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## **Subsidiary Body for Implementation**

### **Fifty-ninth session**

United Arab Emirates, 30 November to 6 December 2023

## **Progress in implementing activities under the Glasgow work programme on Action for Climate Empowerment**

### **Annual summary report by the secretariat**

#### *Summary*

This second annual summary report under the 10-year Glasgow work programme on Action for Climate Empowerment summarizes the progress of Parties, the secretariat and other stakeholders in implementing activities under the Glasgow work programme and its action plan between September 2022 and August 2023.



## Abbreviations and acronyms

ACE	Action for Climate Empowerment
CMA	Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement
COP	Conference of the Parties
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FIIAPP	International and Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies
LT-LEDS	long-term low-emission development strategy(ies)
MECCE	Monitoring and Evaluating Climate Communication and Education
NDC	nationally determined contribution
SB	sessions of the subsidiary bodies
SBI	Subsidiary Body for Implementation
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
YOUNGO constituency	children and youth constituency

## I. Introduction

### A. Mandate

1. COP 26 and CMA 3 reaffirmed the importance of all six ACE elements – 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 and adopted the 10-year Glasgow work programme on Action for Climate Empowerment.<sup>1</sup>
2. The Glasgow work programme,<sup>2</sup> which sets out the scope of and provides the basis for implementing ACE in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and the Paris Agreement, comprises activities under four action-oriented priority areas<sup>3</sup> 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.
3. COP 26 and CMA 3 requested the secretariat to prepare an annual summary report on progress in implementing activities under the Glasgow work programme for consideration by the SBI at its second regular session of each year.<sup>4</sup>
4. COP 27 and CMA 4 also requested the secretariat to include in each annual summary report information on materials, resources and findings as set out in the action plan under the Glasgow work programme,<sup>5</sup> such as information on progress in implementing activities A.1, A.2, B.1, C.2, C.3 and D.1.<sup>6</sup>

### B. Scope and structure of the report

5. This report contains information on the progress of Parties, the secretariat and other stakeholders in implementing activities under the Glasgow work programme and its action plan between September 2022 and August 2023. The information was gathered from Parties and non-Party stakeholders, including through the 2023 ACE Dialogue and relevant activities of the secretariat.
6. Chapter II below covers mandated events held during the reporting period; chapter III below presents an overview of practices and resources for monitoring, evaluation and reporting of ACE implementation; chapter IV below provides information on national ACE focal points; chapter V below presents relevant information from Party communications and reports submitted to the UNFCCC; chapter VI below provides information on ACE implementation by UNFCCC constituted bodies; chapter VII below discusses the United Nations Alliance on Action for Climate Empowerment; chapter VIII below addresses action by non-Party stakeholders; chapters IX–X below provide information on awareness-raising and communication and on youth engagement and capacity-building respectively by the secretariat; and chapter XI below concludes with next steps.
7. Annexes I and II identify where in this report information is provided on the mandated activities under the Glasgow work programme and its action plan respectively. Annex III contains a non-exhaustive list of practices and resources for monitoring, evaluation and reporting of ACE implementation.

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<sup>1</sup> Decisions 18/CP.26, preamble and para. 4; and 22/CMA.3, preamble and para. 4.

<sup>2</sup> Annex to decisions 18/CP.26 and 22/CMA.3.

<sup>3</sup> Policy coherence; coordinated action; tools and support; and monitoring, evaluation and reporting.

<sup>4</sup> Decisions 18/CP.26, para. 12(a); and 22/CMA.3, para. 12(a).

<sup>5</sup> Annex to decisions 23/CP.27 and 22/CMA.4.

<sup>6</sup> Decisions 23/CP.27, para. 7; and 22/CMA.4, para. 7.

## C. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

8. The SBI may wish to use the information in this report in:
  - (a) Monitoring and reviewing implementation of ACE and the Glasgow work programme and its action plan;
  - (b) Providing guidance to the secretariat on preparing future annual summary reports on progress in implementing activities under the Glasgow work programme.

## II. Mandated events

### A. Event at the session of the Conference of the Parties

9. Under the Glasgow work programme, the Presidencies of each session of the COP and the CMA are invited to convene, with the support of the secretariat, an in-session event 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.<sup>7</sup>

10. The ACE event at COP 27 was entitled “Implementing the ACE framework: unlocking the potential of ACE through civil society engagement in climate adaptation” and moderated by a representative of the Thomson Reuters Foundation.<sup>8</sup> In providing welcoming remarks, representatives of the COP 27 Presidency, the secretariat and ActionAid International highlighted the need for an urgent and rapid transition to climate-resilient economies and societies and the importance of the inclusive engagement of civil society in this process. Speakers emphasized that ACE is a critical toolbox for developing and implementing policies that protect lives and livelihoods, especially of vulnerable and marginalized communities.

11. The first panel, comprising representatives of the ACE Observatory, Climate Outreach, Fiji and the UNFCCC constituency of farmers and agricultural non-governmental organizations, presented evidence of the important role of civil society in implementing adaptation solutions. The panellists underlined the importance of sustained and meaningful engagement at the local level among government bodies and communities to ensure that adaptation is integrated into their values and action, as well as the need for adaptation to be contextualized within the community and local knowledge to be used in decision-making.

12. The second panel, comprising the ACE focal point of Egypt and representatives of the Facilitative Working Group of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform, FAO and Pakistan, discussed how ACE can create an enabling environment for civil society to engage in designing and implementing adaptation policies and strategies. The panellists stressed the importance of enhancing community resilience and building the capacity of local institutions to support adaptation to climate change. Ensuring adequate and meaningful participation of stakeholders, including rural communities and Indigenous Peoples, requires opportunities not only for participation but also for empowerment, which ACE plays a crucial role in providing.

13. A representative of Greenish, an Egyptian Foundation, closed the event after emphasizing that climate action should be tailored to meet the needs of those most affected and marginalized, and that, to truly empower local communities to adapt to climate change, it is necessary to ensure that they own the solutions that can deliver sustainable long-term outcomes.

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<sup>7</sup> Decisions 18/CP.26, annex, para. 6(b); and 22/CMA.3, annex, para. 6(b).

<sup>8</sup> The webcast is available at <https://unfccc.int/event/dialogue-on-implementing-the-ace-framework-mandated-event>.

## B. Dialogue on Action for Climate Empowerment

14. COP 26 and CMA 3 requested the SBI to hold an annual in-session ACE 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.<sup>9</sup>

15. In the action plan under the Glasgow work programme, the secretariat was requested to conduct an interactive workshop at the 2023 ACE Dialogue with experts, national ACE focal points, youth leaders and other stakeholders to discuss ways of assessing the effectiveness of ACE implementation (activity D.2).

16. In addition, the secretariat made efforts to make space in the agenda for the 2023 ACE Dialogue, including through the ACE Gallery, for implementation of the following mandated activities under the action plan:

(a) Parties and relevant organizations were invited to share experience and good practices at regional dialogues, workshops and consultations and present the outcomes at the ACE Dialogue (activity B.1);

(b) The secretariat was requested to increase peer-to-peer exchange among national ACE focal points about ACE activities at the national level through, among others, the ACE Dialogue (activity B.2);

(c) The secretariat and relevant organizations were requested to provide opportunities for youth to present at ACE Dialogues to highlight the leadership role that youth play in climate action (activity C.2).

17. The 2023 ACE Dialogue, which focused on the priority area of monitoring, evaluation and reporting, took place at SBI 58.<sup>10</sup> The agenda and format for the Dialogue were informed by relevant submissions from Parties and non-Party stakeholders.<sup>11</sup> In addition, the secretariat prepared a note with background information to assist participants in preparing to engage in the Dialogue.<sup>12</sup>

### 1. Opening

18. The Dialogue was opened and co-moderated by the ACE focal points of Australia and South Africa.

19. The SBI Chair welcomed the participants and highlighted the significance of ACE for educating and empowering all members of society to enable the transformation to low-emission and climate-resilient economic and social systems. The Chair highlighted that monitoring, evaluation and reporting is an essential backward- and forward-looking exercise for enhancing understanding of what constitutes effective and high-quality ACE implementation, where gaps lie and how progress can be built on.

### 2. Session 1: Monitoring, evaluation and reporting of the implementation of Action for Climate Empowerment

20. A representative of the Adaptation Committee presented the work of the Committee to advance the monitoring and evaluation of adaptation policy and action at all levels. The representative highlighted conceptual and practical challenges in this regard, such as the context-specific nature of adaptation, the diverging perspectives and risk tolerance of stakeholders, the long timescales and evolving baselines of interventions, and the lack of common objectives or indicators for measuring progress. Various approaches exist to assist

<sup>9</sup> Decisions 18/CP.26, para. 11(b); and 22/CMA.3, para. 11(b).

<sup>10</sup> The agenda, presentations and webcasts are available at <https://unfccc.int/event/ace-dialogue-2023-day-1>.

<sup>11</sup> All such submissions from Parties and non-Party stakeholders referred to in this report are available at <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/submissionsstaging/Pages/Home.aspx> (search for “Action for Climate Empowerment” or “ACE”).

<sup>12</sup> Available at <https://unfccc.int/documents/628828>.

stakeholders with monitoring and evaluation at all levels, such as establishing a monitoring and evaluation framework for tracking climate risks and vulnerabilities over time and engaging beneficiaries of adaptation projects and initiatives in monitoring and evaluating impacts, using tools such as progress metrics and scorecards. In their capacity as the ACE focal point of Norway, the representative introduced the country's experience in preparing a voluntary national review report under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which civil society organizations were allowed to contribute to by performing their own assessment of the overall status and progress of achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in Norway.

21. Use of the World Café format facilitated discussion among experts and participants on methodologies for monitoring, evaluation and reporting of ACE implementation:

(a) The ACE focal point of Sweden presented the national survey of awareness, knowledge and attitudes in relation to climate change. Since 2002, the Swedish Government has surveyed representative samples of the population to obtain public views on climate change to inform its policies and action. The regular nature of the surveys facilitates the tracking of changes in responses over time, and the differences in responses between age groups and genders helps to inform outreach. Participants discussed ways of enhancing the effectiveness of such surveys, including by making the process and its outcomes more accessible to the public and exploring the potential for scaling up the surveys to the international level;

(b) Representatives of the Dominican Republic outlined the development of national ACE-specific targets and indicators and their integration into the NDC. Following a public consultation process, 23 goals for the six ACE elements, as well as an overarching goal of developing and implementing a national ACE strategy, were included in the updated NDC. The NDC action plan integrates ACE as a cross-cutting consideration and sets out ACE-related indicators for mitigation and adaptation. Participants discussed the importance of political will across ministries and institutions to establishing ACE indicators and the role of local communities in collecting data for tracking progress against the indicators;

(c) A representative of the MECCE Project introduced the country profiles on climate change education and communication developed in collaboration with UNESCO, within the framework of its Global Education Monitoring Report. The project partners collaborate with ministries of education and ACE experts to validate the content of the profiles, which provide an overview and analysis of national laws and policies related to climate change education and communication. By COP 27, 50 country profiles had been published, and 30 more were set to be produced before COP 28. Participants discussed how to involve non-governmental stakeholders, such as local communities and universities, in reporting ACE implementation and the need for balanced monitoring and evaluation across all six elements;

(d) The ACE focal point of Trinidad and Tobago shared experience in setting up an online platform to collate and map ACE activities in the country. Organizations, youth groups, companies, community groups and individuals can submit photos, videos and reports linked to ACE-related initiatives and projects to the platform. Visualization of ACE activities helps to raise public awareness of them and to identify potential areas for support and collaboration. Participants discussed how the continuity of the mapping could be enhanced and how building a network of initiatives and communities could increase their synergy;

(e) The ACE focal point of the United States of America explained the role of the Climate Engagement and Capacity Building Interagency Group under the United States Global Change Research Program in creating an inventory of 572 ACE-related programmes at the federal level. The focal point noted that the national communication also provides information on a wide range of ACE activities carried out by non-governmental stakeholders, including subnational initiatives and networks. Participants discussed how common definitions of the ACE elements could help to improve the replicability and scalability of the inventory method and enable more effective monitoring and compilation of information at all levels;

(f) In an online breakout group, a representative of the MECCE Project spoke about the development of climate communication and education indicators that cover the six

ACE elements and are based on robust global data sets. A representative of FAO discussed the “Facility for Action for Climate Empowerment to achieve the NDC” project in Zambia and the monitoring and evaluation framework accompanying its implementation.

### **3. Session 2: Assessment of the effectiveness of the implementation of Action for Climate Empowerment**

22. A representative of FAO shared how the organization is improving the effectiveness of its work relating to ACE by focusing on changing human behaviours. Behavioural change is crucial to achieving sustainability goals, but social norms and perceptions can be major barriers to adopting promising solutions. The aim of the Zambian “Facility for Action for Climate Empowerment to achieve the NDC” project under FAO is to integrate behavioural science approaches into ACE activities, which are instrumental to achieving the NDC. The project focuses on enhancing mitigation and adaptation action in the energy, forestry, agriculture and education sectors and emphasizes the need to influence social norms, particularly around gender. FAO is engaging relevant institutions and research entities in improving the monitoring and evaluation system under the project and developing effective strategies for changing behaviours.

23. Participants were divided into one online and five in-person breakout groups, which were facilitated by representatives of the ACE Observatory, CLEAR Environmental, Climate Outreach, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, the UNFCCC women and gender constituency and the YOUNGO constituency.

24. Reflecting on the methodologies for monitoring, evaluation and reporting of ACE implementation presented in session 1, participants emphasized the need to find more effective ways to measure behavioural change given that ACE is about empowering people to take more ambitious climate action. Monitoring, evaluation and reporting of ACE implementation should capture efforts at all levels, including the efforts of local communities and Indigenous Peoples.

25. Participants noted that in order to evaluate the effectiveness of ACE implementation, a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods is required to capture the context-specific nature of ACE while ensuring progress is tracked and necessary adjustments are made to the implementation of ACE projects and initiatives. Both outputs and outcomes of ACE activities need to be measured, and relevant indicators need to be developed and applied consistently over time. In addition, communication and dissemination of monitoring and evaluation outcomes and results is crucial for showcasing good practices and identifying areas requiring improvement and/or support.

26. Participants highlighted the lack of common definitions of the ACE elements, data for setting baselines for ACE implementation at all levels, capacity and resources to track progress of implementation over time, access to relevant data and information (owing to language and technology limitations) and balance in monitoring and evaluation of implementation across the six ACE elements, as well as the variation in ACE implementation at all levels, as key gaps and barriers in the monitoring, evaluation and reporting of ACE implementation and its effectiveness.

27. Participants discussed the following actions to enhance monitoring, evaluation and reporting of ACE implementation and its effectiveness, taking into consideration the linkages of monitoring, evaluation and reporting with the other priority areas under the Glasgow work programme, namely policy coherence, coordinated action, and tools and support:

(a) Mainstreaming ACE in climate policies and projects, including by setting ACE-related baselines, goals and indicators under national climate change frameworks and in action plans to allow for data collection through existing institutional structures and processes;

(b) Using national ACE strategies to establish a monitoring and evaluation framework specifically for ACE implementation at the national level, and sharing experience and good practices from this process among countries, which could facilitate setting baselines at the international level;

(c) Identifying relevant ACE indicators under other international frameworks and processes, such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Greening Education Partnership, with a view to streamlining data collection and analysis processes and adapting relevant monitoring and evaluation methodologies that can be applied to ACE implementation at all levels;

(d) Enhancing multilevel and multisectoral coordination within countries and building partnerships among government bodies, civil society organizations, research institutions, United Nations agencies, youth networks and other stakeholders in order to establish appropriate mechanisms for monitoring, evaluation and reporting of ACE implementation;

(e) Identifying and empowering stakeholders at all levels, but especially at the local level, to contribute directly to the monitoring, evaluation and reporting of ACE implementation, including by using a participatory and bottom-up approach to data collection and reporting, raising awareness of how stakeholder action contributes to ACE, and creating opportunities for stakeholder dialogue, learning and collaboration;

(f) Fostering knowledge- and information-sharing on ACE initiatives and activities at all levels, including by developing a database or platform for collecting and disseminating quantitative and qualitative ACE-related information and encouraging international exchange of experience, particularly among national ACE focal points;

(g) Providing financial and technical support, including to national ACE focal points, to enable or strengthen monitoring, evaluation and reporting of ACE implementation.

#### **4. Closure**

28. In closing the Dialogue, the UNFCCC Executive Secretary emphasized that ACE plays a fundamental role in achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement by helping to change people's mindsets and promoting accelerated and ambitious action. A whole-of-society approach is needed to deliver crucial social and economic transformation. ACE must be used to its full potential to inform policies, drive inclusive action and ensure accountability for mitigation and adaptation.

29. A representative of the incoming COP 28 Presidency highlighted the United Arab Emirates' commitment to engaging and empowering everyone across all sectors and segments of society in climate action. The Presidency will prioritize ACE and inclusion through efforts to empower communities around the world, especially young people, with knowledge and training in the lead-up to COP 28 so that all stakeholders can participate in the climate change decision-making process more effectively and equitably.

#### **5. Action for Climate Empowerment Gallery**

30. The first-ever poster session on ACE and youth, the ACE Gallery, took place at SB 58 to showcase multilevel and multi-stakeholder ACE activities and foster further engagement and collaboration within the ACE community, including through in-person interaction between the poster submitters and session participants.

31. Following an open call for expressions of interest, the secretariat selected 35 posters to be exhibited, including 6 from Parties and 4 from constituted bodies. Of those posters, 16 highlighted youth-led or -focused initiatives and projects.<sup>13</sup>

### **III. Practices and resources for monitoring, evaluation and reporting of the implementation of Action for Climate Empowerment**

32. The action plan under the Glasgow work programme includes a request for the secretariat to compile monitoring, evaluation and reporting best practices and resources and

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<sup>13</sup> All posters are available at <https://unfccc.int/ace-gallery-2023>.



make such information available to Parties for use for their reporting on ACE activities on a voluntary basis (activity D.1).

33. In addition to the practices presented at the 2023 ACE Dialogue detailed in paragraph 21 above, a non-exhaustive list of practices and resources is contained in annex III. This list is based on inputs from relevant submissions from Parties and non-Party stakeholders and discussions at the ACE Dialogue and other events.

## **IV. National Action for Climate Empowerment focal points**

### **A. Number of focal points**

34. Under the Glasgow work programme, Parties are 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.<sup>14</sup>

35. As at 31 August 2023, 139 Parties had appointed one or more national ACE focal points, 22 of which during the reporting period, of which 8 were the first such focal point and 14 were appointed to replace an existing focal point. Some Parties had appointed two national ACE focal points, one being the main focal point and the other an alternate.<sup>15</sup>

### **B. Focal point academy**

36. Under the Glasgow work programme, the secretariat is requested to 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.<sup>16</sup>

37. The action plan under the Glasgow work programme includes a further request to the secretariat to provide capacity-building opportunities for national ACE focal points (activity C.1).

38. The ACE focal point academy under the ACE Hub<sup>17</sup> provides hands-on and interactive training modules whose topics are based on needs identified by national ACE focal points and negotiators. It also provides a forum for showcasing good practices and for peers and experts in relevant fields to interact. During the reporting period, the secretariat organized two sessions of the academy:

(a) The first session, held virtually in October 2022, focused on strengthening the network of national ACE focal points, building capacity to develop and implement national ACE strategies, and meaningfully engaging youth at the national level. The session was attended by 30 national ACE focal points and representatives of 24 countries and supported by experts from Care About Climate, FIIAPP, the NDC Partnership and UNITAR,<sup>18</sup>

(b) The second session, held in person and virtually during SB 58, continued the peer-to-peer exchange and discussion around national ACE strategies and meaningful youth engagement. Given the focus of the 2023 ACE Dialogue, the session provided skills-building opportunities for monitoring, evaluation and reporting of ACE implementation. The session was delivered in collaboration with the MECCE Project, UNITAR and the YOUNGO

<sup>14</sup> Decisions 18/CP.26, annex, para. 8; and 22/CMA.3, annex, para. 8.

<sup>15</sup> A list of national ACE focal points is available at <https://unfccc.int/topics/education-youth/national-ace-focal-points>.

<sup>16</sup> Decisions 18/CP.26, annex, para. 11(a)(i); and 22/CMA.3, annex, para. 11(a)(i).

<sup>17</sup> The ACE Hub is a three-year collaboration launched in 2022 with the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Industry, Climate Action and Energy of the German State of North Rhine-Westphalia, focused on supporting meaningful youth engagement in climate policy and action and enhancing cooperation on addressing climate change matters between governments, non-Party stakeholders, and organizations, experts and companies in North Rhine-Westphalia. See <https://unfccc.int/ace-hub>.

<sup>18</sup> See <https://unfccc.int/ace-hub/national-ace-focal-points-academy#2022>.

constituency and was attended by 48 national ACE focal points and representatives of 37 countries.<sup>19</sup>

### **C. Informal networking events**

39. The action plan under the Glasgow work programme includes a request for the secretariat to increase peer-to-peer exchange among national ACE focal points about ACE activities at the national level through, among others, informal virtual networking meetings (activity B.2).

40. During the reporting period, the secretariat organized three informal networking events:

(a) In-person networking on 14 November 2022 during COP 27, which provided members of the United Nations Alliance on Action for Climate Empowerment an opportunity to discuss ongoing and planned ACE activities and network with national ACE focal points to discuss potential collaboration;

(b) Virtual networking on 4 April 2023, where the secretariat presented plans for the subsequent ACE Dialogue and ACE focal point academy and gathered inputs thereon, invited the ACE focal points of the United Arab Emirates to share the national ACE road map, and facilitated peer-to-peer exchange on ACE activities at the national level;

(c) Virtual networking on 1 August 2023, which focused on enhancing coordination and synergies in promoting climate change education at the national level. A representative of UNESCO introduced the Greening Education Partnership, and national ACE focal points discussed how interministerial institutional arrangements can be established or strengthened to promote ACE implementation.

### **D. Support for participation in international meetings**

41. The action plan under the Glasgow work programme includes a request for the secretariat to report on the provision of support, including financial support, for the participation of national ACE focal points in international meetings such as the ACE Dialogues and the sessions of the subsidiary bodies and the COP (activity C.3).

42. Of the 13 national ACE focal points or their nominated representatives who received support from the secretariat, FIIAPP, the MECCE Project or UNITAR to participate in, among others, SB 58, the ACE focal point academy and the 2023 ACE Dialogue, 7 were from Africa, 4 Latin America and the Caribbean and 2 Asia and the Pacific.

## **V. Information from Party communications and reports submitted to the UNFCCC**

43. Under the Glasgow work programme, Parties are encouraged to strengthen integration of ACE into national climate policies, plans, strategies and action, and invited to provide information in national communications and other reports on activities and policies involving ACE implementation, including accomplishments, lessons learned, experience, and challenges and opportunities.<sup>20</sup>

44. According to the 2022 NDC synthesis report,<sup>21</sup> in the new or updated NDCs Parties generally communicated more clearly, and in more detail, than previously on general principles, past achievements, future commitments, and needs and gaps in relation to ACE. More Parties explicitly referred to ACE in their NDCs as a necessary means of mobilizing

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<sup>19</sup> See <https://unfccc.int/ace-hub/national-ace-focal-points-academy#2023>.

<sup>20</sup> Decisions 18/CP.26, annex, paras. 7 and 15(a); and 22/CMA.3, annex, paras. 7 and 15(a).

<sup>21</sup> FCCC/PA/CMA/2022/4, para. 119. Published on 26 October 2022, the report covers the 166 latest available NDCs communicated by the 193 Parties to the Paris Agreement and recorded in the NDC registry as at 23 September 2022.

and empowering society to deliver the mitigation and adaptation objectives outlined in their NDCs.

45. As at 31 August 2023, 19 Parties had submitted new or updated NDCs since the publication of the 2022 synthesis report. The secretariat will analyse those NDCs and include the findings in the next iteration of the synthesis report, for consideration at CMA 5.

46. According to the 2022 synthesis report on Parties' LT-LEDS,<sup>22</sup> almost all strategies provided information on using one or more elements of ACE to ensure the effective implementation of mitigation and adaptation measures and acknowledged those elements as indispensable tools for mobilizing all sectors of society towards achieving the long-term goals set out in the strategies. Parties recognized that the transition to a low-emission economy and society could only be achieved with a collective long-term vision in which all members of society, including children and youth, are educated and empowered to make climate-conscious decisions and in which the current and future workforces are fully equipped with the skills necessary to address the climate crisis.

47. As at 31 August 2023, 17 Parties had submitted new or updated LT-LEDS since the publication of the 2022 synthesis report. The secretariat will analyse those strategies and include the findings in the next iteration of the synthesis report, for consideration at CMA 5.

48. In submissions received from Parties during the reporting period:

(a) Australia shared national government initiatives related to youth participation and engagement in climate processes, including establishing a youth advisory group on climate change and promoting youth participation in Australia's pavilion at COP sessions;

(b) Canada provided a non-exhaustive list of federal government initiatives for implementing the Glasgow work programme, including establishing a youth council to advise the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, promoting the participation and engagement of youth delegates in COP sessions, training scientists on communications and public engagement and outreach, providing financial support to organizations to promote climate literacy, and improving the accessibility of climate change data and science to the public;

(c) The Central African Republic presented an overview of its implementation of the six ACE elements. A communication strategy was developed for 2021–2025 to inform and raise the awareness of the public about the revised NDC. The strategy will be supplemented by a detailed implementation plan that will allow for annual tracking of progress of NDC targets against a set of indicators;

(d) The European Union and its member States outlined a wide array of ACE initiatives and projects, particularly raising awareness by organizing campaigns, competitions and awards at different levels. Significant efforts are being made to engage the public, including youth, in decision-making through dialogues, forums and round tables. Finland referred to its Climate Act, which includes provisions on involving the public, including Indigenous Peoples, in developing national climate policies and making relevant information publicly accessible;

(e) Panama mentioned that it is developing a national ACE strategy and actively shares relevant experience at the regional and international level. The Government provides capacity-building opportunities for young people, such as the Academy on Climate Change for Young Leaders to enhance their understanding of climate change issues and enable them to contribute to ambitious climate action, and the Operation COP: Youth Climate Ambassadors initiative, in partnership with the Climate Reality Project, to train young people to participate in COP sessions as negotiators;

(f) The Sudan reported on its national ACE strategy, prepared in consultation with stakeholders, which contains activities related to training teachers and local communities; mainstreaming climate change in school curricula; and building relevant capacity of children,

<sup>22</sup> FCCC/PA/CMA/2022/8, para. 170. Published on 26 October 2022, the report covers the 53 latest available LT-LEDS, representing 62 Parties to the Paris Agreement, submitted to the secretariat as at 23 September 2022.

youth and women and engaging them in climate decision-making and action. The Sudan underscored its need for technical and financial support to implement the strategy;

(g) The United States highlighted climate change education and training activities of subnational and non-governmental stakeholders, including local communities and Indigenous Peoples. For instance, the Smithsonian Institution is partnering with Gallup, a workplace consultancy firm, to conduct a needs assessment of schoolteachers for climate change education, which will inform the educational resources to be developed by the Institution. State governments provide funding to support climate change education initiatives.

49. The secretariat is requested in the action plan under the Glasgow work programme to identify good practices for integrating ACE elements into national climate change policies, plans, strategies and action, including the considerations reflected in the eleventh preambular paragraph of the Paris Agreement – which, acknowledging that climate change is a common concern of humankind, states that Parties should, when taking action to address climate change, respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights, the right to health, the rights of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, migrants, children, persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations and the right to development, as well as gender equality, empowerment of women and intergenerational equity – in the context of ACE (activity A.2).

50. In response, the secretariat identified the following references to public participation from a review of the NDCs and LT-LEDS submitted:

(a) In NDCs:<sup>23</sup>

(i) Most Parties referred to formal arrangements in place for consulting stakeholders, including the general public, local communities, Indigenous Peoples, private entities, business and trade associations, civil society organizations, youth associations, women's associations, regional development partners, academia and research communities. Almost all of those Parties indicated that they conducted such consultation and engagement processes in an inclusive and participatory manner;<sup>24</sup>

(ii) Regarding gender equality and the empowerment of women, many Parties referenced gender-sensitive consultations in their NDCs, referring to specific guidelines for ensuring gender sensitivity, such as during public consultations, and highlighted the inclusion of national gender machineries, gender and women's groups, or non-governmental organizations in the consultation process;<sup>25</sup>

(iii) Regarding the rights of Indigenous Peoples, some Parties outlined in their NDCs how Indigenous Peoples were engaged in NDC preparation, through consultations on sectoral proposals, risk assessment and analysis of Indigenous knowledge;<sup>26</sup>

(iv) Regarding the rights of children, while some Parties reported on engaging youth in NDC development, only a few reported on engaging children in the process. A few Parties mentioned intergenerational equity explicitly as a cross-cutting consideration or principle in implementing climate policy and action towards NDC implementation;<sup>27</sup>

(b) In LT-LEDS:

(i) Parties highlighted engagement with various stakeholder groups in relation to the LT-LEDS preparation process and implementation plan, including with youth in

<sup>23</sup> The following terms from the NDC synthesis report (FCCC/PA/CMA/2022/4) are used in this paragraph to indicate the percentage of Parties whose NDCs mention particular information: "a few" for less than 10 per cent; "some" for 10–40 per cent; "many" for 41–70 per cent; "most" for 71–90 per cent; and "almost all" for more than 90 per cent.

<sup>24</sup> FCCC/PA/CMA/2022/4, para. 102.

<sup>25</sup> FCCC/PA/CMA/2022/4, para. 102.

<sup>26</sup> FCCC/PA/CMA/2022/4, para. 114.

<sup>27</sup> According to an analysis of the submitted NDCs conducted for this report.

47 per cent, women in 40 per cent and Indigenous communities in 28 per cent of LT-LEDS;<sup>28</sup>

(ii) Of the LT-LEDS, 2 per cent report on engaging children in the LT-LEDS preparation process, while 11 per cent explicitly refer to intergenerational equity.<sup>29</sup>

## VI. Implementation of Action for Climate Empowerment by UNFCCC constituted bodies

51. Under the Glasgow work programme, all constituted bodies are invited to include in their regular reports information on how ACE is implemented under their respective workstreams.<sup>30</sup>

52. The 10 constituted bodies<sup>31</sup> that submitted their regular reports during the reporting period included information on the implementation of ACE and its elements, particularly concerning public awareness, participation and access to information.

53. The action plan under the Glasgow work programme includes a request for the secretariat to identify good practices for integrating the six ACE elements into the work of the constituted bodies (activity A.1). In this regard:

(a) Most of the constituted bodies referred in their regular reports to dedicated strategies or plans for communications, outreach and engagement that contribute to efforts relating to enhancing public awareness, participation and access to information;

(b) The Facilitative Working Group organized the annual round table for youth at COP 27. The two sessions of the round table focused on enhancing youth engagement in designing and implementing climate policy and action, where the first part allowed for cross-regional knowledge-sharing among Indigenous youth and youth from local communities<sup>32</sup> and the second part fostered a dialogue on the topic between youth participants and Party representatives and other stakeholders;<sup>33</sup>

(c) On the basis of an analysis of the needs of the least developed countries, the Least Developed Countries Expert Group is mapping available sources of finance for adaptation, including for ACE-related activities, within the framework of supporting the least developed countries in formulating and implementing national adaptation plans;

(d) Being one of the cross-cutting issues that it regularly considers, the Paris Committee on Capacity-building incorporated ACE into its monitoring and evaluation framework and intends to include in its regular reports information on ACE implementation under its workplan. To ensure that cross-cutting issues are mainstreamed across the programme of its Capacity-building Hub, the Committee appointed an ACE expert for the first time in 2022 to contribute to the 4<sup>th</sup> Capacity-building Hub and serve on the Hub's steering committee. The 4<sup>th</sup> Capacity-building Hub, held at COP 27, featured the thematic Building Capacities with ACE Day.<sup>34</sup>

54. Recognizing the importance of promoting coherence and coordination of work on ACE and youth under the UNFCCC, the secretariat conducted an internal knowledge

<sup>28</sup> FCCC/PA/CMA/2022/8, para. 165.

<sup>29</sup> According to an analysis of the submitted LT-LEDS conducted for this report.

<sup>30</sup> Decisions 18/CP.26, annex, para. 6(a); and 22/CMA.3, annex, para. 6(a).

<sup>31</sup> Adaptation Committee, Advisory Board of the Climate Technology Centre and Network, Consultative Group of Experts, Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts, Katowice Committee of Experts on the Impacts of the Implementation of Response Measures, Least Developed Countries Expert Group, Paris Committee on Capacity-building, Standing Committee on Finance, Supervisory Body and Technology Executive Committee.

<sup>32</sup> See <https://lcipp.unfccc.int/events/lcipp-annual-youth-round-table-part-i-exchange-amongst-indigenous-youth-and-youth-local-communities>.

<sup>33</sup> See <https://lcipp.unfccc.int/events/lcipp-annual-youth-round-table-part-ii-dialogue-parties-and-other-stakeholders>.

<sup>34</sup> See <https://unfccc.int/pccb/4CBHub/ACEDay>.

exchange on 15 February 2023 among its staff supporting the constituted bodies and relevant workstreams. Discussions centred on the ongoing mandates related to ACE and youth, related activities planned for 2023, related reports and knowledge products, and planned or potential collaboration with the YOUNGO constituency and youth organizations.

## VII. United Nations Alliance on Action for Climate Empowerment

55. Under the Glasgow work programme, the secretariat and other United Nations and intergovernmental organizations are encouraged 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.<sup>35</sup>

56. The secretariat prepares an annual summary of its collaborative activities, initiatives and programmes with United Nations organizations, convention secretariats and international organizations. The latest report provides information on such activities between May 2022 and April 2023.<sup>36</sup>

57. The United Nations Alliance on Action for Climate Empowerment is an informal network of United Nations entities that aims to support Parties in designing, initiating and undertaking activities related to climate change education and public awareness, training, public participation and access to information. According to information on Alliance activities available to the secretariat:

(a) UNESCO launched a report on its global survey of more than 17,000 young people from 166 countries in 2022, which indicated that 70 per cent of young people question the quality of their climate change education.<sup>37</sup> Subsequently, UNESCO convened a dialogue between ministers of education and climate change and young people at COP 27 to discuss ways to transform education to tackle climate change.<sup>38</sup> UNESCO also launched the Greening Education Partnership in September 2022 with the aim of delivering strong, coordinated and comprehensive action that will enable every learner to acquire the required knowledge, skills, values and attitude to tackle climate change and promote sustainable development;<sup>39</sup>

(b) UNITAR provided direct support to countries for developing and implementing national climate change learning strategies, and in addition, convened a regional meeting on strengthening climate change education in West Africa on 6 June 2023. Representatives of countries in the region and of a regional training centre took part in a discussion around the promotion of ACE in West Africa, including on a declaration on climate change education to be presented at COP 28.<sup>40</sup>

58. During the reporting period, the secretariat:

(a) Convened three informal meetings of the Alliance, including in person at COP 27 and SB 58;

(b) Co-organized with UNESCO a series of six webinars on climate change education for social transformation as part of the ACE Hub;<sup>41</sup>

(c) Joined the Greening Education Partnership as a member of its advisory group.

<sup>35</sup> Decisions 18/CP.26, annex, para 6(c); and 22/CMA.3, annex, para. 6(c).

<sup>36</sup> FCCC/SBSTA/2023/INF.1.

<sup>37</sup> See <https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/cop27-unesco-launches-global-survey-report-youth-demands-climate-change-education-mobilizes?hub=72522>.

<sup>38</sup> The webcast of the event is available at [https://unfccc-events.azureedge.net/COP27\\_89387/agenda](https://unfccc-events.azureedge.net/COP27_89387/agenda).

<sup>39</sup> See <https://www.unesco.org/en/education-sustainable-development/greening-future>.

<sup>40</sup> See <https://www.uncclearn.org/news/advancing-action-for-climate-empowerment-at-sb58/>.

<sup>41</sup> See <https://unfccc.int/topics/education-youth/ace-hub/unesco-unfccc-webinar-series>.

## VIII. Action by non-Party stakeholders

59. Under the Glasgow work programme, United Nations agencies, intergovernmental organizations and other non-Party stakeholders are invited to submit information to the secretariat on ACE implementation at all levels.<sup>42</sup> In the submissions and information communicated to the secretariat during the reporting period:

(a) Cornell University introduced its in-depth research and work on developing policy reports on gaps in knowledge on adaptation in Peru, Tonga and Zambia under the UN Climate Change and Universities Partnership Programme. In addition, to educate students and the public on climate change, the University provides climate change education programmes in partnership with students, other universities and local communities;

(b) Curating Tomorrow, a museums consultancy, highlighted three museum-related activities in support of the Glasgow work programme: an open-access guide on ACE implementation for galleries, libraries, archives and museums; the Museums for Climate Action project, under which resources for promoting ACE in museums were developed and disseminated; and a Network of European Museum Organisations survey of European museums to evaluate the status of their transition towards sustainability and inform the development of relevant recommendations for policymakers;

(c) FIIAPP provided information on a regional meeting it organized in collaboration with the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development of Argentina. The regional meeting on ACE in Latin America, which was held under the EUROCLIMA+ programme from 4 to 6 October 2022, allowed countries in the region to showcase progress in developing national ACE strategies and fostered networking and collaboration among participants;

(d) The Ecology and Development Foundation presented “AmbiciónCOP”, an interactive online platform that facilitates access to information on initiatives announced or agreed on at COP sessions, including information in Spanish on participating countries or entities, commitments and key points, to enhance accountability in relation to these initiatives and help to avoid duplication of efforts;

(e) Indalo Inclusive South Africa provided information on its provision of technical and financial support to entrepreneurs, particularly women and youth-led enterprises in rural and township areas. It assists enterprises by providing capacity-building and education on climate change, including helping them to identify opportunities to strengthen climate change responses across value chains;

(f) The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions shed light on libraries’ unique position as public community spaces for lifelong learning, which can reach people of all demographics, champion access to information and enable public participation in climate policy and action. Since January 2022, the Federation has increased communication with its membership and network of library professionals worldwide to raise awareness of ACE, encourage greater action and advocacy in relation to ACE, and amplify action by library stakeholders at all levels to implement ACE;

(g) SLYCAN Trust Youth, a youth-led climate action and empowerment initiative, provided an overview of ACE activities carried out from 2022 to 2023 to empower youth at the forefront of climate change, including youth entrepreneurs; contribute to facilitating youth engagement in climate policy and action; and ensure access to vital climate information;

(h) Under the Africa Youth Mobilisation for COP campaign, initiated in 2022, the YOUNGO constituency shared information on the Africa Youth Climate Action Plan, which is aimed at monitoring and evaluating the implementation of priority actions that young people have put forward to governments in the region. A youth-led process to collect and analyse data that will be used in preparing the first assessment report under the action plan, to be launched at COP 28, is under way.

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<sup>42</sup> Decisions 18/CP.26, annex, para. 15(b); and 22/CMA.3, annex, para. 15(b).

60. The action plan under the Glasgow work programme includes a request for the secretariat to report on the provision of support, including financial support, for the participation of non-Party stakeholders, including representatives of civil society organizations and community-based organizations, in international meetings such as the ACE Dialogues and the sessions of the subsidiary bodies and the COP (activity C.3). No relevant information on this support from Parties or non-Party stakeholders was communicated to the secretariat during the reporting period.

## **IX. Awareness-raising and communication**

61. Under the Glasgow work programme, the secretariat is requested to enhance communication and information-sharing about ACE and its six elements through existing UNFCCC web-based resources and relevant activities.<sup>43</sup>

62. Ten ACE newsletters were published during the reporting period, providing updates on events, activities and knowledge products on behalf of the secretariat, Parties, United Nations entities, intergovernmental, international and non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders.<sup>44</sup>

63. The secretariat launched the ACE LinkedIn group in February 2023 as a community of professionals, practitioners and learners to share good practices, resources and knowledge in relation to ACE. As at August 2023, the group had over 1,300 members.

64. The secretariat held an event entitled “How to engage with the UNFCCC” on 20 September 2022 as part of the ACE Hub during Climate Week New York City. The event showcased the ACE Hub as an example of regional collaboration with the UNFCCC that accelerates implementation of the Paris Agreement. Speakers highlighted the role of subnational governments and entities in climate action and encouraged regional and multi-stakeholder collaboration for ACE implementation.<sup>45</sup>

65. As part of the ACE Hub, the secretariat convened a networking reception with the Under2 Coalition at COP 27 for a diverse group of stakeholders to learn more about each other’s ACE initiatives.<sup>46</sup>

66. In addition, two information sessions during the reporting period served to update national ACE focal points and other stakeholders on matters relating to ACE and relevant mandated and side events taking place at COP 27 and SB 58.<sup>47</sup>

## **X. Youth engagement and capacity-building**

67. CMA 1 requested the secretariat to continue organizing awareness-raising campaigns and training activities to empower children and youth to support and lead climate action.<sup>48</sup>

68. COP 26 and CMA 3 acknowledged the growing interest and engagement of youth in climate action and the critical role of youth as agents of change and called for further enhancement of youth participation in climate change processes and in unleashing the potential of ACE.<sup>49</sup>

69. The secretariat collaborated closely with the YOUNGO constituency, in particular through regular biweekly meetings with the two global co-focal points of the constituency. Substantive teams in the secretariat also collaborated with various YOUNGO working groups. Youth engagement activities undertaken by the secretariat were organized in coordination

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<sup>43</sup> Decisions 18/CP.26, annex, para. 11(a)(iii); and 22/CMA.3, annex, para. 11(a)(iii).

<sup>44</sup> Available at <https://us1.campaign-archive.com/home/?u=d4003a912ec201b856f01e34f&id=1a83fe25a9>.

<sup>45</sup> See <https://unfccc.int/climate-week-new-york-city>.

<sup>46</sup> See <https://unfccc.int/action-for-climate-empowerment-networking-receptions>.

<sup>47</sup> Recordings in English, French and Spanish are available at <https://unfccc.int/topics/education-and-outreach/the-big-picture/education-and-outreach-in-the-negotiations>.

<sup>48</sup> Decision 17/CMA.1, para. 12(c).

<sup>49</sup> Preamble to decisions 18/CP.26 and 22/CMA.3.



with the YOUNGO constituency, enabling the effective participation and meaningful engagement of youth in UNFCCC activities.

### **A. Action for Climate Empowerment Hub**

70. The ACE Hackathon took place in Bonn from 26 to 28 September 2022 with the participation of 22 international and local young people from the German State of North Rhine-Westphalia. Under the theme of innovative solutions for clean energy at the local level, participants interacted with international and local experts and attended training sessions to develop ideas into implementable solutions.<sup>50</sup>

71. At the ACE Hub youth event held during SB 58, 48 international and local young people from North Rhine-Westphalia participated in capacity-building, collaboration and networking sessions to strengthen leadership and youth entrepreneurship in relation to ACE. Participants attended sessions on communication and advocacy, the interrelations between colonialism and climate change, and youth entrepreneurship.<sup>51</sup>

### **B. Youth4Capacity programme**

72. Launched in 2023 at Africa Climate Week and supported by the Italian Ministry of Environment and Energy Security, the aim of Youth4Capacity is to develop the climate-related capacity and knowledge of young people to support, develop and implement integrated and complementary approaches to climate action in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals and the Rio Conventions.<sup>52</sup>

73. On the margins of SB 58, the secretariat hosted a series of events, in collaboration with the Arab Youth Center, the Earth Day network, the International Renewable Energy Agency, UNITAR, the United Nations Development Programme and the Youth Advisory Council of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, focused on building youth capacity in relation to addressing loss and damage, accessing finance for climate action and participating in climate change decision-making processes.<sup>53</sup>

### **C. Support for Presidencies of the Conference of the Parties**

74. COP 26 invited the future COP Presidencies to facilitate the organization of an annual youth-led climate forum for dialogue between Parties and youth with the support of the secretariat and in collaboration with the YOUNGO constituency and other youth organizations.<sup>54</sup> The 2022 forum was convened on Youth and Future Generations Day at COP 27, where the YOUNGO constituency presented the Global Youth Statement and engaged in conversation with Party delegates on the issues of mitigation, just transition, adaptation, and loss and damage.<sup>55</sup>

75. In March 2023, the incoming COP 28 Presidency launched the International Youth Climate Delegate Program to expand youth participation from underrepresented groups in international climate negotiation processes. The Program is led by the COP 28 youth climate champion, in collaboration with the YOUNGO constituency.<sup>56</sup> The secretariat supported the development and delivery of capacity-building sessions for 100 young delegates who will be fully funded to attend COP 28. Recordings of the sessions will be made available on the UNFCCC website for the capacity-building of other stakeholders.

<sup>50</sup> See <https://unfccc.int/topics/education-youth/ace-hub/action-for-climate-empowerment-hackathon>.

<sup>51</sup> See <https://unfccc.int/action-for-climate-empowerment-hub-youth-event>.

<sup>52</sup> See <https://unfccc.int/topics/capacity-building/workstreams/youth4capacity#Activities>.

<sup>53</sup> See <https://unfccc.int/topics/capacity-building/negotiations/youth4capacity/youth4capacity-sb58>.

<sup>54</sup> Decision 1/CP.26, para. 65.

<sup>55</sup> See <https://unfccc.int/topics/education-youth/youth/youth-in-conferences/young-and-future-generations-day-at-cops/youth-and-future-generations-day-at-cop-27>.

<sup>56</sup> See <https://www.cop28.com/en/youth-international-delegates>.

## D. Regional collaboration centres

76. The Regional Collaboration Centre for Asia and the Pacific conducted climate negotiators training in 2023 under the Youth Empowerment in Climate Action Platform. In addition to virtual training sessions being held in the lead-up to COP 28, in-person training was held from 15 to 17 May in Bangkok; this training focused on the overall UNFCCC negotiation process, key topics of importance and interest to participants, and network-building among youth advocates.<sup>57</sup>

## E. Other youth-focused activities

77. In the lead-up to COP 27, the secretariat convened virtual capacity-building sessions for the YOUNGO constituency, where youth were provided with up-to-date information on the UNFCCC workstreams and opportunities to engage with secretariat staff.

78. Under the banner of #Together4Transparency, the secretariat hosted an event entitled “Transparency and youth: opportunities to engage in the process and contribute to accountability by governments” at COP 27, which highlighted professional opportunities for youth to engage in transparency-related processes and activities.<sup>58</sup>

79. The 5<sup>th</sup> Capacity-building Talk, entitled “Enabling youth as agents of change: building youth capacities for climate action and implementation”, involved discussion of capacity-building needs and gaps identified and addressed by youth-led initiatives and sharing of good practices and recommendations for unlocking young people’s potential for climate action and retaining their capacity.<sup>59</sup>

80. To facilitate secretariat-wide engagement with youth, the secretariat organized two ‘brown bag’ lunch sessions during the reporting period in collaboration with the YOUNGO constituency. These sessions focused on strengthening youth voices in the UNFCCC process and provided the constituency’s co-focal points and working groups with an opportunity to share priorities and planned activities for 2023.

81. The secretariat hosted the first-ever orientation session for youth at SB 58, which provided young delegates, especially those attending a UNFCCC conference for the first time, with information on the negotiation process and youth-related events taking place at the sessions and allowed young delegates to connect with each other.<sup>60</sup>

## XI. Next steps

82. Parties and other stakeholders may wish to use the information in this report in planning, designing and implementing ACE and activities under the Glasgow work programme and its action plan.

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<sup>57</sup> See <https://unfccc.int/yecap-climate-negotiators-training-2023>.

<sup>58</sup> See <https://unfccc.int/event/transparency-and-youth-opportunities-to-engage-in-the-process-and-contribute-to-accountability-by>.

<sup>59</sup> See <https://unfccc.int/event/5th-capacity-building-talk>.

<sup>60</sup> See <https://unfccc.int/topics/education-youth/youth/youth-events/orientation-session>.

## Annex I

### References to information in this report on mandated activities under the Glasgow work programme on Action for Climate Empowerment

[English only]

<i>Priority area</i>	<i>Reference in decisions 18/CP.26 and 22/CMA.3</i>	<i>Mandated activity</i>	<i>Relevant paragraph(s) of this report</i>
Policy coherence	annex, paragraph 6(a)	All constituted bodies invited to include in their regular reports information on how ACE is implemented under their respective workstreams	51–54
	annex, paragraph 6(b)	Presidencies of the COP and the CMA invited to convene an in-session event at each of their sessions 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	9–13
	annex, paragraph 6(c)	The secretariat and other United Nations and intergovernmental organizations encouraged to strengthen their collaboration with a view to ensuring provision of coordinated support to Parties for activities related to ACE and avoiding duplication of work	38, 40, 42 55–58
	annex, paragraph 7	Parties encouraged to strengthen integration of ACE into 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	38, 40, 43–50
	annex, paragraph 8	Parties 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	34–35
Coordinated action	paragraph 11(b) and annex, paragraph 9(a)	The SBI requested to hold an annual in-session ACE 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 progress of implementation of the Glasgow work programme and on its four priority areas	14–31
	annex, paragraph 9(b)	Annual youth forum organized in collaboration with children and youth organizations, including the YOUNGO constituency and other youth non-governmental organizations	74
	annex, paragraph 9(c)	Parties and non-Party stakeholders invited to develop international, regional and national programmes and activities, including preparing training and education materials and tools, using local languages where applicable and practical	48, 57, 59
	annex, paragraph 10(a)	Parties encouraged to prepare assessments of needs specific to national circumstances in the area of ACE implementation, including use of social research methods and other instruments to determine target audiences and partnerships	48
	annex, paragraph 10(b)	Parties encouraged to 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 stakeholders in relation to ACE implementation	40, 48
Tools and support	annex, paragraph 11(a)(i)	The secretariat requested to strengthen the network of national ACE focal points at the international and regional level, including by facilitating regular exchange of views, good practices and lessons learned to build and strengthen capacity and skills, and by facilitating peer support for ACE implementation	30–31, 36–40

<i>Priority area</i>	<i>Reference in decisions 18/CP.26 and 22/CMA.3</i>	<i>Mandated activity</i>	<i>Relevant paragraph(s) of this report</i>
	annex, paragraph 11(a)(ii)	The secretariat requested to raise awareness of and promote bilateral and multilateral initiatives and programmes related to ACE implementation	30–31, 61–66
	annex, paragraph 11(a)(iii)	The secretariat requested to enhance communication and information-sharing about ACE and its six elements through existing UNFCCC web-based resources and relevant activities	30–31, 61–66
	annex, paragraph 11(b)	Relevant international organizations, including United Nations organizations, and other non-Party stakeholders invited to, inter alia, 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	38, 40, 42, 55–60
	annex, paragraph 12	Parties 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	48
	annex, paragraph 13	Parties encouraged to establish partnerships with other Parties, as well as with intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders, to facilitate ACE implementation	48, 57, 59
	annex, paragraph 14	Parties 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, such as by including youth in national delegations at UNFCCC meetings	38, 48
Monitoring, evaluation and reporting	annex, paragraph 15(a)	Parties invited to provide information in their national communications, where possible, and in other reports on activities and policies involving ACE implementation, including on accomplishments, lessons learned, experience, and challenges and opportunities, noting that the six ACE elements provide a useful guide for this reporting	43–50
	annex, paragraph 15(b)	United Nations agencies, intergovernmental organizations and other non-Party stakeholders invited 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	57, 59
	annex, paragraph 16	Parties encouraged to share with the public and 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; and to promote greater involvement of non-Party stakeholders to support them in monitoring, evaluating and reporting of ACE implementation	20

## Annex II

### References to information in this report on mandated activities under the action plan under the Glasgow work programme on Action for Climate Empowerment

[English only]

<i>Priority area</i>	<i>Activity<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>Responsible entity/entities</i>	<i>Deliverables/outputs</i>	<i>Relevant paragraph(s) of this report</i>
Policy coherence	A.1 Strengthening coordination of ACE work under the UNFCCC	Secretariat	Identifying good practices for integrating the six ACE elements into the work of the UNFCCC constituted bodies and reporting thereon in the annual summary report under the Glasgow work programme	51–54
	A.2 Strengthening integration of ACE into the development and implementation of national climate policies, plans, strategies and action	Secretariat	Identifying good practices for integrating the ACE elements into national climate change policies, plans, strategies and action, including the considerations reflected in the eleventh preambular paragraph of the Paris Agreement – which, acknowledging that climate change is a common concern of humankind, states that Parties should, when taking action to address climate change, respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights, the right to health, the rights of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, migrants, children, persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations and the right to development, as well as gender equality, empowerment of women and intergenerational equity – in the context of ACE, and reporting thereon in the annual summary report under the Glasgow work programme	43–50
		Relevant organizations	Facilitating voluntary peer-to-peer exchanges that serve to provide technical and substantive guidance to national ACE focal points for engaging in relevant national processes and policies, such as national ACE strategies, according to national circumstances	57, 59
Coordinated action	B.1 Enhancing regional cooperation through virtual and in-person regional dialogues, workshops and consultations, prior to the ACE Dialogues, taking advantage of existing forums, such as the regional collaboration centres and	Leading: relevant organizations, Parties Contributing: secretariat	Sharing experience and good practices from virtual and in-person regional dialogues, workshops and consultations prior to the ACE Dialogues, as appropriate	30–31, 57, 59

<i>Priority area</i>	<i>Activity<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>Responsible entity/entities</i>	<i>Deliverables/outputs</i>	<i>Relevant paragraph(s) of this report</i>
	regional climate weeks, as appropriate, to enhance implementation of the Glasgow work programme at the regional level as well as local ACE hubs building on local initiatives		Presenting the outcomes of regional activities at the ACE Dialogues and reporting thereon in the annual summary report under the Glasgow work programme and in ACE newsletters	
	B.2 Promoting the development of regional and local networks and platforms that support ACE activities at the regional, national and local level, encouraging the involvement of youth, women, academia, children, traditional leaders and Indigenous Peoples in developing and implementing ACE activities and providing capacity-building in this regard	Leading: secretariat Contributing: Parties, national ACE focal points, relevant organizations	Increasing peer-to-peer exchange among national ACE focal points about ACE activities carried out at the national level through, inter alia, the ACE Dialogues, the regional climate weeks and informal virtual networking meetings organized by the secretariat	14–31, 36–40
Tools and support	C.1 Building and strengthening the capacity and skills of national ACE focal points	Leading: secretariat Contributing: Parties, national ACE focal points, relevant organizations	Providing capacity-building opportunities for national ACE focal points, including at the ACE Dialogues and the regional climate weeks	36–40
	C.2 Meaningfully including youth in and engaging with them on climate action at all levels and facilitating the inclusive participation of, inter alia, children, women, Indigenous Peoples and persons with disabilities, in climate action, according to national circumstances	Relevant organizations, Parties  Leading: secretariat, relevant organizations Contributing: youth and youth organizations	Providing capacity-building opportunities for youth with a focus on decision-making and implementing climate action at the national and international level according to national circumstances  Providing opportunities for youth to present at ACE Dialogues and regional climate weeks to highlight the leadership role that youth play in climate action  Allowing youth to participate in networking sessions and capacity-building workshops for national ACE focal points	48, 57, 59  30–31, 38
	C.3 Enhancing multilevel action by national ACE focal points and non-Party stakeholders, including representatives of civil society organizations, youth-led and youth-inclusive organizations, community-based organizations, local communities and Indigenous Peoples	Leading: secretariat Providing input: Parties, relevant organizations, multilateral and bilateral financial institutions	Reporting in the annual summary report under the Glasgow work programme on the provision of support, including financial support, for the participation of national ACE focal points and non-Party stakeholders, including representatives of civil society organizations and community-based organizations, in international meetings such as the ACE Dialogues and the sessions of the subsidiary bodies and the COP	41–42, 60

<i>Priority area</i>	<i>Activity<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>Responsible entity/entities</i>	<i>Deliverables/outputs</i>	<i>Relevant paragraph(s) of this report</i>
Monitoring, evaluation and reporting	D.1 Strengthening monitoring, evaluation and reporting of the implementation of all six ACE elements	Leading: secretariat Contributing: relevant organizations, research community	Compiling monitoring, evaluation and reporting best practices and resources and making such information available to Parties for use for their reporting on ACE activities on a voluntary basis, and reporting thereon in the annual summary report under the Glasgow work programme	20–22, 32–33, annex III
	D.2 Enhancing understanding of what constitutes high-quality and effective evaluation of ACE activities, according to national circumstances	Secretariat, Parties, national ACE focal points, relevant organizations, research community	Organizing interactive workshops at all levels, including at the ACE Dialogue in 2023, with experts, national ACE focal points, youth leaders and other stakeholders to discuss ways of assessing the effectiveness of ACE implementation	14–31

<sup>a</sup> See the annex to decisions 23/CP.27 and 22/CMA.4.

## Annex III

### Practices and resources for monitoring, evaluation and reporting of the implementation of Action for Climate Empowerment

[English only]

<i>Category</i>	<i>Level</i>	<i>Party/organization</i>	<i>Details</i>
Indicator/ metric/ scoreboard	International	MECCE Project	Open-access platform for research-based global ACE indicators based on non-self-reported high-quality data sources <sup>a</sup>
	International	Times Higher Education	Global ranking of universities assessed against their contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals, taking into account research on climate action, use of energy and preparations for dealing with the consequences of climate change <sup>b</sup>
	National	Canada	Design of a metric to assess open access to climate change science publications and yearly reporting on progress against existing metrics that measure how science-based departments and agencies implement open science under the National Action Plan on Open Government, which has a milestone of making climate change science more open and accessible <sup>c</sup>
	National	Dominican Republic	Integration of indicators and targets for ACE into the NDC and its 2022–2025 action plan (see para. 21(b) of this document)
Survey/ mapping/ inventory/ platform	International	Climate Watch, United Nations Children’s Fund	Analysis and presentation on an online tracking and visualization tool of ACE and child-sensitive commitments from NDCs <sup>d</sup>
	International	UNESCO	Survey of nearly 17,500 young people from 166 countries on their perception of and demands for quality climate change education (see para. 57(a) of this document)
	International, national	Yale Program on Climate Change Communication	Research on public opinion and messaging related to climate change at various levels, using surveys, experiments, qualitative methods, statistical models, maps and participatory geographic information systems, among other models <sup>e</sup>
	Regional	United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean	Clearing house of policy instruments, legislation and treaties relating to public participation and access to information <sup>f</sup>
	Regional	Knowledge Network on Climate Assemblies	Mapping of national and local climate assemblies across Europe and sharing of good practices for designing and implementing climate assemblies <sup>g</sup>
	National	Education4Climate	Inventory generated with an automated algorithm of courses and training offered in higher-education institutions and list of professors who teach relevant subjects in Belgium <sup>h</sup>
	National	Sweden	National survey since 2002 on public knowledge and attitudes regarding different paths to a climate-neutral society and opinions about different climate solutions over time (see para. 21(a) of this document)
	National	Trinidad and Tobago	Online platform for information on ACE activities by various stakeholder groups in the country (see para. 21(d) of this document)



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	National	United States	Inventory of climate training, classes and professional development opportunities provided by federal departments and agencies (see para. 21(e) of this document)
Case study	International	MECCE Project, UNESCO	Country profiles on national laws and policies related to climate change education and communication (see para. 21(c) of this document)
	National, subnational	MECCE Project	Funded case studies to improve understanding of how high-quality ACE policies and practices address holistic, cultural and regional factors and to explore the impacts of high-quality ACE <sup>i</sup>
	Subnational	ClimeTime	Project profiles on successes and lessons learned in local and state-wide projects on climate change in the State of Washington, United States of America <sup>j</sup>
Report	International	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe	Guidance and format for the reporting mechanism under the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters <sup>k</sup>
	International	UNESCO	Reporting on the implementation of the 1974 Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, including aspects relating to education for sustainable development and climate change education <sup>l</sup>
	National	Thailand	Annual reporting on progress in implementing the six ACE elements at the national level

<sup>a</sup> See <https://mecce.ca/data-platform/indicators/>.

<sup>b</sup> See <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/student/best-universities/top-universities-climate-action>.

<sup>c</sup> See <https://search.open.canada.ca/nap5/record/2023-06.C01.3.1> and <https://search.open.canada.ca/nap5/record/2023-06.C01.3.2>.

<sup>d</sup> See [https://www.climatewatchdata.org/ndcs-explore?category=ace\\_commitments](https://www.climatewatchdata.org/ndcs-explore?category=ace_commitments).

<sup>e</sup> See <https://climatecommunication.yale.edu/>.

<sup>f</sup> See <https://observatoriop10.cepal.org/en>.

<sup>g</sup> See <https://knoca.eu>.

<sup>h</sup> See <https://education4climate.be/?lang=en>.

<sup>i</sup> See <https://mecce.ca/data-platform/case-studies/>.

<sup>j</sup> See <https://www.climetime.org/>.

<sup>k</sup> See <https://unece.org/environment-policy/public-participation/reporting-mechanism-1>.

<sup>l</sup> The latest consolidated report, which includes, for the first time, global indicators for monitoring progress towards Sustainable Development Goal targets 4.7.1 and 13.3.1, is available at <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000379320.locale=en>.