers.

These are among the key findings from our mandated reports this year, notably the 2026 NDC Synthesis Report, the 2026 BTR Synthesis Report and the 2026 NAPs Progress Report, published on 27 October, ahead of COP 31. Two reports of the Standing Committee on Finance - The Seventh Biennial Assessment and Overview of Climate Finance Flows, and the Third Report on Progress towards achieving the goal of the USD 100 billion goal - were also published on 27 October. Short summaries are contained in the updates below.

While the reports are another reminder of the difficult headwinds of this moment, they also show nations standing firm and pushing ahead, as climate impacts hit every population and every economy harder each year. This is uprooting lives, livelihoods and causing vast damage to economic growth, jobs, living standards, vital infrastructure and the supply chains that all economies rely on for low-inflationary growth.

The severity of climate impacts, particularly in highly vulnerable nations, was highlighted forcefully during the pre-COP held in early October in Fiji, in partnership with Australia, and with other Pacific islands, particularly Tuvalu hosting a Leaders Event. Importantly, the pre-COP also highlighted many important climate solutions, and the spirit of practical cooperation and solidarity that will be so crucial to accelerating efforts globally, regionally, nationally and locally.

Distribution: To Parties and observer States through their national focal points for climate change and diplomatic missions accredited to the Federal Republic of Germany, United Nations and related organizations and specialized agencies and observer organizations admitted by the Conference of the Parties.



At the same time, fossil fuel volatility has continued in Q3 of this year, and into Q4, pushing up costs substantially for households, businesses and governments, including sovereign borrowing costs. Nations that have been able to move faster to renewables have been more protected from these price and energy security impacts. However, the global transition to more affordable, secure clean energy, while now irreversible, remains very uneven, and many nations need support to share in the vast benefits.

We have heard loud and clear from Parties – and other stakeholders – on the need for more progress on implementation. For the secretariat, this means continuing to support Parties in bridging the gap between ambition and implementation, through the mandated processes, data, reporting, technical work and convenings that underpin international climate action, throughout the year, and culminating in the Conference of the Parties each year.

As Parties and other COP participants prepare for COP 31 in Antalya (9 -20 November), there is a clear need and opportunity to make concrete progress on many practical issues that can support more implementation, across both the negotiations and the Global Climate Action Agenda.

The COP 31 President Designate, Minister Murat Kurum of Türkiye, and the President of COP 31 Negotiations, Minister Chris Bowen of Australia, have recently published their fourth letter, which you can [read here](#), further setting out their vision of COP 31 as a COP of implementation and acceleration.

Across the secretariat, we have been working closely with our Türkiye and Australia colleagues to prepare for COP 31. In parallel, over the course of Q3 the secretariat has worked intensively across the vast range of mandated activities set out below, to continue delivering on all our growing mandates from Parties.

We stand ready to play our full role supporting Parties to deliver a strong and balanced set of outcomes at COP 31, and we look forward to seeing you in Antalya very soon.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed by)

Simon Stiell



Just Transition

Implementation of the UAE Just Transition Work Programme continued in Q3 as Parties prepare for COP 31. The Work Programme provides a forum for exchanging views and experiences on how to achieve the transition to low-emission economies in ways that reflect national circumstances and take account of social and economic considerations.

A key milestone was the Work Programme's [sixth dialogue](#), held during Climate Week 4 in Baku, Azerbaijan. The dialogue focused on nationally determined approaches to just transition pathways in the industry sector, including the roles of technology and innovation and the importance of equitable value chains. An informal summary of the dialogue will be published ahead of COP 31.

Also, in Q3, the Government of Australia hosted a [workshop on just transition](#) in Sydney. Organized by the incoming COP 31 Presidency and President of Negotiations under the guidance of the Chairs of the Subsidiary Bodies, the workshop allowed Parties and stakeholders to exchange views on how to operationalize the just transition mechanism. Discussions covered its purpose, functions, governance and modalities, its relationship with the Work Programme, and the timeline for operationalization. The exchanges were without prejudice to Parties' consideration of these matters at COP 31.

Adaptation

Work in Q3 focused on advancing efforts to turn global adaptation goals into practical action, to support countries in implementing national adaptation plans, and to strengthen access to the knowledge and finance needed to address climate impacts.

In September, the secretariat published a [technical paper](#) on targets and indicators for the global goal on adaptation, providing analysis to support their operationalization and related mandated work. At Climate Week 4 in Baku, the Chairs of the Subsidiary Bodies convened the second workshop under the Baku Adaptation Road Map. Discussions focused on implementing key targets of the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience across the adaptation process, from assessment and planning to implementation, monitoring, evaluation and learning.

The Adaptation Committee also convened its 2026 Adaptation Forum at Climate Week 4, bringing together Parties and stakeholders to exchange experience on scaling up adaptation action towards the global goal on adaptation. In July, the Committee held an online session on opportunities to access adaptation finance from the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and the Adaptation Fund, helping participants explore available sources of support.

In August, the Facilitative Working Group of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP) convened a [regional gathering for the Pacific](#). Participants discussed climate impacts on livelihoods and ecosystems, alongside practices and place-based knowledge systems across the region. The gathering also included consultations with Indigenous youth, and youth from local communities to co-design the mandated seventh-generation LCIPP annual youth roundtable for COP 31.



The Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) held a regional training-of-trainers workshop for African least developed countries and small island developing states in August. The workshop aimed to strengthen national capacities to formulate, implement, monitor and report on national adaptation plans (NAPs), including through training on NAPX, a tool that extracts data from NAPs. At its 50th meeting, the LEG reviewed progress in implementing its work programme, which will be reflected in its upcoming report.

The [2026 NAP Progress Report](#) was published on 27 October, marking a shift from tracking the formulation of NAPs towards assessing their implementation. It highlights the gap between countries having adaptation plans and being able to put them into practice. While 81 developing countries have submitted NAPs, significant barriers remain, particularly in accessing finance. The report highlights persistent barriers throughout the adaptation finance cycle, from developing project proposals and securing funding approvals to ensuring the timely disbursement of approved resources for implementation. The report also helps identify where targeted support and increased finance are needed to move from planning to implementation.

Looking ahead to COP 31, adaptation discussions are expected to focus increasingly on implementation. Key issues include operationalizing the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience, advancing national adaptation plans, taking stock of the LEG's work and reviewing its terms of reference, and considering the work of the Adaptation Committee and its review.

Transparency

The [Biennial Transparency Report \(BTR\) Synthesis Report](#) summarizes progress in implementing nationally determined contributions during the reporting period of the first round of BTRs (2020-2022). The report shows climate policymaking increasingly being mainstreamed in many countries. Policies and actions to implement NDCs increasingly cover whole economies and involve all or many segments of society. For example, 80 per cent of Parties involve non-Party stakeholders in climate action. Ninety-two per cent of Parties link climate action to the Sustainable Development Goals.

Q3 work advanced implementation of the Paris Agreement's Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF), which helps track countries' climate action, greenhouse gas emissions, and support provided and received. Efforts focused on supporting the reporting cycle, strengthening developing countries' capacity, improving transparency tools and preparing for COP 31.

During Q3, the secretariat organized fifteen [technical expert reviews](#) of BTRs. These reviews help to assess progress in implementing and achieving NDCs, and support provided by developed countries to developing countries, as well as contributing to technical quality of information, domestic buy-in of climate action and capacity-building. By the end of the quarter, the secretariat enabled 1,485 experts to complete the required [training and certification](#) to serve as BTR reviewers under the Paris Agreement.

Support to developing countries continued through the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) and other capacity-building activities. At its 15th meeting in Bonn in September, the CGE reviewed progress on its



2026 workplan and 2026–2029 work programme and finalized its progress report. It also published [technical materials](#) to help countries to implement the ETF and meet their reporting requirements.

Ten capacity-building activities supported developing countries in implementing the ETF, including two CGE regional hands-on training workshops, three UNFCCC Climate Action and Support Transparency Training programmes, and five other ETF workshops. These activities reached 258 participants in collaboration with 21 partner entities. Two BTR technical workshops were also held in September, in Baku during Climate Week 4 and in Ballarat, Australia, helping countries to address technical questions and prepare their BTRs for timely submission. Upon request, online technical sessions on ETF reporting tools were also provided to around 10 Parties, helping them to submit common reporting tables and common tabular formats.

A project to assess and address methane emissions entered its implementation phase, with Benin, Morocco, Namibia, Panama and Zimbabwe receiving technical support to identify targeted actions.

At Climate Week 4, a [high-level event](#) brought together governments, experts and support providers to share practical solutions and help countries advance transparency reporting. Climate Week 4 also showcased progress on the redevelopment of the [NAZCA portal](#), which tracks climate action by non-Party stakeholders. Following the launch of UN Climate Change's NAZCA self-service initiative, cooperative climate initiatives began reporting their progress through the new system.

Work also continued on AI tools to support transparency reviews, including an assessment tool for National Inventory Documents from Annex I Parties, with implementation planned for the 2027 simplified review cycle mandated under the ETF modalities, procedures and guidelines, as well as tools to support BTR reviews. In addition, the [technical expert review of biennial transparency reports](#) was published in October.

At COP 31, activities under the secretariat's [#Together4Transparency initiative](#) will include a mandated event, a ministerial high-level dialogue and training sessions. Thirty-four Parties will undergo the [Facilitative Multilateral Consideration of Progress](#) in Antalya, a process through which Parties share experiences and learn from each other's best practices in delivering climate action and support. Fourteen technical expert reviews are planned to take place before the end of the year.

Nationally Determined Contributions

By the end of Q3, 157 Parties had submitted new nationally determined contributions (NDCs), setting out their climate goals and planned actions under the Paris Agreement. The secretariat continued to follow up on outstanding submissions and strengthen support for implementation.

The [2026 NDC Synthesis Report](#), published on 27 October, provides further evidence of how countries are turning their Paris Agreement commitments into concrete actions and progress, by providing new data about progress being made and the major challenges that remain. Between 1 January 2024 and 31 August 2026, 127 new NDCs, representing 154 Parties to the Paris Agreement, were recorded in the NDC registry. Together, they cover around 70 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions.



The secretariat and its Regional Collaboration Centres (RCCs) continued to support countries in translating their NDC commitments into action on the ground. Two workshops brought together government representatives from [Asia-Pacific](#), [Eastern Europe and the Middle East](#), alongside civil society, development partners, financiers and private-sector representatives, to share practical experience and approaches to NDC implementation.

In September, a [workshop in Bangkok](#) focused on the health benefits of climate action. It aimed to strengthen countries' capacity to assess and integrate health considerations into NDC implementation and to identify related policy opportunities.

Building on a [peer-to-peer exchange on rural electrification held in Dakar](#) in Q2, the secretariat together with the RCC for West and Central Africa, continued to support Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Senegal and Togo through country engagement and coordination with partners. Consultations with the West African Development Bank and the German Agency for International Cooperation focused on priority needs, strengthening project proposals and accessing technical expertise. This work supports countries to share knowledge and learn from one another, to help develop practical approaches to implementation, while reinforcing country ownership and regional collaboration. Further capacity-building activities are planned for Q4.

Climate Weeks 2026

The [fourth UNFCCC Climate Week](#) (CW4) took place in Baku, Azerbaijan, from 7 to 11 September, bringing mandated events, technical workshops, implementation dialogues and stakeholder engagement together in one programme. It was held alongside Baku Climate Action Week, organized by the Government of Azerbaijan, with joint sessions forming part of the Implementation Forum.

Nearly 800 participants took part in 33 events, including mandated events, the Implementation Forum, the High-Level Ceremony, peer exchanges and consultations. Discussions included on adaptation, implementation of national climate plans, transparency, Article 6 cooperation and just transition. The COP 31 Presidency also led events focused on electrification, health, buildings and the circular economy.

The [fourth Implementation Forum](#) brought Parties together with businesses, cities and regions, and representatives from civil society and academia, to explore practical solutions across six axes of the Global Climate Action Agenda based on the outcomes of the first global stocktake. Discussions covered industrial decarbonization, finance for food systems, resilient cities, water, an inclusive circular economy and information integrity, with a focus on solutions that can be replicated and scaled, and on mobilizing investment.

By bringing mandated UNFCCC work together with practical discussions on implementation, CW4 provided a platform for Parties and stakeholders to share experience, identify solutions and explore ways to turn climate commitments into action.



The secretariat thanks the Government of Azerbaijan for hosting us again with commitment and purpose. More information from CW4, including case studies and solutions showcased, will be made available on the [Climate Week webpage](#).

Given the budgetary challenges we are facing, we will need to move next year to holding only one UNFCCC-convened Climate Week. In doing so, we will build on the progress we have made over the past four Climate Weeks in finding efficiencies and cost savings. This has included clustering mandated events and meetings, alongside convenings designed to support Parties and other stakeholders to share knowledge and boost implementation efforts and impacts.

The next UNFCCC Climate Week (CW5) will be held in the African region, as the host region for COP 32. We will share more information on its location, timing and format as soon as possible, with a view to strongly supporting Parties and other stakeholders in their preparations through the year, across both the negotiations and Global Climate Action Agenda tracks, leading up to COP 32 in Addis Ababa.

Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use

The secretariat published new resources on [National Strategies or Action Plans](#) and [Safeguards Information Systems](#), building on discussions and practical experiences shared at the [REDD+ Global Summit 2026](#). The resources distil key lessons and considerations to help countries strengthen these elements of the Warsaw Framework for REDD+, which guides developing countries' efforts to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, and to support forest conservation and sustainable management.

The resources informed discussions at the REDD+ Community of Practice regional meeting for Asia-Pacific countries, hosted by Indonesia in October. The meeting brought together REDD+ experts to exchange practical experience on implementation, discuss emerging opportunities and challenges, and consider relevant developments under the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement.

Further support for countries is being developed through a new e-learning course on REDD+ measurement, reporting and verification. The course will provide practical guidance on forest reference levels, reporting REDD+ results and their verification, as well as recurring technical issues, good practices and potential solutions.

At COP 31 a side event will explore practical experience and emerging challenges as Article 6 carbon markets and results-based finance evolve. Discussions will consider how countries implementing REDD+ can navigate new opportunities and increasing complexity while maintaining an informed and coherent approach.

Gender

In Q3, the secretariat partnered with the Climate & Care Initiative and UN Women to host a virtual dialogue on [The Power of Care in Climate and Environmental Crises](#), followed by two online meetings between experts and national gender and climate change focal points. These activities supported Parties



in developing national assessments under the [Belém Gender Action Plan](#), including on the links between climate change and care work, health, and violence against women and girls. The assessments can help countries better understand these issues and inform their implementation of the Action Plan.

The secretariat also continued to bring together representatives of UN entities, civil society, financial institutions and academia to strengthen coordination and identify practical approaches to implementing the Belém Gender Action Plan. This included the [calls for submissions](#) due in 2027, which will provide further opportunities to gather relevant experience and input.

At Pre-COP in Fiji the secretariat collaborated with other UN entities, the Pacific community and global health leaders and experts, on events on gender, climate and health. These included an event on the impacts of extreme heat on pregnancy and birth, with global health science foundation Wellcome. These provided opportunities to explore the connections between these worsening challenges, and approaches and solutions for addressing them.

In preparation for COP 31, the secretariat will hold an [information session on gender and climate change](#). At COP 31, Parties will resume negotiations under the gender agenda item, considering [three mandated reports](#). Parties will also take part in a mandated high-level event and a technical dialogue on engaging women, girls, men and boys as agents of change in socially just transitions.

Climate Finance

Q3 saw progress on mandated climate finance deliverables for COP 31, alongside work to improve access to finance, advance country-level investment priorities and translate climate finance discussions into practical action.

In September, the Standing Committee on Finance (SCF) held its [2026 Forum on Financing Climate Action for Water Systems and the Ocean](#) in Sydney, followed by its [41st meeting](#).

The [Seventh Biennial Assessment and Overview of Climate Finance Flows](#) was published on 27 October. It finds that global climate finance flows averaged USD 1.9 trillion annually in 2023–2024, an increase of 32 per cent compared with 2021–2022. The [Third Report on Progress Towards Achieving the USD 100 Billion Goal](#) was also published on the same day and finds that climate finance to developing countries increased significantly between 2020 and 2024 but that, in the absence of a multilaterally agreed accounting methodology, estimates of progress vary with the approach used.

The advanced versions of the annual reports of the climate funds under the Financial Mechanism and the Adaptation Fund were received and [published](#) on the UNFCCC website. The SCF also discussed Parties' consideration of these reports and the preparation of draft guidance to the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism.

Under the Climate Finance Work Programme, the co-chairs issued a second call for submissions in July on the vision, modalities and elements to be addressed under the work programme in the future.



Under the Veredas Dialogue, virtual technical sessions brought together ministries of finance, central banks, multilateral development banks, private financial sector stakeholders and non-Party actors. Experienced were exchanges and practical approaches identified on making finance flows consistent with low-emission, climate-resilient development pathways. Discussions highlighted a broad range of implementation approaches and underscored the importance of maintaining a strong complementarity between Article 2.1(c) and Article 9, while engaging actors across the wider financial system.

The inaugural Xingu Finance Talks, convened by the CMA 7 Presidency under the Veredas Dialogue, took place in October in Bangkok, Thailand, on the sidelines of the 2026 Annual Meetings of the IMF and the World Bank Group. The high-level [roundtable](#) brought together 44 representatives of Parties and ministries of finance, multilateral development banks and other development finance institutions, central banks and financial regulators, international organizations, the private financial sector, academia and civil society, alongside 40 observers.

The Needs-Based Finance Project and its Finance for Conflict-Affected High-Human Need initiative also moved further towards implementation. A July workshop to validate the Pacific Climate Finance Access and Mobilization Strategy helped advance country-identified priorities. An October forum in Bangkok, *From Needs to Action: Readiness and Finance Pathways for LDCs and SIDS*, brought together countries, climate funds, international organizations, research institutions and other partners to explore practical readiness, project-preparation and finance-access pathways. Progress was also made on guidance to support access to finance, country concept development, partner matching, and funding and delivery arrangements across the Pacific, Indian Ocean and Caribbean workstreams, with a view to strengthening country-owned project pipelines and investment readiness.

Capacity-building

Q3 work focused on advancing the workplan of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB) and strengthening coordination and partnerships to help countries build the skills, knowledge and institutional capacity needed to implement climate action. Key activities included engagement with Committee members and preparation of the report of its 10th meeting.

The 2026 annual technical progress report was finalized in September for the COP 31 documentation cycle. In October, the PCCB launched its Global Capacity-building Dialogue series with an expert exchange, held in conjunction with Bangkok Climate Action Week. The series aims to bring greater coherence to a fragmented landscape of capacity-building support in a shared space to exchange experience and align their efforts.

In collaboration with capacity-building partners and providers, the PCCB Network kept members informed through five member-led events covering a variety of topics, including capacity-building related to technology and AI, gender, accessing and scaling climate finance.

The Climate Catalysts Mentorship Programme 3.0, delivered under the Youth4Capacity Programme, helps young climate leaders turn ideas into policy-aligned projects, mobilize people around shared causes and develop a climate innovation mindset, with an online peer-to-peer community providing



ongoing support. To date, 728 participants have taken part in the four sessions of the Project Design Bootcamp. The third and final bootcamp, on Entrepreneurial Mindsets with Harvard Business School, concluded in October 2026.

Technology

Q3 advanced mandated climate technology work and preparations for COP 31, with a focus on helping countries identify and deploy climate technologies, strengthen implementation support, and explore the potential of artificial intelligence (AI) to accelerate climate action responsibly.

The Technology Executive Committee (TEC) held its 33rd meeting in Bonn in September, followed by a joint session with the Advisory Board of the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN). Discussions covered incubators and accelerators, technology needs assessments (TNAs), agrifood systems, buildings and infrastructure, AI and digital technologies, and the strategic roadmap for the TEC's next rolling workplan. This work supports countries in identifying technology needs, developing solutions and strengthening the conditions for implementation.

The TEC advanced the implementation of its mandates under the Belém Technology Implementation Programme (BTIP), which aims to help accelerate the implementation of climate technology solutions. It determined the topic of the first BTIP Global Dialogue; "From climate technology priorities to accelerated implementation: strengthening enabling environments, building capacity and enhancing support for developing countries", and established an ad hoc activity group to support its organization. In parallel, the TEC advanced its work on the policy brief on opportunities, risks and challenges of AI for climate action, work on practical means to support AI implementation for transformative climate solutions, and a joint publication with the International Telecommunication Union on digital technologies and nationally determined contributions.

In Q4, Upendo Ernest Lyimo from the United Republic of Tanzania was named [winner](#) of the [AI for Climate Action Award 2026](#) for CLIMAID, an innovative platform that brings together artificial intelligence, satellite observations and local vulnerability data to support climate risk management and decision-making.

Pursuant to decision 11/CP.26, the UNFCCC secretariat commissioned the third independent review of the effective implementation of the CTCN for consideration by COP 31. The [report](#) of the review was published in August and a mandated [dialogue](#) is set to take place in conjunction with COP 31 to consider the findings of the review. Work also progressed on the draft memorandum of understanding between the COP-CMA and the United Nations Environment Programme, following the recommendation at SB 64 that UNEP will be the host of the Climate Technology Centre.



Mitigation Work Programme

The [eighth global dialogue and investment-focused event](#) under the Sharm el-Sheikh Mitigation Ambition and Implementation Work Programme took place in Sydney, Australia, at the end of September. The event provided a platform for Parties and non-Party stakeholders to share practical experience and explore ways to overcome barriers to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

The dialogue brought together 150 participants in person and 170 online to exchange good practices, practical solutions, challenges and barriers related to decarbonizing industries. Discussions also examined opportunities for collaboration, as well as potential trade-offs and co-benefits between mitigation action and other cross-cutting issues. During the investment-focused event's Pitch Hub session, Parties presented mitigation project concepts to investors and financiers and received feedback to help develop their proposals further. A summary of the dialogue and event will be included in the Work Programme's annual report published ahead of COP 31.

At COP 31, Parties will consider progress under the Mitigation Work Programme, with a view to adopting a decision on whether and how it will continue beyond 2026.

Article 6

Work continued to advance the implementation of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, which enables countries to cooperate voluntarily in implementing their climate commitments through market-based and non-market approaches.

The Article 6.4 Supervisory Body held its [22nd meeting](#) in July and advanced the operationalization of the Paris Agreement Crediting Mechanism (PACM). It adopted a [methodology for grid-connected renewable electricity generation](#), establishing an approved approach for assessing emissions reductions from eligible activities in this sector. The Supervisory Body also approved a [revised procedure for the Mechanism Registry](#), which will support the recording and tracking of activities and credits as the mechanism becomes operational.

The 23rd Supervisory Body meeting, held in early October, adopted two additional methodologies, including for [cooking energy transitions](#) and [energy efficiency measures in household cooking](#), as well as two methodological tools and revisions to a total of nine existing standards and tools. The decisions from both Supervisory Body meetings provide a basis for scaling up high-integrity renewable energy and clean cooking activities under the mechanism and mobilizing investment.

By the end of September, 130 Parties had designated a Designated National Authority and 70 had submitted Host Party Participation Requirements forms, important steps in preparing to participate in the mechanism.

The secretariat developed a new online module and instructor-led programme to support training and examination of Article 6 experts. The third centralized review cycle covered seven Party reports, with the review week held in Bonn in September. The secretariat also organized the Article 6 Registry



Systems Administrator Forum in September to discuss international registry procedures, Internationally Transferred Mitigation Outcome data standards and progress in registry development.

Capacity-building activities included guided virtual sessions supporting Parties across all regions in transitioning from the Clean Development Mechanism to the PACM. In addition, the Article 6 Capacity Building [website](#) offers two new explainers on the [Article 6 Sustainable Development tool](#) and the [Addendum to Design Document](#).

During Baku Climate Week, a [PACM workshop](#) provided practical guidance on developing activities, obtaining authorization and applying methodologies. It also explored emerging demand and country-level sector priorities. This was followed by a [Regional Dialogue on Carbon Pricing](#) and a session on [Non-Market Approaches](#), which support cooperation on climate action outside carbon-crediting mechanisms. The secretariat's Regional Collaboration Centres supported these events.

Regional Collaboration Centres

During Q3, the secretariat's [Regional Collaboration Centres](#) (RCCs) continued to support country-driven climate action across six regions, helping countries strengthen implementation of their climate commitments and build capacity to use available mechanisms and tools. In total, RCCs co-organized 58 events, including peer-to-peer workshops and webinars on nationally determined contributions, the Paris Agreement Crediting Mechanism and carbon pricing instruments.

The RCCs also provided direct support to countries on: adaptation (Nicaragua); on Article 6 and carbon pricing (Chile, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Panama, Thailand, and Togo); and on NDC development and implementation (Bolivia, Chad, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, The Gambia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, the State of Palestine, and Uganda).

Observer Engagement

The secretariat received close to 1,400 applications for COP 31 side events and more than 300 applications for exhibits. In September, nearly 330 side events and 92 exhibits were selected and announced, broadly in line with the number selected for COP 30.

The secretariat also supported the COP 31 Presidency in convening its first Observer Forum, which focused on improving access to climate finance, particularly for small island developing States and least developed countries. The Forum provided an opportunity for Parties and NGO constituencies to exchange views. Three Parties and eight NGO constituencies took the floor, highlighting the need to scale up the provision and mobilization of targeted climate finance, and to ensure that support reflects differing national and local circumstances.



Sectoral Engagement

The secretariat convened a series of Just Transition dialogues with fashion brands, manufacturers and supply chain partners from developing countries. The workshops brought together experts from the International Labour Organization, Laudes Foundation, World Business Council for Sustainable Development, We Mean Business and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development to develop high-level principles for integrating just transition considerations into corporate decarbonization pathways. Discussions highlighted the importance of designing solutions with affected stakeholders, sharing risks and benefits equitably across value chains, and tailoring approaches to local contexts.

The secretariat also launched the updated [Sports for Climate Action Framework](#), calling on sports organizations to accelerate climate action by working with cities and local communities and using athletes' trusted voices to inspire action at local and global levels. The framework introduces the concept of climate solidarity, encouraging the sports sector to work collectively towards a just and equitable climate transition and extend its impact beyond its own operations.

In September, the secretariat launched the [Entertainment and Culture for Climate Action 2026–2030 Strategy](#), strengthening engagement with the creative and cultural sectors to advance climate action through storytelling, collaboration and industry practices.

Global Climate Action Agenda

The secretariat supported the Climate High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action in [launching](#) the [2026 Work Programme](#) in August, the first under the Global Climate Action Agenda (GCAA) 2026–2030 [five-year vision](#). It focuses on accelerating implementation of existing commitments and translating the outcomes of the first global stocktake into practical action supporting national climate and adaptation plans, while contributing to preparations for the second global stocktake. The Champions also published [Terms of Reference](#) to put the five-year vision into practice and guide the renewed Marrakech Partnership.

The secretariat continued to support the COP 30 and COP 31 Presidencies, the Champions and the Marrakech Partnership in advancing implementation across the six GCAA axes and incorporating COP 31 priorities. This included support for the “Springboard to COP 31” webinar in September, providing updates on key milestones under the Agenda and opportunities for engagement ahead of COP 31.

At [Climate Week 4](#) in Baku, discussions were organized around the six GCAA axes and highlighted progress under the [Plans to Accelerate Solutions](#). This included efforts to unlock finance for agriculture and food systems, decarbonize construction materials, advance water-centred climate action, address organic waste, and better quantify and recognize the contribution of waste-pickers to climate action.

Preparations are also under way for the [GCAA programme at COP 31](#). Developed in close collaboration with the COP 30 and COP 31 Presidencies, the programme will be organized around the six GCAA axes and aligned with COP 31's thematic days. It will focus on demonstrating tangible outcomes and showcasing solutions that can be replicated and scaled.



The secretariat will soon publish the Yearbook of Global Climate Action 2026, an annual report highlighting progress and gaps in climate action, and showcasing concrete initiatives by non-Party stakeholders.

Second Global Stocktake

Preparations for the second global stocktake (GST2) are under way ahead of its formal launch at COP 31. Following an [informal exchange](#) with Parties at SB 64, the Chairs of the Subsidiary Bodies issued [information on the organization of GST2](#). This includes an indicative timeline, guiding questions for the information collection and preparation phase, arrangements for submissions and preparations for the Technical Assessment. Parties and observers have been invited to respond to the guiding questions and provide any additional information they consider relevant to the stocktake.

Preparations are also under way for a COP 31 Presidency event in Antalya to mark the launch of GST2. The event will bring together high-level and technical perspectives on the state of science and other relevant information, helping establish an evidence-based foundation for the stocktake.

Parties are encouraged to finalize the nomination of the two Technical Dialogue co-facilitators as soon as possible. Their appointment will allow preparations for the first Technical Dialogue to advance, alongside work on the secretariat synthesis reports that will provide key inputs to the assessment.

Across the secretariat, divisions are working to prepare and streamline the GST2 synthesis reports and other inputs from relevant constituted bodies. This includes aligning report structures, reducing duplication across reporting processes and ensuring that the reports capture progress, implementation gaps and challenges, as well as opportunities to accelerate implementation. Initial drafts are being prepared for finalization in early 2027.

COP 31 Readiness

Preparations for COP 31 are progressing as planned. Participant services and operational preparations continue across accommodation, transport, catering, signage and digital services, while venue construction and facility preparations remain on track. The COP 31 [e-Visa portal](#) launched in September. As the conference approaches, the focus will shift to integrated testing, operational coordination and on-site readiness.

To improve efficiency and the participant experience, two new digital solutions – for secondary badge issuance and ad hoc transport requests – have been successfully tested and will be operational for COP 31. In collaboration with the Presidency, the secretariat is also developing a pavilion event finder app to help participants navigate the venue and locate events more easily.

As of 21 October, 142 eligible Parties (99 per cent) have responded to the offer of Trust Fund support, which also extends to eligible Bureau members and Group Chairs. The Trust Fund for Participation currently faces a USD 1.4 million funding gap for COP 31. The secretariat is also administering an offer from the Government of Australia to fund participation from 14 Pacific Island countries.



COP 31 will also see the return of AskUNFCCC, an AI-powered search bot on our website, that helps Parties and other participants find documents, agendas, schedules and other key materials more quickly and easily.

COP 31 Host Country Agreement

The Host Country Agreement (HCA) between the government of Türkiye and the UNFCCC entered into force on 18 September 2026 to support an inclusive, efficient and effective COP 31. The COP 31 HCA has been published on the [UNFCCC website](#), in accordance with the request by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation in 2025 to publish the legal text of the host country agreement for each UNFCCC conference on the UNFCCC website to ensure transparency.

COP 32 Preparations

A joint UNFCCC-UN Department of Safety and Security fact-finding mission visited Addis Ababa in July to assess preparations for COP 32. The mission confirmed that a strong foundation is in place, with government coordination structures established and initial planning under way for the venue, accommodation, transport, security and health arrangements. Discussions on the Host Country Agreement have also begun. The next phase will focus on more detailed technical planning, including development of the Blue Zone master plan and preparations for operational readiness ahead of the first technical mission in January 2027.

Stay up to date

The updates above are just a sample of all the work taking place in the intergovernmental process on climate change in Q3. We will continue to update Parties and Observers on the important work and progress in many other areas in future Quarterly Updates.

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