

# Food Systems at COP29

## **Introduction & Disclaimer**

This document is not an official communication. Its purpose is to share some information that I hope will be useful to friends in food systems who are engaging in any way with COP29. It may not be comprehensive. Mistakes are possible (although I hope will be infrequent!). Some of it is subjective. Everything is subject to change.


So, with all those caveats, please use and share freely. All feedback, corrections, additions welcome. You all have Comment access to this document, or you can contact me directly with your thoughts ([ocamp@gainhealth.org](mailto:ocamp@gainhealth.org) or via the [WhatsApp](#) and [LinkedIn](#) shares).

Oh, and if we haven't met, allow me to introduce myself. Or, rather, to refer you to the last time that I did: [Oliver Camp on LinkedIn](#). Thanks, and see you in Baku - I'll be there throughout!

## **Getting around this document**

Please use the Document Outline function like a contents page to jump to relevant sections. For background, you may wish to read this [Food Systems at COP28 Debrief](#) - as this document intentionally does not cover old ground.

## **Sharing & Collaboration**

Please feel free to share this document using the link below. Anyone using this link will have Comment-only access:  [Food Systems at COP29: Live Document](#)

To follow ongoing news and updates, please join the [Food Systems at COP29 WhatsApp Group](#). Sharing with colleagues and friends is actively encouraged. This is the main place for ad hoc updates, news, insights, and intel.

We try to limit personal requests (passes, accommodation, funding) so that the group maintains focus on substantive issues of significant collective interest.

You should also be aware that sharing individual side events is not permitted in the WhatsApp Group, for reasons that I hope will become apparent on the next page...

## Food Systems at COP29 Master Schedule

Some COP first-timers may underestimate the complexity, and even seasoned veterans often feel they're only scratching the surface. There is no single agenda, like at a normal conference. There are thousands of events happening across the negotiations, mandated events, Presidency agenda, UNFCCC side event stages, and in the hundreds of Pavilions in the Blue Zone and Green Zone - not to mention external side-events, receptions, meetings and more. You'll need to keep your eyes open across all those agendas (as relevant for you) to see where you want to be.

However, our act of service to the community is the Food Systems at COP Master Schedule. We created one last year that ultimately had more than 750 events on food. This year, we're refining the approach to make it easier to use and navigate. So:

- Here's the link to the Food Systems at COP29 [Master Schedule](#) as a View-Only Airtable in Calendar View.
- Here is the same Food Systems at COP29 [Master Schedule](#), again View-Only, but this time in Grid View (which personally I find rather easier to navigate).
- If you're organising a side event, you are actively encouraged to use [this form](#) to add to the schedule.

### **Schedules and Agendas (to be) included in the Master Schedule are as follows:**

|                             |                                 |                            |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Negotiations (11/11)        | COP29 - European                | MALAYSIA PAVILION COP29    |
| Mandated events (11/11)     | Commission                      | COP29 Arctic Pavilion      |
| Presidency Programme        | Multilevel Action &             | German Climate Pavilion    |
| UNFCCC (SEORS)              | Urbanization Pavilion at        | IsDB Group at COP29        |
| FAO at COP29                | COP29                           | Water for Climate Pavilion |
| Health Pavilion             | Showcasing in the UK            | COP29 - We Mean Business   |
| Marrakech Partnership &     | Pavilion at COP29               | Coalition                  |
| HLCs                        | Mediterranean Pavilion          | COP29 (African Pavilion,   |
| ActionOnFood Hub            | The Nordic Co-operation         | Africa Day, Side-Events)   |
| IICA Pavilion               | <a href="#">Business Sweden</a> | Japan Pavilion             |
| Food & Agriculture Pavilion | COP Resilience Hub              | UN SDG Pavilion            |
| World Bank Pavilion         | Denmark at COP29                | Climate Fund Pavilion      |
| Just Transition Pavilion    | COP 29   WWF                    | Methane Action Hub         |
| Ocean Pavilion              | Joint MDB Pavilion              | Pavillion                  |
|                             | COP29 Singapore Pavilion        | Australia Pavilion         |

*This is work in progress but will be as comprehensive as reasonably possible by 11th November!*

## Strategic Opportunities & Entry Points

Opportunities for influence and impact around the UNFCCC process break down into two main areas: Global and National.

The **global opportunities** relate to consensus reached under the formal negotiations and mandated events of the UNFCCC. The more ambitious, robust, detailed, and comprehensive the global consensus, the greater the potential impact in the follow-up.

The **national opportunities** relate to member state action - whether that's linked to the UNFCCC process (e.g. producing strong Nationally Determined Contributions and National Adaptation Plans), an initiative of the COP Presidency or a group of countries (e.g. the Alliance of Champions on Food Systems Transformation), or entirely of their own accord.

Other reasons to engage with the process include:

- Sharing research, content, and narratives that contribute to the food systems transformation agenda
- Learning from other organisations active in food systems transformation; developing new partnerships

Under **Global Opportunities** (formal negotiations and mandated events):

Please see Seb's fantastic overview of food in the negotiations [here](#).

The **Sharm Joint Work** (the key negotiations on agriculture and food security) [made progress in Bonn at SB60 in June 2024](#), with an agreement to hold two workshops over the next two years.

- The first (June 2025) will be on Systemic and Holistic Approaches to Implementation of Climate Action on Agriculture, Food Systems and Food Security, Understanding, Cooperation, and Integration into Plans.
- The second (June 2026) will be on Accessing Means of Implementation for Climate Action in Agriculture and Food Security, including Sharing of Best Practices.

Observer organisations can submit suggestions on topics, speakers, and formats for the workshops by 1st March 2025 and 1st March 2026 respectively via the UNFCCC online portal.

The SSJWA secretariat will also develop an online portal to collate information and best practices between SB60 (Bonn June 2024) and SB61 (COP29). A first version has been published ([here](#)) and is open for input and review.

The **New Collective Quantified Goal on climate finance** is probably the biggest issue on the table at COP29. This is the update to the \$100bn commitment from developed countries to developing countries. For now, a lot of the conversation is about the structure: who pays, who receives, how is

this coordinated, and (crucially) what types of finance are in scope of the NCQG goal (i.e. investments and loans or only grants; public and private or only public). At COP29, a total goal should be agreed.

This may be a watching brief for now, as the opportunity for food systems and nutrition may come later. When it does come, that opportunity could be to try to set a food-systems-specific sub-goal under the overall goal. We could use figures from FSEC, CERES, World Bank Recipe for a Liveable Planet, FOLU Growing Better, or any other authoritative source to suggest a reasonable amount of climate finance that should go to food systems transformation.

The **Global Goal on Adaptation** and the UAE-Belem Work Programme are critical elements of the negotiations, referring to the framework to set targets that will guide global adaptation efforts, and the follow-up to the Global Stocktake (respectively). For the GGA, an [initial framework](#) was agreed at COP28, but it needs to be enhanced with the addition of specific, quantified, measurable targets and indicators - including, crucially, indicators on food. The UNFCCC has gathered a group of technical experts to contribute to this process, and submissions are also possible through the official online portal. Partners have started drafting indicators ([here](#)).

Other tracks of the negotiations are listed below:

- the **Mitigation Work Programme**: primarily focusing on cities and built environments in 2024
- **Loss and Damage**: primarily focusing on the mobilisation of committed funds, additions to the fund, and operationalisation of the fund
- the **Just Transition Work Programme**
- **Article 6 on carbon markets**

Under the **mandated events**, the picture is much less complex. These are events on particular themes and issues (e.g. gender, children and young people, oceans, mountains, etc.), where countries share approaches and best practices. Nothing is agreed or negotiated for consensus, but these technical dialogues often help countries to improve their own national strategies. There are opportunities to submit topics for discussion within the mandated events, which we should consider as they arise. *Updated 30/10: still little detail on mandated events planned for COP.*

Under the **national opportunities** (direct engagement, initiatives, coalitions):

We should build on new and previous **Presidency Initiatives** (Harmonia, FAST, I-CAN, the Technical Cooperation Collaborative, the Convergence Initiative) and partner initiatives and other coalitions (the Alliance of Champions on Food Systems Transformation, One Planet Network SFS Programme,, WWF Food Forward NDCs, Healthy Diets Coalition, School Meals Coalition, Climate Resilient Food Systems Alliance, inter alia) to:

1. Support countries to strengthen action on food systems for both nutrition and climate
2. Showcase best practice and case study examples as inspiration for other countries
3. Further illustrate nutrition-climate win-wins through food systems

Countries are also submitting their first Biennial Transparency Reviews, which will provide insights into national-level progress towards stated goals. These will be important to watch, to baseline and to project future results.

We've collated country NDCs, NAPs, NBSAPs and UNCCD NAPs [at this link](#) for convenience.

**Other key themes on the table** are likely to include climate-nature/biodiversity links (given timing with [UNCBD COP16 in Cali](#)) - and, by extension, creating coherence between the NDCs and NAPs under the UNFCCC and the NBSAPs under the UNCBD.

**Other opportunities** at COP29 include participation in side events either on the UNFCCC side-event stages or at the various (and numerous) pavilions. They can be a good opportunity to strengthen partner relationships and share more technical information on projects and programmes, new research, or opportunities to accelerate progress.

One of the key flagship pieces of research expected at COP29 is the full version of the FAO Roadmap, and the complementary Regional Roadmap. Stand by for more on that...

Note that there is also a [Green Zone](#), as usual, for events and engagements hosted by non-accredited organisations. Registrations for this open on 1st November.

# Presidency Action Agenda

For this community, the most relevant days are likely to be Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th November, which cover health, food, agriculture, and water. (Other days also relevant!)

Note that the official opening ceremony is at 13:30 on Tuesday 12th November, after which point national statements will be delivered (throughout the WLCAS).

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| November 11 | COP29 Opening  |
| November 12 | World Leaders Climate Action Summit  |
| November 13 | World Leaders Climate Action Summit  |
| November 14 | Finance, Investment and Trade  |
| November 15 | Energy / Peace, Relief and Recovery  |
| November 16 | Science, Technology and Innovation / Digitalisation                                      |
| November 17 | Rest Day and No Thematic Programming   |
| November 18 | Human Capital / Children and Youth / Health / Education                                  |
| November 19 | Food, Agriculture and Water  |
| November 20 | Urbanisation / Transport / Tourism   |
| November 21 | Nature and Biodiversity / Indigenous People / Gender Equality / Oceans and Coastal Zones |
| November 22 | Final Negotiations   |

This [letter from the COP Presidency](#) invited Parties and all other stakeholders an opportunity to commit to any of their nine Pledges and Declarations.

The declarations are:

- COP29 Truce Appeal (reminding nations of interplay between conflict and climate change)
- COP29 Global Energy Storage and Grids Pledge (aiming to increase global energy storage capacity 6x and enhance energy grids)
- COP29 Green Energy Zones & Corridors Pledge (targeting investment on green energy zones)
- COP29 Hydrogen Declaration (unlocking the potential of a global market for clean hydrogen)
- COP29 Declaration on Green Digital Action (accelerating climate-positive digitalisation and emissions reduction in ICT)
- COP29 Declaration on Reducing Methane from Organic Waste (streamlining work towards a 1.5-aligned waste sector with quantified targets to reduce methane in waste and food systems)
- COP29 Multisectoral Actions Pathways (MAP) Declaration to Resilient and Healthy Cities (addressing climate challenges in cities, creating coherence in urban climate efforts and climate finance) (NB this includes a component on urban agriculture)

- COP29 Declaration on Enhanced Action in Tourism accelerating climate action in tourism sector)
- COP29 Declaration on Water for Climate Action (taking integrated approaches to water-related ecosystems) (NB this highlights the water-energy-food nexus)

A subsequent letter from the Presidency detailed the five initiatives, in addition to the Declarations:

1. The Climate Finance Action Fund (CFAF)

*Investment fund for income-generating climate-related projects, seeking to secure pledges from at least ten countries amounting to over \$1bn.*

2. The Baku Initiative for Climate Finance, Investment and Trade (BICFIT)

*Advancing action through dialogues on climate finance, investment and trade.*

3. The Baku Initiative on Human Development for Climate Resilience

*Initiative on wellbeing, health, education, jobs, standard of living - linking to economic productivity powering green industry and climate solutions, along with social protection, adaptability, and recovery capabilities. Specifically notes disruption to food systems and food-borne diseases as issues. Notes extreme heat leading to stunting due to impacts on nutrition from decreasing crop yields, and disproportionate vulnerability to children. The initiative will look at the synergies of education, health, social protection, skills and jobs, with a special focus on children and youth, through a high-level meeting; a joint statement from UN Agencies and MDBs; a set of guiding principles; and the establishment of the COP Continuity Coalition for Climate and Health (with WHO) to ensure advocacy for health in the climate agenda. Future COP Presidencies will be invited to join the coalition and encouraged to include health in their presidency initiatives.*

4. The Baku Harmoniya Climate Initiative for Farmers

*Recognises agriculture as a key opportunity, referencing 'no-regret' climate actions under KJWA. Provides context on past victories for agriculture (note: agriculture, not food systems). Focus on creating coherence, alignment, and sharing of lessons to deliver greater impact. Harmonium is an aggregator, bringing together disparate initiatives, coalitions, networks, and partnerships, to empower farmers, villages, and rural communities. A portal will clarify the landscape of existing programmes, identify synergies and gaps, and foster collaborative efforts. The initiative will focus on agrifood systems transformation and enhancing climate policies, with the objective of creating an enabling environment for implementation. Ed to add: a link to a [survey](#) was circulated in October to enable a mapping of relevant initiatives to appear on the Harmoniya portal.*

5. The Baku Global Climate Transparency Platform (BTP)

*Supports the ETF/BTR goals of enhancing transparency and mobilising capacity building and technical support. Supported by a Declaration on Global Climate Transparency, which partly reiterates agreements already made under the UNFCCC.*

## Presidency Food Agenda at COP29

In a sense, we can speak about two Presidency Agendas here: the agenda of the COP29 Presidency of Azerbaijan, and the ongoing work by the COP28 Presidency of the UAE.

From COP28, we expect to see follow-up on the Emirates Declaration and the Technical Cooperation Collaborative presented at a few events throughout the first week. See the Master Schedule for details - some of these are still to be confirmed.

From COP29, we'll see the high-level agenda on Food Day launching Harmonia and also hosting sessions on COP-to-COP links between initiatives. More detail is still to follow, and most will be reflected in the Master Schedule rather than here.

## Climate and Health at COP29

The COP29 Presidency and the WHO Climate and Health team have worked together on a robust [climate and health agenda at COP](#), building on progress since COP26 in Glasgow (which saw the launch of the Alliance for Transformative Action on Climate and Health).

At COP29, there will be:

- a) A Health Day (Monday 18th November)
- b) A [Health Pavilion](#) (run by WHO throughout the fortnight)
- c) Various new initiatives and Declarations (listed above)

A few points to watch:

- 1) During the World Leaders Climate Action Summit (12-13/11), the COP29 Special Report on Climate Change and Health will be launched, focusing on Human Capital, Smart / Healthy Cities, and financing. The first draft was shared in September ([here](#)). We did ask about the extent to which this report is limited to the health sector and health systems. It seems that it's trying to keep a relatively contained scope, so it won't become a report on food systems. That said, there is some room in the cities piece about urban food systems, and links to food and nutrition are generally likely to be acknowledged. Bear in mind that the [Lancet Countdown on Climate Change and Health](#) plays a similar role and is regularly strong on food security and malnutrition issues.
- 2) a High-Level event on the Health Argument for Climate Action on 12th November 18:30-20:00 in SE4
- 3) a High-Level Party event on COP Presidencies bringing health to the centre of the climate agenda (the COP Continuity Coalition on Climate and Health) on 13th November 17:00-18:30 in MR23
- 4) a High-Level meeting on Baku Initiative on Human Development for Climate Resilience on 18th November 09:30-11:30 in Nasimi



5 a High-level roundtable on One Health on 19th November as part of Food, Agriculture and Water Day (time and location TBC)

6 a High-level roundtable on nature, health, and resilience (including urban agriculture) on Urbanisation Day (20th November) (time and location TBC). The Initiative on Multisectoral Action Pathways to Resilient and Healthy Cities will be the main feature.

Also noteworthy:

7 In our exchanges during the briefing sessions, Elmar Mammadov (COP29 Presidency) confirmed that the Presidency has every intention to integrate health and food as connected themes. Mr Mammadov confirmed that having health day and food day consecutively was intentional. He seemed open to the suggestion of including Ministers of Health on Food Day and Ministers of Agriculture on Health Day, and offered us the opportunity to propose speakers and participants in high-level events.

8 at some point, we'll see the High-Level Communiqué on One Health for Nurturing Human Development

There will also be meetings (still TBC) of the Friends of Climate and Health group, and other regional roundtables and side events at the Health Pavilion.

## Essential information: Practical Guide to Attending COP29

Keep an eye on the [UNFCCC website](#) and the [website of the incoming COP 29 Presidency](#) for the latest information.

### 1. Registering as an [accredited / admitted observer organisation](#)

This is where it all starts, and the deadline is August the previous year. For COP29 (2024), registration was due by the end of August 2023. The process is quite intensive and involves sharing lots of official documents about your organisation through the [UNFCCC Online Application System](#) (OAS).

From July-August 2024, organisations that have been 'provisionally admitted' are able to submit a list of proposed participants for COP29.

In September-October 2024, applicants received their allocation of passes to attend COP29. These can then be distributed between proposed participants by the organisation's Designated Contact Point using the [UNFCCC Online Registration](#) System (ORS). Passes can be allocated by day, to provide greater flexibility.

For COP29, there were greater efforts to provide larger pass allocations to organisations from the Global South. As a result, some Observer organisations have had their allocations reduced.

### 2. Receiving accreditation document (Acknowledgement Letter)

When an individual is registered by the Designated Contact Point in the ORS, a letter is automatically generated and sent to their contact email address. This so-called Acknowledgement Letter is important, so keep it handy. It also includes a registration code used to get your visa.

### 3. Booking accommodation

There is an [official portal](#), or you can book directly if you prefer. Ideally you would do this before applying for a visa so you have your address while in Baku. If you don't, you can put a placeholder address on the visa form. This is the most urgent issue: hotel prices are already increasing, and there have been issues with availability of accommodation. We are all encouraged to look at suburbs and out of town locations, which will (apparently) be well served by buses and free transport services.

### 4. Applying for a visa

All COP 29 participants travelling from outside Azerbaijan will require a visa, regardless of their national passport (update: actually just a handful of exceptions now on COP29 website).

- The Azerbaijan Government has authorised an electronic, free-of-charge “**COP 29 Special Visa**”, for all COP 29 Azerbaijan registered participants.
- Upon approval of registration via the UNFCCC Online Registration System, participants will receive a link to apply for the visa as part of the UNFCCC registration confirmation email.

- Through the link, you visit the visa portal, fill out the form, upload the required documents, and submit it for approval. Once approved, you will receive the visa confirmation email with a link to download your COP29 Special Visa.
- The COP 29 Special Visa allows the holder a single-entry visit. Should you wish to leave Azerbaijan and return during COP29 you must re-apply for the COP 29 Special Visa following the same process as you used previously, using your UNFCCC registration number.

The COP 29 Special Visa will indicate the **date of issue and be valid until 30 November 2024**. Visa holders must enter the Republic of Azerbaijan before this date.

## 5. Arriving in Baku

Most of us will arrive at Heydar Aliyev International Airport. There are cash points and mobile phone shops where you can get local currency and SIM cards. There are taxis (Baku Taxi, Bolt, Uber, and Yango) or shuttle buses (see below). [189 Taxi](#) and [Uklon](#) are also available for pre-booking.

## 6. Arriving at the venue

Both the Blue Zone and the Green Zone are located at Baku Stadium. There will be shuttle bus services from most hotels (see below).


The first step is always to collect your pass. You can only collect your own pass, and you'll need valid photo ID to do so. Remember that queues can be very long, especially over the first mornings. Registration opening hours are:

- |                               |                                 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| - 4-9 November: 08:00 – 19:00 | - 13-16 November: 08:00 – 19:00 |
| - 10 November: 08:00 – 21:00  | - 17 November: Non-working day  |
| - 11 November: 06:30 – 21:00  | - 18 November: 06:30 – 19:00    |
| - 12 November: 06:30 – 19:00  | - 19-23 November: 08:00 – 19:00 |

There will be plentiful catering. Cash and card are accepted. WiFi is available. The venue is fully accessible. There is a computer centre. The venue is paper free.

## 7. Travel around Baku

There are 24/7 Airport Shuttles free to use with your COP accreditation letter or pass. There are also conference shuttles serving Baku Stadium from key transport hubs daily from 07:00-22:00.

 Here's the Digital Map. Bookmark it! [Transport Map](#)

 Here's the [airport transport services map](#)

 and the [stadium transport map](#)

Here's the main page with key information: [Maps and Roads](#)

Here is a detailed wayfinding map at the venue:

<https://cop29.pointr.cloud/websdk.html?start=f038e84c-2f4f-4feb-a9ff-5d675d7b4d0b>

And a detailed map of the pavilions:

<https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Map%20for%20pavilion%20%282%20MAP%29.pdf>

## Other basic information for attendees

- **Venue:** Baku Stadium for both Blue Zone and Green Zone
- **Guest experience:**
  - Environmental impact of COP: the Presidency and Operating Company plan to monitor and report on emissions, reducing and offsetting as needed
  - Food at COP: promise local and seasonal sourcing, vegetarian and vegan options; nourishing and nutritious; a balanced menu with high quality vegan, vegetarian and gluten-free options; clear labelling, imaginative menus, and affordable options
- **Badge allocations:** like last year, badges can be allocated day by day rather than week by week. If someone is attending non-consecutive days then you'll need to go to the Help Desk on site for support on the second day. They can help with this, but the system struggles with it online.
- **Dress code:** this varies depending on where you are. The Green Zone can be fairly casual (within reason). The Blue Zone is more formal but standard business attire is fine - and there's no need for suits and ties unless you have specific engagements that are smarter. If you're in the official proceedings then you will want to be smart. Make sure you're comfortable and that you have warm clothing to account for cold outdoor conditions and air conditioning. Wear comfortable shoes, as there's plenty of walking and time on your feet.
- You'll want to bring a portable power pack and a reusable water bottle, and probably some snacks
- Azerbaijan uses type C and type F plugs. Remember your adapters!
- Emergency numbers are 112 (any), 101 (Fire), 102 (Police), 103 (Ambulance)

## Key Contacts

General: [generalenquiries@cop29.az](mailto:generalenquiries@cop29.az)

Media enquiries: [media@cop29.az](mailto:media@cop29.az)

Conference media services:

[mediaservices@cop29.az](mailto:mediaservices@cop29.az)

Booking enquiries: [cop29@bnetwork.com](mailto:cop29@bnetwork.com)

Accommodation enquiries:

[accommodation@cop29.az](mailto:accommodation@cop29.az)

Transportation enquiries: [transport@cop29.az](mailto:transport@cop29.az)

Catering enquiries: [catering@cop29.az](mailto:catering@cop29.az)

Medical service enquiries: [medical@cop29.az](mailto:medical@cop29.az)

Visa enquiries: [visas@unfccc.int](mailto:visas@unfccc.int)

Accessibility enquires: [accessibility@cop29.az](mailto:accessibility@cop29.az)

Sustainability enquiries:

[sustainability@cop29.az](mailto:sustainability@cop29.az)

Logistics enquiries: [logistics@cop29.az](mailto:logistics@cop29.az)

Car rental service enquiries:

[cop29@rentacarbaku.az](mailto:cop29@rentacarbaku.az)

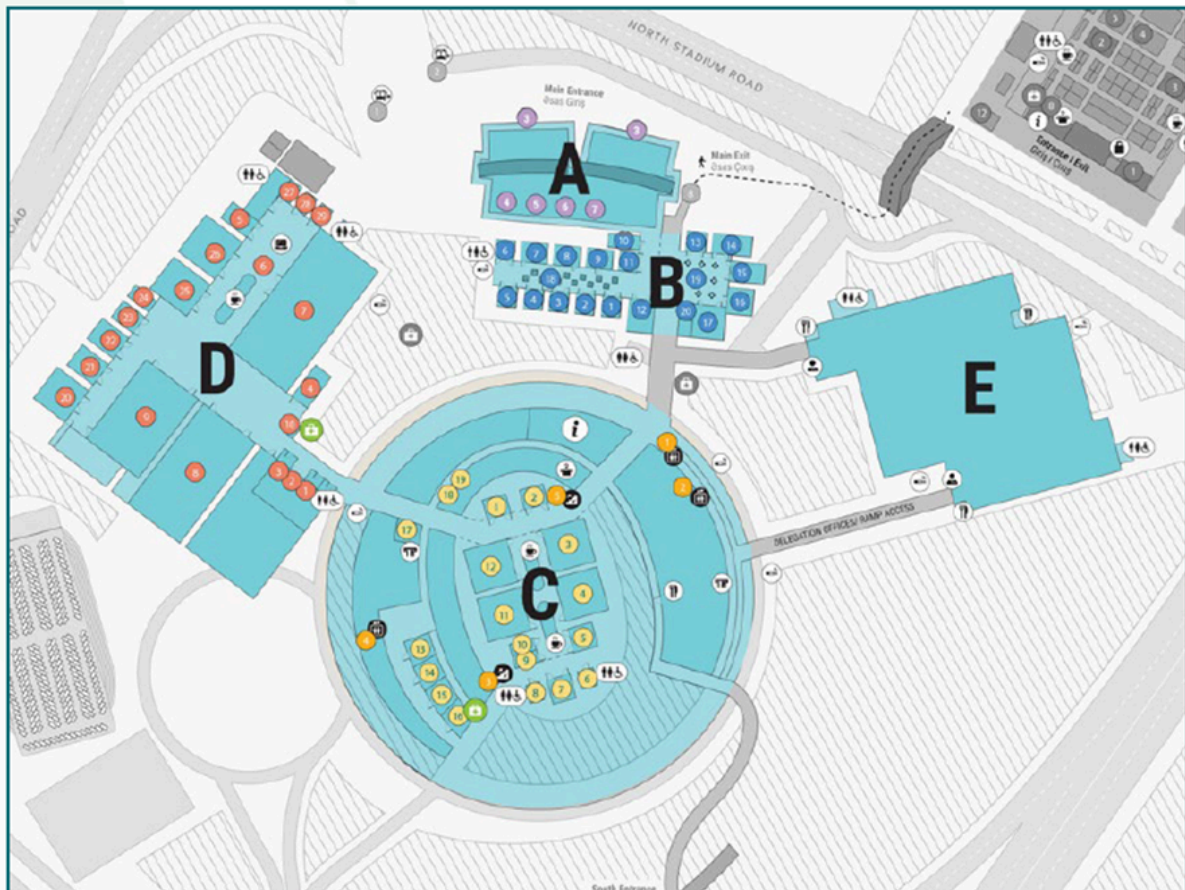
To participate in the Green Zone:

[greenzonepavilions@cop29.az](mailto:greenzonepavilions@cop29.az)

For Delegation services:

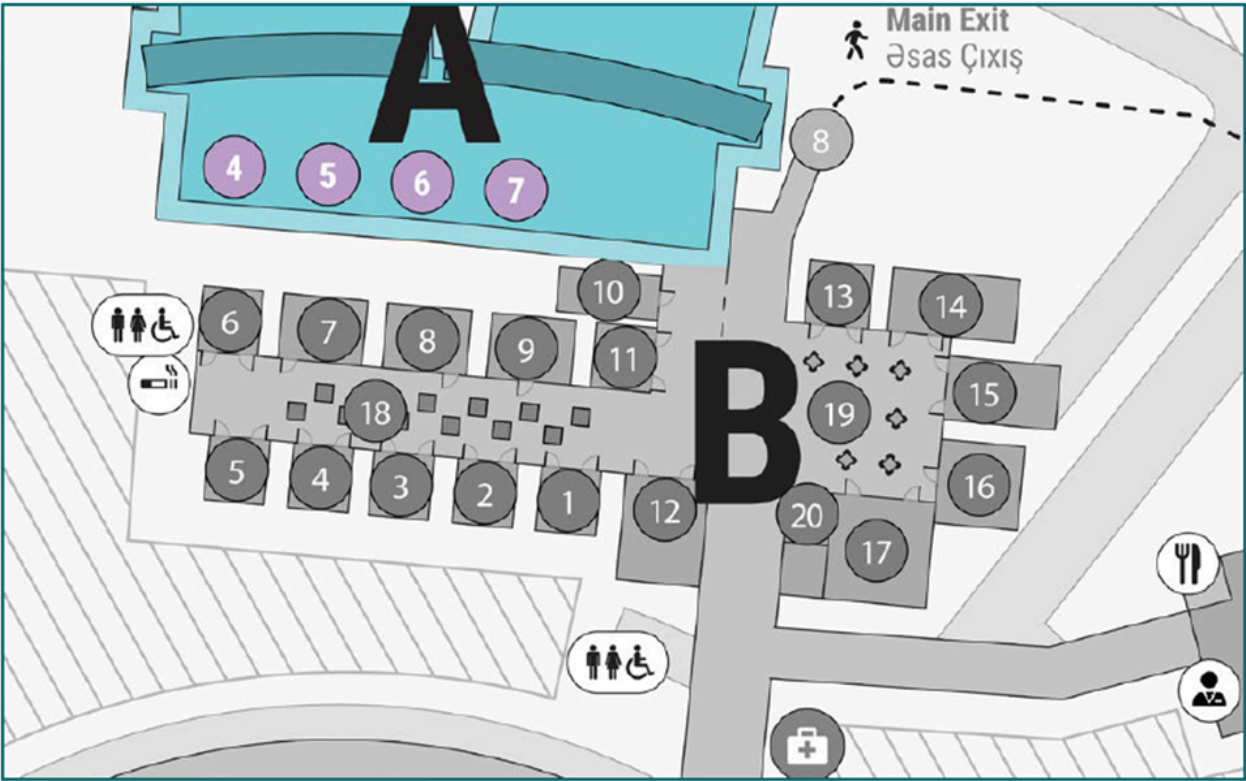
[COP29@orientations.team](mailto:COP29@orientations.team)

## Venue Map



- Area A** Main Entrance & Registration
- Area B** Side Events & Special Events
- Area C** Negotiation Rooms & Delegation Office
- Area D** VVIP & Media Centre
- Area E** Pavilions

Area A



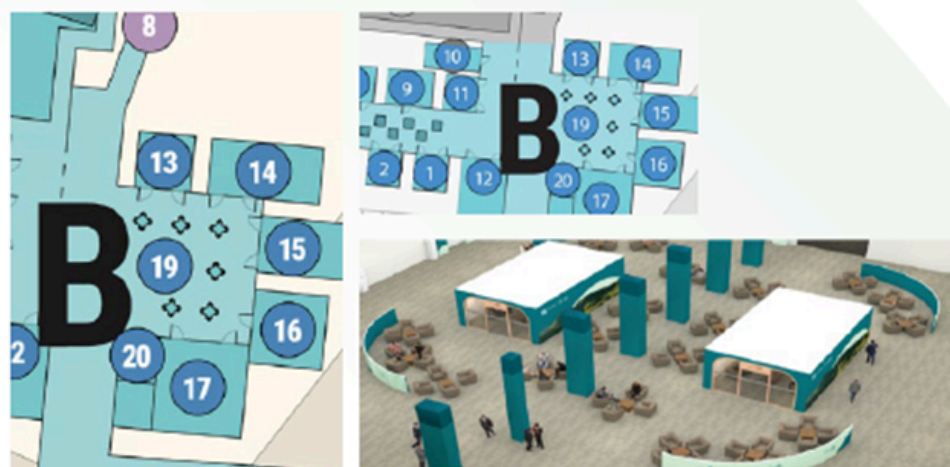


## Area B

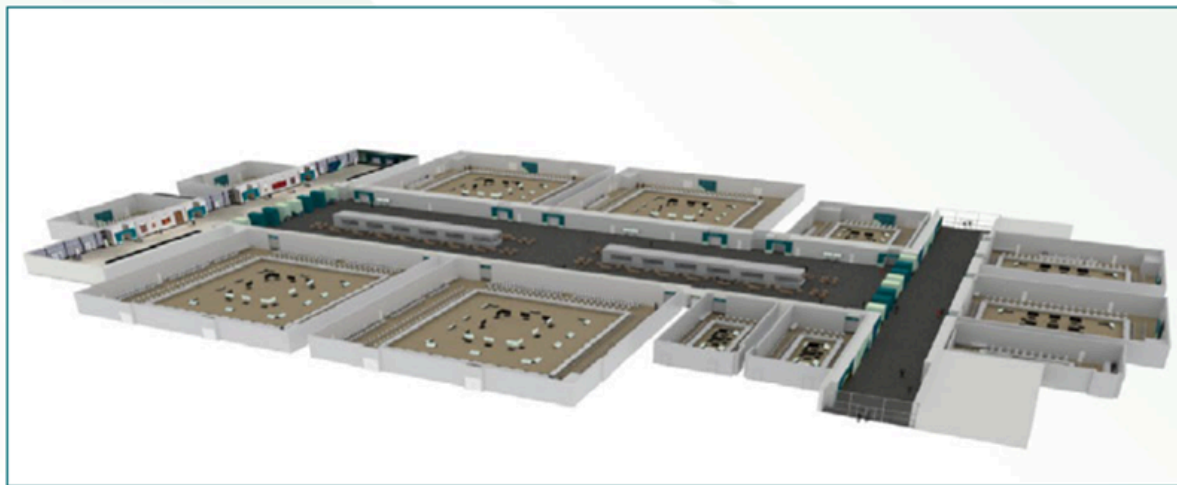
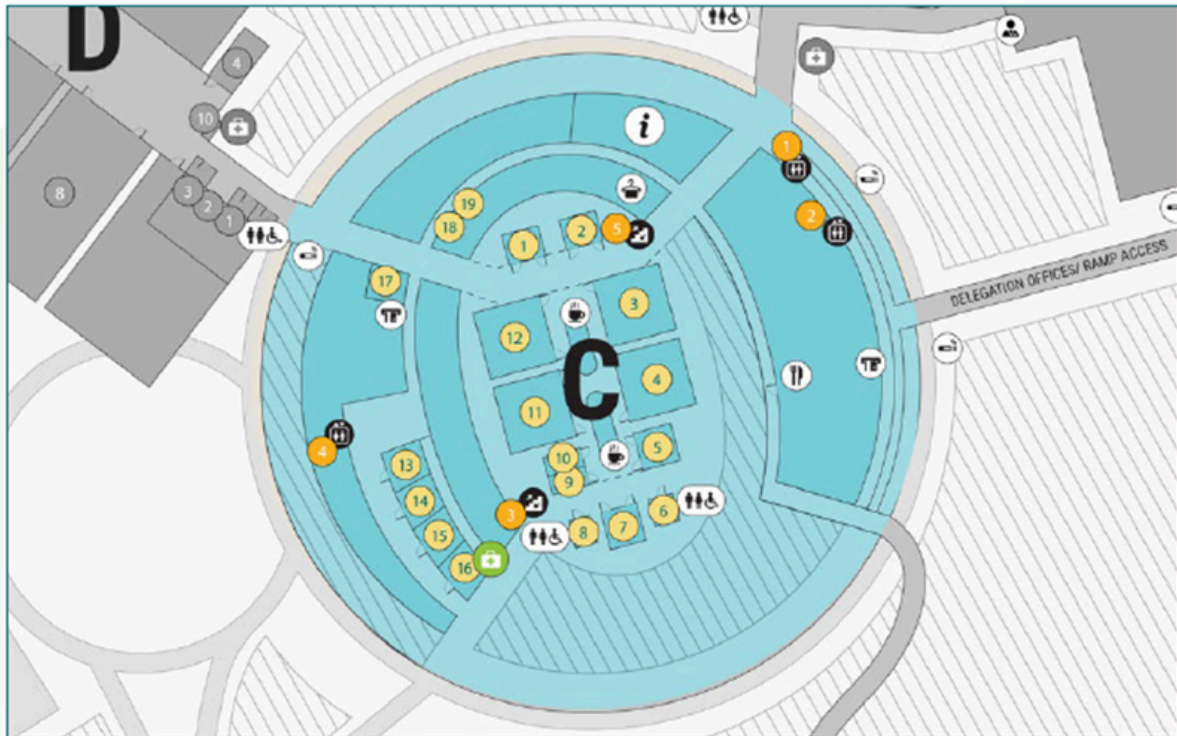


The **section B** also houses the Side Events Coordination Room, the NGOs Constituencies Room, several Side Events Rooms, and designated Exhibition Booths.

In the other section of **Area B** in the **Blue Zone**, the facilities include Special Events Rooms, Bilateral Rooms, Marrakech Partnership Lounge Champions' Rooms, and a Champions' Meeting Room.



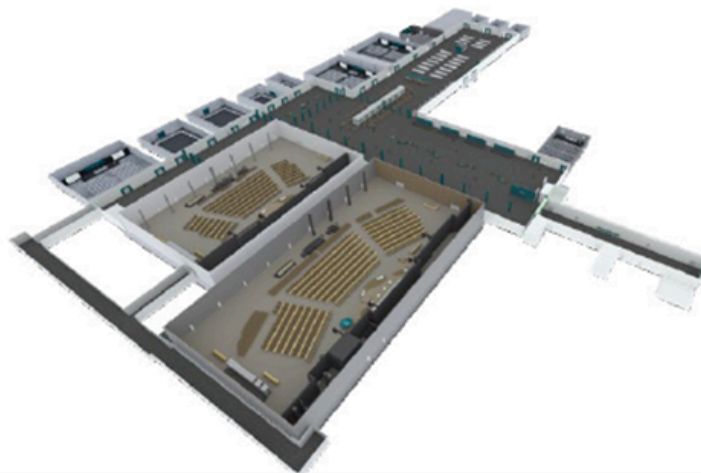
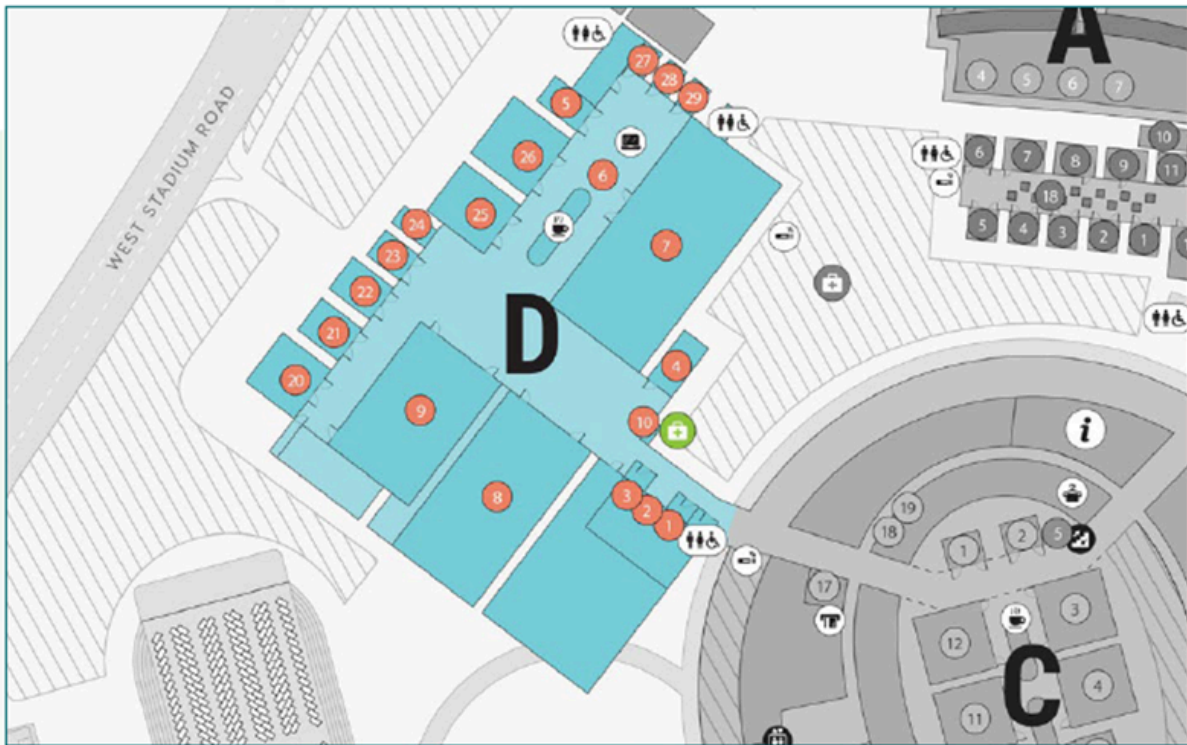
## Area C



In **Area C** in the Blue Zone, the facilities include Meeting Rooms, an ICT Service Desk, an Interpretation Hub and Lounge, a Private Restaurant and Lounge Area, Prayer Rooms and a Quiet Room, a Cloakroom, a Service Hub with Lost & Found and Daily Substance Allowance (DSA) Office Services, provisions for Accessibility, Logistics, Accommodation, Catering, Transportation, and Interpretation Services, as well as Delegation Offices.

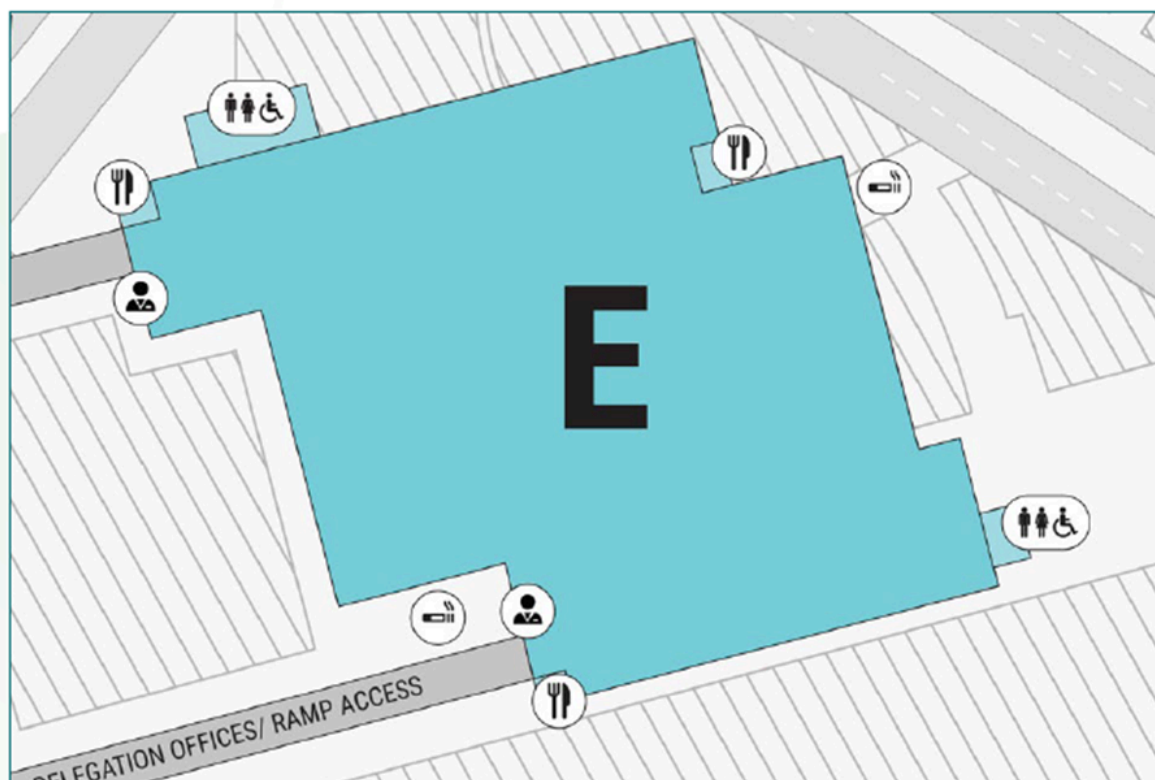


## Area D



In **Area D** in the Blue Zone is designated as the VVIP area. The facilities include Plenary Hall 1 (Nizami), Plenary Hall 2 (Caspian), Meeting Rooms, a Media Centre, Computer Centre, Press Conference Rooms 1 (Karabakh) and 2 (Natavan), a Medical Room, a Lounge Catering Area, Grab and Go Catering Points, VVIP Bilateral Meeting Rooms, a Family Photo Area, a VVIP Medical Room, a VVIP Drop-Off Area for arrivals, Leaders' Entrance, Entourage Entrance, a Cloakroom, a VVIP Lounge, and a Handshake Area.

## Area E



**Area E** in the Blue Zone, with a gross floor space of **24,000 m<sup>2</sup>**, is specifically designated for Delegations' Pavilions, facilitating engagement and representation for the various delegations.

Link to virtual platform: <https://cop29platform.unfccc.int/events/cop29/home>

Detailed map of the delegation pavilions:

<https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Map%20for%20pavilion%20%282%20MAP%29.pdf>

## Annex I: Summary Notes on Presidency Communications

### Presidency Letter 21st February 2024

- Next round of NDCs, informed by GST, due in early 2025
- Specific call to triple renewable energy capacity and double annual rate of energy efficiency improvements; transitioning away from fossil fuels in a just, orderly and equitable manner
- Welcome funding arrangements, including loss and damage
- Welcome GGA work programme on development of indicators
- Priorities for COP29:
  - Climate finance: new collective quantified goal on climate finance (used to unlock NDCs and NAPs, implement decisions agreed at COP28 in GST, and to transition from fossil fuels). Highlights: delivery of \$100bn; scaling adaptation finance; finance for GST outcomes
  - Loss and damage: operationalising the fund and aligning to NCQG
  - Adaptation: accelerate this work following GGA; concluding work of the Adaptation Committee; technical and implementation aspects of adaptation
  - Mitigation: preparing for next round of NDCs; enhancing mitigation ambition by ensuring availability of means of implementation (inc. finance). Need for progress on MWP.
  - Just transition: support to undertake a transition coherent with sustainable development and poverty eradication objectives
  - Technology: need to strengthen technology implementation programme
  - Article 6: need to operationalise
  - Transparency: call for Parties to submit reports by end of 2024
  - Engaging stakeholders: ensuring inclusion
  - Troika: maximising three-Presidency vehicle to propel momentum

### Presidency Letter 17th July 2024

- Two parallel pillars of COP29 Vision:
  - Enhance Ambition
  - Enable Action
- Top priority: climate finance (*increase overall flow substantially*)
  - Fair and ambitious NCQG
  - Calls to double adaptation finance by 2025
  - Operationalising Article 6 (carbon markets)
  - *Act swiftly* on loss and damage, including the Fund
  - Strengthening multilateral financial institutions and climate funds
  - Interestingly, *COP29 will provide a platform for investment partnerships with MDBs that cover all economic sectors, not just energy...*
- Calls on Parties to signal determination to act through NDCs, NAPs, and Biennial Transparency Reports:

- Leading from the front with ambitious NDCs coming from UAE, Azerbaijan, and Brazil before COP29
- Partnering with entire UN system to mobilise support to design and implement NDCs (e.g. UNDP Climate Promise 2025; UNFCCC NDC 3.0 Navigator)
- Provides further detail on Transparency (BTRs) and need to track progress through Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) reporting tools; encourage early input
- Other notes and what to watch:
  - Standing Committee on Finance will report on needs of developing countries
  - Note important links to G7 and G20 commitments on (inter alia) NDCs, coal, climate finance, and the G20 Task Force for Global Mobilisation Against Climate Change
  - Azerbaijan and Brazil collaborating on the Baku to Belem initiative
  - Links between the Rio Conventions (Colombia, Saudi Arabia)
  - Under private sector, climate innovators and green disruptors are in focus - with a spotlight on key priority areas including water, energy, and food security
- Participation and opportunities to engage:
  - Establishing a *Friends of the COP29 Presidency* group open to all Constituencies
  - Key contacts for non-state actors: Nigar Arpadarai (COP29 UN High-Level Champion) and Leyla Hasanova (COP29 Youth Climate Champion)
  - Specifically call out the need to work with indigenous peoples, local communities, women, and youth
- Mark your schedules:
  - 26-27th July: Heads of Delegation retreat in Azerbaijan with representatives from all negotiating groups. Agenda: NCQG, Article 6, Paris Agreement.
  - UNGA/NYCW: Presidency will host a high-level energy dialogue with the IEA and an event on NDC ambition; also a Global Renewables Summit
  - 10-13th September: 11th Technical Expert Dialogue and 3rd meeting of Ad Hoc Work Programme under the NCQG
  - 9th October: High-Level Ministerial Dialogue
  - 10-11th October: Pre-COP for negotiators and Constituencies (Baku)
  - 11th November: official opening of COP29
  - 12-13th November: World Leaders Climate Action Summit

Hey, on the bottom of page six (of nine) we get a mention of space in the thematic programme to collaborate on agriculture.

Interestingly, the Presidency notes that *divergent views among Parties held us back from making the necessary progress at SB60. Time lost is lives, livelihoods and the planet lost.*

## COP Troika Letter 23rd July

This letter generally reiterates things we've read elsewhere: the importance of NDCs and means of implementation; the role of the UN system in support; and the need to implement the outcomes from the GST. There is a loose call for policies and regulations that incentivise investment in climate action.

One specific call to action is for early movers to demonstrate leadership on NDCs and associated investment frameworks at UNGA - with UAE, Azerbaijan and Brazil likely to do so.

## Annex II: Submissions to UNFCCC Processes

Aside from those mentioned above, it is worth keeping an eye on the [submissions portal](#) to see what opportunities arise. For example (apologies for lack of links - constraint of the portal):

- Technical resources to inform development of the Global Climate Resilience Framework under the Global Goal on Adaptation: [here](#)
- Gender and climate change
- Topics for the mitigation work programme

## Annex III: Technical Information on the NCQG Negotiations

For those following the negotiations on finance, the [NCQG Substantive Framework](#) was an important update. This is effectively the draft negotiating text for the NCQG that will be taken forward into COP. Everything has been done to lay the ground for an outcome.

As far as I can see, there aren't huge changes or breakthroughs. And I understand that some of the more complex issues remain: quantum, contributors, structure.

We know that adaptation and mitigation will be key themes. Loss and Damage is square bracketed.

A few other points stand out to me:

(7) square bracketed text is really ambitious on transformation of the global economy. Let's see where it ends up in reality.

(8) costed needs in NDCs are up to \$6.8tn total to 2030 // \$584bn per year but this is a conservative figure based on limited information

Then it gets a bit complicated. The first option:

(13) here are the numbers, then! Square bracketed options are a floor of \$100bn, a Goal of (a total of) at least \$1tn / \$1.1tn / \$1.3tn / \$2tn. The time period is square bracketed (2025-29/30; 2025-2035; 2026-2035; by 2030)

(14) another figure proposed: \$441bn per year from developed countries alone, in addition to finance mobilised (to take it closer to those figures above).

...plus further detail below.

And second option, which seems less ambitious. All the figures, contributors, timings, and sources are square bracketed. It mentions possible additional contributors (17) and includes domestic resource mobilisation (18).

There's an option three, which is more wordy and emphasises a 'global effort'. Interestingly, this one specifies the need to balance adaptation and mitigation finance (25), with specific percentages for each - as well as loss and damage (26).

On sources (5/28-34), everything is still up in the air, aside from the agreement that we need innovative instruments to mobilise new sources of climate finance, included private finance, and blended models, debt-for-climate swaps, first-loss instruments, guarantees, etc.

(35) on recipients seems to be agreed (it's for developing countries, especially the most vulnerable)

(38) on enablers is largely agreed, which is good - as is section D on transparency, with the caveat that (43) on reporting is still heavily bracketed.

It has to be said: overall, all the substantive issues are still up in the air.

I've heard a few rumours about the developed country contribution getting up to about \$300bn per annum. The bigger numbers might still be a challenge.

## Annex IV: GAIN at COP29

All this information is on our webpage, including our delegation and event participations:

<https://www.gainhealth.org/gaincop29>

## Daily Summaries and Look Ahead

Monday 11th November

It's hard to feel hugely inspired by the first day.

**The Good:** Baku is beautiful - the people, weather, and food are lovely, and the transport and logistics are all running very nicely. Accreditation, security and access are quick, and the venue is well sign-posted. Water and WiFi are good.

**The Bad:** it's hard to ignore the fact that the food on site is generally very unhealthy and shows no sign of any efforts towards environmental sustainability. Single use coffee cups, lots of waste, lots of cans of Coke and Fanta. Also, the lavatories have been described as 'ice rinks' as the floors are wet and slippery. Worse: there was no toilet paper in any of the stalls checked by your correspondent on three separate visits to three separate facilities today (for research purposes).

**The Ugly:** negotiations over the agenda were obviously tricky, leading to a delay of several hours. The disagreement centred on where the follow-up to the Global Stocktake should feature on the agenda: in Finance or under the GST response. Ultimately it was agreed that it would live under Finance, but that this should not prejudice the scope of the discussion. The session could then continue in the evening - though not without having caused some disruptions, and starting us off on a negative footing.

### Opening Plenary

- Mukhtar Babayev spoke emotively about the context and need, saying that we are *on the road to ruin. People are suffering in the shadows. They are dying in the dark. They are crying out for action*. He went on to outline the Presidency priorities: the NCQG, Article 6 (described as *long overdue*), mobilising the Loss and Damage Fund, and encouraging ambitious NDCs informed by the GST. The language on fossil fuels was around *transitioning away in a just and orderly manner*, supported by an ambitious 6x increase in global energy storage capacity. Food was also featured: addressing food waste (almost 10% of global emissions) is clearly a central part of the Presidency agenda (note also the Methane from Organic Waste Declaration).
- Simon Stiell linked climate change to inflation, economics, and global instability - saying that *an ambitious climate finance goal is in the interest of every nation*. He confirmed that the UN will launch a Climate Plan campaign to encourage action through the NDCs, and will restart Regional Climate Weeks from 2025.

### Other events

- Acceleration Of Folu Net Sink 2030 Implementation In The Framework Of Carbon Pricing Policy (Indonesia Pavilion)
- A global perspective towards fostering a just transition in the agri-food sector: bridging generations for sustainable change ([here](#))

- Transparency for Transforming the agri-food systems: countries shared experience of developing Biennial Transparency Reports to report on emissions (Mongolia, Georgia, Pakistan, Nepal) and their approach to agrifood systems specifically
- Addressing adaptation through NbS as a vulnerability and risk reduction measure in LAC region - IICA / UNFCCC Official Side Event
- Scaling Innovative Food Systems Solutions and Climate Actions for Food and Nutrition Security in Asia and the Pacific: a really interesting event with the Asian Development Bank, GAIN/I-CAN, the Gates Foundation, Michael Kremer (University of Chicago), Ismahane Elouafi (CGIAR) on innovation and investments to create impact in agrifood systems ([recording here](#))
- The Save Movement: 33 Cities want a Plant Based Treaty added to the Paris Agreement - here's how it will look in action ([recording here](#))

### Stats

- Investment in 2024 in clean energy was twice that of fossil fuels (\$2tn) (Simon Stiell)
- The overview PLOP (List of Participants) was released, revealing:
  - 33,158 Party and Party Overflow
  - 13,386 Observer organisations (10,000 NGOs)
  - 1,880 Host Country Guests
  - 3,575 Media
  - 14,473 technical, support, security and secretariat staff
  - **Total: 66,778 participants** (second largest ever COP)
  - Only 157 Party representatives are Virtual Only; 3,818 Observers



Tuesday 12th November

A much busier day today. We are properly up and running at COP29. Negotiations on the NCQG, just transition, gender, capacity building, and compliance were all in progress.

### **Presidency, High-Level Events and Negotiations**

The **World Leaders' Climate Action Summit** was in full swing with [national statements](#) running over today and tomorrow. Kazakhstan, Serbia, Zimbabwe, Turkey, Mauritania, Uzbekistan, Guinea-Bissau, Poland, Tajikistan, Iraq, Kyrgyzstan, Congo, Belarus, Libya, Bulgaria, Maldives, Togo - all represented by men - spoke variously about geopolitics, urgency of climate action, and finance goal. Few Heads of State/Government participated. Hilda Heine (Marshall Islands) was the first female head of state to speak, before Cyprus, Slovakia, North Macedonia, Finland, Nepal, Montenegro, Suriname, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Ghana, Mongolia, Ethiopia, Sudan, Moldova, Brazil, Tanzania, Cote d'Ivoire, Seychelles, Angola, Yemen, Malawi, Liberia, Burundi, Spain, Jordan, Barbados, Belgium rounded out the day. Some mentions of forests, and one of clean cooking (Tanzania).

The **NCQG** hit another bump, with the proposed negotiating text rejected and the co-chairs asked to prepare a new text for discussion before meeting again.

The **Sharm Joint Work on Implementation of Climate Action on Agriculture and Food Security** held its first informal meeting, focusing on feedback on the online portal. This [presentation](#) was shared for comment, showing examples of other UNFCCC portals. Simplicity was prioritised. Parties can already submit information on projects, initiatives, and policies support climate action on agriculture and food security. Further functionality will be discussed, but would require additional funding. Thanks Clement Metivier from WWF and Lana Weidgenant from ProVeg (along with others) for notes ([detailed here](#)).

The High-Level Event on **Cutting carbon and restoring nature on the path to 1.5°C: Accelerated transformation of food systems to build resilient and sustainable production of more with less** (the follow-up event to the UAE Declaration) saw an impressive cast of Heads of State (Ethiopia, Denmark), Ministers (UAE, Azerbaijan), and senior representatives of other organisations (FAO, WFP, CGIAR, Bezos Earth Fund) share their perspectives on the needs and opportunities to prioritise action on food in both global and national processes. No new announcements were made.

The **COP29 Summit on Methane and Non-CO2 Gases** (as part of a China-USA collaboration on methane) saw plenty of talk of methane from food systems, including livestock and food waste. Solutions included feed additives and technical measures such as manure management, additives, selective breeding. Partners announced finance (\$2bn in last 3yrs), policy (COP29 Methane Declaration), science measures (FAO and UNEP Global N2O assessment), and other programmes (IFAD Methane Reduction Guidebook for NDC3.0). Full notes [here](#) and [here](#). Colleagues noted that the EU notably did not discuss agriculture in their intervention. Brazil pushed biomethane, and the US invests in feed additives through the IRA.

The day ended with an FAO-organised session on **Making Climate Finance Work for Climate Action in Agriculture and Food Security**, featuring ministers (Tonga, Philippines, South Sudan) and financial institutions (Gates Foundation, World Bank, OPEC Fund) and FAO DG and Director of OCB. This was a rich discussion of the need, gaps, and examples of investments throughout the food system - with a particular focus on seeking out investments with multiple benefits and investing at the grassroots level. The World Bank reaffirmed that agriculture funding will double from \$4.5bn to \$9bn per annum by 2030, including a significant focus on adaptation - while also calling for subsidy reform. OPEC highlighted their south-south mandated approach, with goals to increase funding to adaptation and providing examples of work to reclaim marshland and convert to agriculture in Burundi. BMGF pointed to investments in innovations such as rice, digital agronomy services, green ammonia (decentralised production), and weather forecasting). The Philippines specifically called out links to nutrition security. More notes [here](#).

## **National Progress**

### **NDC Intel**

The **UK** set mitigation targets of 81% reduction in GHGs relative to 1990 levels, or 60% relative to today's levels. The NDC will follow before February deadline.

This is not double-verified, but I understand that **Brazil's** NDC will be launched by the VP on 13th November. The rumour is that a lack of ambition in the NDC is a question of timing: the national climate change strategy is being worked on in parallel (for launch at COP30) and will include more detail and more ambition. The presence of food in that strategy is a key topic for advocacy *now*, as sectoral plans will be made based on this strategy. There will also be a separate national adaptation strategy (distinct from a UNFCCC NAP).

### **Biennial Transparency Reports**

Nine countries have now submitted (Andorra, Guyana, Panama, Spain, Japan, Turkiye, Kazakhstan, Netherlands, Singapore) (all found [here](#)).

## **Climate and Health**

In a **press conference**, Dr Maria Neira (WHO) pointed to various pathways through which climate change is making us sick, and highlighted six interventions that could save 2m lives per year (including ending fossil fuel subsidies; acting on urban environments; implementing early warning systems for heatwaves). Food production was mentioned specifically. Abheet Solomon (UNICEF) referenced the recent Threat to Progress report, which illustrates threats to children's health coming from heat, drought, floods, storms, wildfires, pollution, and ecosystem changes. He emphasised acute vulnerability and nutrition insecurity, calling for a cover decision, financing, and national plans to all prioritise children's health and wellbeing.

**The Health Argument for Climate Action** welcomed the WHO DG and other development partners to reiterate that climate change is and will be a health crisis, so health should be at the forefront of response measures (including food and nutrition security). The focus was primarily on health interventions.

## **Other events**

In a side event on the **Convergence Initiative** at the Food and Agriculture Pavilion, the Vice Minister of Development Planning (BAPPENAS) talked through Indonesia's plans for food systems, including a reference to the new food loss and waste roadmap and other roadmaps for circular economy and the blue economy. FAO and CGIAR/CIAT colleagues shared their support offering.

The **TAPP Coalition** held another press conference on the idea of making meat and dairy processors pay a tax per unit of production, paid into a fund to support developing countries or Loss and Damage.

**Accelerating climate finance for resilient agrifood systems in fragile and conflict-affected countries (MR22)** highlighted GCF investments that support adaptation. Iraq, Burundi, Somalia, Azerbaijan, Yemen all shared national experience. More detail [here](#).

**COP29: Deploying innovative financing instruments for resilient food systems (NDC Partnership Pavilion)**

## **The COP experience**

I don't want to become famous for commentary on toilet paper, but there still was none today. Food costs are really problematic: a small piece of fish and some vegetables costing about \$35-40USD. Otherwise, the set-up is good.

Further information on the **list of participants** from [Carbon Brief](#) highlights that the largest delegations are Azerbaijan, Brazil, Turkey and China. Smallest delegations are Niger, San Marino, Nicaragua, Andorra, and North Korea. The US delegation has shrunk by 434 relative to COP28. Average gender balance of party delegations is 60% male to 40% female. For all delegates, it is 59% male to 41% female. The full list of individual delegates is [here](#).

Finally, there are already rumours of illness circulating, so please do take all necessary hygiene precautions, wear masks, and stay home if you're feeling unwell. It's so important to protect ourselves and others.

Wednesday 13th November

Unlikely plotlines today at COP, and still inching forward on various tracks.

### **Presidency, High-Level Events and Negotiations**

The **Sharm Joint Work on Implementation of Climate Action on Agriculture and Food Security** held its second of three informal consultations, which constituted a collective web design and user experience dialogue akin to something you might see in a digital marketing agency, only with a stronger flavour of international climate politics. The debate was surprisingly heated, but it's hard to feel very excited about the portal. A text will be proposed for adoption in Friday morning's final informal consultation (12:00-13:00 in MR3). There will also be an explanatory note from the G77 illustrating their vision for the portal.

A new **NCQG** text was doing the rounds (though it was not formally shared by the co-chairs), and seemed to have added hugely to the options and sub-options on the table.

To me, this text feels like the first stage of a massive clear-out - the bit where you take everything you own out of your cupboards and wardrobes and drawers, dump it all in a big pile on the floor, and then commence the substantial task of sorting through it all. Keep, donate, sell, trash (...recycle).

In the case of taking this NCQG negotiation towards any positive outcome, that is an astronomical task. There are dozens of options and views diverge so widely on almost every topic. This is also undermining progress on NAP and GGA negotiations, and may itself have been undermined by a lack of progress at CBD COP16.

Is there anything at all to be said on food at this point? Not really. The conversation continues on the split between adaptation and mitigation finance, but it seems unlikely that there will be a disproportionate focus on mitigation. That's often seen as opening up the door for more towards adaptation in agriculture, specifically. There are various mentions of other issues of sustainable development, equity, gender, youth/children - all of which implicitly refer to food security, nutrition, and livelihood/economic outcomes associated with food systems. But nothing explicit, as far as I can tell.

**A high-level roundtable convened leaders from governments, financial institutions, and Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs)** to discuss actions to sustain and enhance nature finance ambition from CBD COP16 to COP30. While no formal announcements were made, key points included the need to scale up finance for nature and ensure direct access for IPLCs.

Marina Silva (Brazil) emphasised the importance of synergies between the Rio Conventions and highlighted COP29's potential to strengthen support for developing countries via the NCQG. COP30 was identified as a pivotal moment to align climate and biodiversity efforts.

Canadian Environment Minister Guilbeault underscored the role of Indigenous Peoples as guardians of nature and applauded Colombia's leadership in establishing the Subsidiary Body for Indigenous Peoples at COP16.

Colombia's Environment Minister, María Susana Muhamad González, pointed out the challenge of financing nature, likening it to the energy transition but noting that nature, seen as a common good, lacks the "bankability" of energy projects. She stressed the need for ecosystem restoration, framing it as a global food security issue, and called for a more equitable financial system that supports nature restoration through public and private funding.

Although there is no expectation for the NCQG negotiations to include a subtarget on nature, leaders have consistently highlighted the urgent need to scale up finance for nature. It is crucial to continue advocating for this message to ensure that Parties acknowledge the nature gap and recognise the critical role of nature in addressing climate change.

The **High-Level Party Event: COP Presidencies bringing Health into the Centre of the Climate Agenda** saw the launch of the Baku COP Continuity Coalition on Climate and Health, accompanied by the WHO Special Report on Climate and Health, by the COP Presidency, WHO, Spain, UAE, and partners including Wellcome Trust, Rockefeller, the Global Fund, and others. The event urged health to be at the foreground of climate and health negotiations and financing efforts. The COP President highlighted the Baku Guiding Principles on Human Development for Climate Resilience. Dr Tedros announced Azerbaijan as the 91st member of the Alliance for Transformative Action on Climate and Health (as co-chair). A contribution to the climate and health investment platform from the Islamic Development Bank was confirmed. And the Special Report highlighted that almost 2m lives can be saved per year through 5 initiatives: early warning systems for heat, solar energy in health systems, WASH, clean household energy, and tackling harmful fossil fuel subsidies.

Out of curiosity, I also attended the negotiations on **Modalities of the United Arab Emirates dialogue on implementing the global stocktake outcomes** (which were the cause of Monday's agenda fight) and saw that the stop-gap solution that allowed adoption of the agenda has not really helped the negotiations, which are still deeply embroiled in conflicts about what should be on the table. Radical differences remain on scope and modalities.

The **Just Transition Work Programme** will deliver a text on Friday, which will need to balance requests for a focus on just transition in NDCs, NAPs and LT-LEDS (with energy central) against a broader work programme prioritising international cooperation for just transition.

It seems Loss and Damage and WIM are [challenged](#), too - AGN wanting regional focus enabling country-driven approach, whereas.

Technical work continues under the GGA, NAPs, NDCs, the BTRs, Article 6, although these, too, are plagued by disagreements causing lost time.

One to call out specifically: the synthesis report of BTRs shows that emissions from Annex I Parties are set to increase to 2030. Developing countries want to see this highlighted in the SBI conclusions to show actions are insufficient. Developed countries argue that SBI conclusions should not call out specific findings but rather just take note of the compilation and synthesis report having been completed. There are other arguments on the need for further training for BTR tools, and provision of financial and technical support for reporting.

All the other negotiating texts are coming through [here](#).

### **National Statements & NDC Progress**

Finance the key focus, with calls for increased pledges (Türkiye, Mauritania, Kyrgyzstan) of finance that is fair and accessible (Guinea-Bissau, Libya); covers adaptation and Loss and Damage as well as mitigation (RMI, DRC); reduces the debt burden of countries rather than worsening it (DRC), with both public and private needing to contribute (Belgium, Maldives), including on adaptation (Bulgaria). RMI stressed that climate finance cannot be market-rate loans and should not fund fossil fuel protection. Several speeches also referred to the need for innovative finance instruments (UNSG, Serbia, DRC, Barbados), for better transparency and accountability, and a boost to the capacity of development banks (UNSG).

The EU (\$31bn), UK (£11.6bn), Canada (\$1.4bn), and China (\$24.5bn) were among countries to outline contributions to climate finance. The idea of Solidarity Levies (on shipping, aviation, and fossil fuel extractors under the *polluter pays* principle, raising up to \$350bn per year for climate finance) gained momentum, with the COP28 Coalition for Solidarity Levies announcing five new members: Djibouti, Fiji, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Zambia (in addition to Barbados, France, Kenya).

The MDBs announced that annual collective climate finance will reach \$120bn by 2030, aiming to mobilise \$65bn from the private sector, with \$42bn for adaptation (35%).

Food security features as one of the key impacts of climate change in many national statements. Geopolitical tensions featured.

Elsewhere, the **USA** confirmed their BTR will come by end of 2024; **the Republic of Korea** confirmed it is preparing a new 1.5-aligned NDC and increasing ODA by 30% this year (\$300m to GCF and \$7m to L&D fund); and **Egypt** reaffirmed commitment to 48% renewable energy by 2030, conditional on international support.

### **NDC Intel**

The Vice-President of Brazil launched **Brazil's NDC**. Further analysis is [here](#). It sets out 59% to 67% emission reductions by 2035 compared to 2005 levels (equivalent to 39% to 50% emission reductions compared to 2019 levels) and aims for 0 deforestation.

On food, the key lines are:

*In the agricultural sector, Brazil will continue to demonstrate that it is possible to sustainably expand agricultural production while guaranteeing food security and energy security through the sustainable production of biofuels. In doing so, the country will rely on two fundamental transformations:*

*(i) the conversion of new areas primarily from degraded pastures whilst expanding the area of crops in integrated systems such as crop-livestock and crop-livestock forest integration, and*

*(ii) productivity gains in agricultural production systems, through greater migration to integrated systems and an increase in high productivity systems.*

*In the agricultural sector, Brazil will implement the Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change and Low Carbon Emissions in Agriculture (ABC+ Plan), as well as other instruments such as the National Program for Strengthening Family Farming (Pronaf), the Bioeconomy Brazil Socio-biodiversity Program and the National Bio-inputs Program and the National Program for the Conversion of Degraded Pastures into Sustainable Agricultural and Forestry Production Systems (PNCPD), a new initiative that aims to convert low productivity pastures into agricultural areas over ten years Brazil also recognizes its role in food production and food security worldwide. Together with a renewed focus on achieving the SDGs, Brazil's implementation of the Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change and Low Carbon Emissions in Agriculture (ABC+ Plan) will serve as a key contribution "to ensure that food production is not threatened and to enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner", in line with the ultimate objective of the Convention.*

Other key lines:

- promoting sustainable and resilient production and regular access to healthy food of adequate quality and quantity;
- thematic adaptation plan on food and nutrition security in development
- national mitigation objective to encourage the widespread adoption of sustainable agricultural and livestock production models with low greenhouse gas emissions, guaranteeing food security for all;
- sustainably expand agricultural production
- sustainable production of biofuels

On a related note, Brazilian Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Marina Silva, highlighted the need to align climate and biodiversity efforts and pointed to COP30 as a key moment to align climate and biodiversity efforts. Meanwhile, Colombia's Environment Minister, María Susana Muhamad González, noted that nature is less 'bankable' than energy projects, framing ecosystem restoration as a global food security issue. Both underscored the need for changes to the global financial system to address these connected issues

### **The COP experience**

The food issue is not good. Nika wrote more about it [here](#). A COP Operations email on Thursday morning emphasised the availability of vegan and vegetarian options, and stressed that all food has a low or minimal carbon footprint.

No further updates from your Special Loo Roll Correspondent. There isn't any, but that's no longer news.

Otherwise, one has to say this COP is well organised and logistically simple. Finally, I started using the [interactive venue map](#) and it turns out it's really helpful. Recommend!



Thursday 14th November

### **Presidency, High-Level Events and Negotiations**

The **NCQG** continues to look a bit worrying, with 91 diverging options still on the table in the latest 33-page text. This seems to be a drag on other negotiations, as confidence in the finance goal is low, in turn undermining wider action.

The **SSJWA** continued on the theme of the online portal (design and submissions). There are proposals. They're making progress. A decision is likely tomorrow. It remains uninspiring.

Conversations on the **GGA** developed with Parties instructing the expert group to narrow down the list of indicators, which include food indicators (~50). Other elements of the adaptation agenda, including the NAPs Dialogue, Adaptation Committee report, and LDCs, were plagued with continued disagreements about the scope and modalities, including whether discussions should include, not include, or include exclusively finance. The SBI Chair attended to ask Parties to look at the big picture. Parties disagreed on whether private finance for NAP implementation was in scope, or only public finance. Ultimately, the co-facs were given the mandate to produce a draft decision referencing developed countries' obligations on finance; finance gaps; and not referencing the role of the private sector.

One addition to the list of current issues that may undermine confidence and trust between developing countries and developed countries: hidden away in the **technical dialogues on the BTRs**, there's an argument brewing about the findings of the recent synthesis report.

The report shows that emissions from Annex I Parties are set to increase to 2030. Developing countries want to see this highlighted in the SBI conclusions to show current actions are insufficient. Developed countries argue that SBI conclusions should not call out specific findings but rather just take note of the compilation and synthesis report having been completed. There are other arguments on the need for further training for BTR tools, and provision of financial and technical support for reporting.

There were equally contradictory views expressed in the **High-Level Ministerial Dialogue on Climate Finance**, with countries complaining variously about complexity of access to climate finance; need to broaden the contributor base vs maintaining onus on developed countries; and the need to invest more in L&D due to a lack of progress on mitigation.

The **gender and climate change [text](#)** arrived, with 125 bracketed sections over seven pages, continuing the theme of a generally high level of conflict and disagreement. Food security has been added in the latest draft text. The text came too late for reactions from parties in sessions today.

It seems like there is some movement on the **Mitigation Work Programme** and the **Just Transition Work Programme**, although both are continuing later after further consultations.

### **National Intel**



Burundi called attention to African countries' continued reliance on wood as cooking fuel, also noting the urgent need to address health impacts in NDCs.

### **Other Events**

An early session on **Aligning Climate and Nutrition** in the Health Pavilion showcased the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub, the Initiative on Climate Action and Nutrition (co-chaired by the Government of Egypt and the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition), and the Coalition on Healthy Diets from Sustainable Food Systems. It included examples of aligned strategies in Indonesia (wide-ranging) and the Nordic Nutrition Recommendations.

Annika Sohlstrom (NNR): noted complexity of national and regional differences in environmental impact, differences in production methods, and difference within food groups. Needs more than recommendations and information. Has established Nordic Standing Committee for Nutrition to share expertise with other countries and regions. Open to collab.

Geeta Sabharwal: Indonesia committed to transformation through diversity of climate resilient food strategies. Rich input on strategies in Indonesia and links to development alongside ag and nutrition priorities. School meals, procurement in scope.

**Holistic Approaches to NDC3.0** discussed institutional arrangements, capacity and coordination for NDC development. 2024 NDC Synthesis Report and UNEP Emissions Gap Report show that NDCs 3.0 are urgently needed to accelerate progress on multiple development goals, including health. UNFCCC Secretariat notes challenge of siloed approaches and need for policies, institutions, and frameworks to enable realisation. *Sustainable institutional arrangements to mainstream throughout government and society.*

IDDRI highlighted how challenging it is to create a 1.5-aligned NDC without a long-term strategy (LT-LEDS), which gives a longer perspective. The NDC-LTS Alignment Guide is now available for Parties to use.

Examples from Cambodia, Jordan, St Vincent and the Grenadines in this UNFCCC-NDCCP co-organised event. Interesting to see all the participatory frameworks, and to see how few include food/agriculture in any meaningful way. Most have sectoral strategies associated with the NDC, which is really the coal-face.

The **Presidency [consultations](#) on the Global Stocktake** (Thursday 14th November 19:00-21:00) are an opportunity for Parties to make the case for a cover decision to capture desired outcomes that may not fit within other agenda items (timing for IPCC AR7).

A **ProVeg and EIT Food press conference** and another on **regenerative agriculture** discussed issues on food systems in the climate negotiations.

**Addressing agri-systems adaptation through NbS as a vulnerability and risk reduction measure in the LAC region** was an IICA-organised event highlighting opportunities for more sustainable agriculture with livestock, methane, and rice in focus. They referred to methane reduction opportunities across the board and the positive role of livestock producers in protecting forests and soils. Brazil discussed co-benefits for food security, adaptation, and agricultural production. Others also referenced undernutrition and

malnutrition, and potential conflicts between sustainable development and agricultural production.

In the Health Pavilion, the Government of Egypt held a follow-up to their COP27 Presidency Initiative on Climate Action and Nutrition: **Investing in Human Capital, Health, and Jobs for a Climate-Resilient Future: The I-CAN and COP29 Simulation Policy Proposals**. It was interesting to hear about issues at the nexus of human capital, climate, and health through food systems.

**Invest in Soil Health - fostering the future of climate change mitigation and adaptation** was a great event on soil health, including interesting statistics on Brazil's transition to more regenerative agriculture (an 85% increase of hectares under no-till practices between 2006-2017). This referenced the ABC+ plan for the Brazilian agriculture sector. Interesting stat: 58% of biodiversity lives in soil.

### **Other initiatives**

Consumers International published an [open letter](#) calling to include consumption actions and protections in NDCs.

### **COP experience**

COP Operations sent out a note reassuring delegates that there are vegan and vegetarian food options, apparently responding to criticisms of a lack of vegan and vegetarian food options (and their ruinous cost). [Work is already underway](#) on efforts to improve the catering in Brazil for COP30.

In a special report from the bathrooms, I was intrigued to find out which is the more environmentally friendly option in terms of emissions: the hand driers or a paper towel. Apparently it is the paper towel, as long as you only take one. (Though presumably this depends on energy efficiency of the dryer and sources of energy used to power the grid.)

Friday 15th November

The big news from Friday is that we can all move on from the **SSJWA** Web Design Committee meetings (not official name), as agreement has been reached. The secretariat will go away and develop the online portal and submission template. Submissions can be projects, initiatives, policies.

A draft **NCQG decision text** takes us down to 25 pages, 23 brackets, and 43 options. It's just streamlining of text, not actual breakthroughs in the negotiations, but somehow it still feels like a tiny step forward.

**Modalities of the UAE Dialogue on implementing the GST** (11:00 in MR26), the **GGA** (12:00 in MR04), **NAPs** (15:00 in MR26), and a few others that may conclude this week, apparently - hence the late nights tonight.

**Making 2024 the Pivotal Year for Clean Cooking** was a Presidency event that saw a tangible commitment (rare at this COP), with the UK pledging funding to various clean cooking initiatives. It's hard to quantify precisely, as the money is in various disparate pots, but it's in the tens of millions - adding to £67m on clean cooking projects since 2016. The money would go towards businesses going green, innovations in clean cooking, results-based finance, and better, cheaper, cleaner, more modern solutions. It came with an ambition to leverage £400m more for the sector. Necessary, as the finance gap is around \$4bn.

Other countries presented on their work: Tanzania (clean cooking strategy), Norway (clean cookstoves), Uganda (energy transition plan and use of renewables and natural gas), France (incorporation into the NDCs), the Netherlands (carbon credits and links to Article 6), India (highlighting national success and pointing to affordability and education as key enablers), Kenya (energy transition), USA (carbon credit links), UAE (COP28 Beyond Food Clean Cooking Platform and other projects encouraging energy access), South Africa and Brazil (links to the G20), Senegal, Africa 50, and the Climate Investment Funds. All were supportive of clean cooking objectives and recognised the range of key issues affected, but none made new commitments to support.

There was strong recognition of the impact on women's health (collecting wood and being exposed to household pollutants while cooking). Links to the G7, G20, and Article 6 (carbon markets) were hot on the agenda.

The **Ministerial Meeting on Methane** discussed targets for managing methane from waste, but no new commitments or insights. Europe and the UK mentioned food systems and livestock. Brazil mentioned the agricultural sector and investment in methane mitigation in agriculture (progenetics, vaccines). Madagascar mentioned livestock and rice production.

**Agri-Food Finance & Enabling Policies to Drive Climate Action** (15:00 in SE2)

**Accelerating climate action and finance to frontline communities affected by fragility or conflict**

**Youth-led Climate Forum Dialogue on Sustainable Agriculture, Food Security and Water Resource Management** (mandated event)

**COP Experience**

Lana is meeting with the Head of Catering for COP29, who has expressed some openness to change the menu with realistic requests.

Saturday 16th November

## **Negotiations**

I'm not sure things are going very well. The evening plenary was delayed from 17:00 to 19:00 to 20:00 to 20:30. Writing at 21:10, it is still yet to start. This probably reflects issues on the negotiation agenda, which would stand to reason. (Ed to add: we've just started at 22:00.)

The **Global Goal on Adaptation** negotiations hit the buffers today. A delayed informal consultation saw a new proposed text shared for live review, but after 1.5hrs Parties had not agreed how to conduct that review. It's looking like procedural conclusions only. On the substance of what's actually going on: the Technical Experts are supposed to be working on a list of global adaptation indicators. A starting longlist of 10-12,000 was narrowed to 5,000. The Expert group does not yet have a mandate to shortlist, but nonetheless has been asked to label the 5,000 indicators as yes/no/maybe. Parties will still make the final decision on the indicators, which could inform both NAPs and the GST in future. There is a list of indicators, including on food, found [here](#). Rumours of a shortlist abound. I have requested.

The **NCQG** has a new text, which is very slightly shorter and contains slightly fewer options. But this isn't really representative of any progress on agreeing any substantive issues. It's just tweaking and fiddling around the edges. Being charitable, there was some progress on transparency mechanisms, and agreement that no new elements would be added. The Co-Chairs and Secretariat were told they were doing *a phenomenal job*.

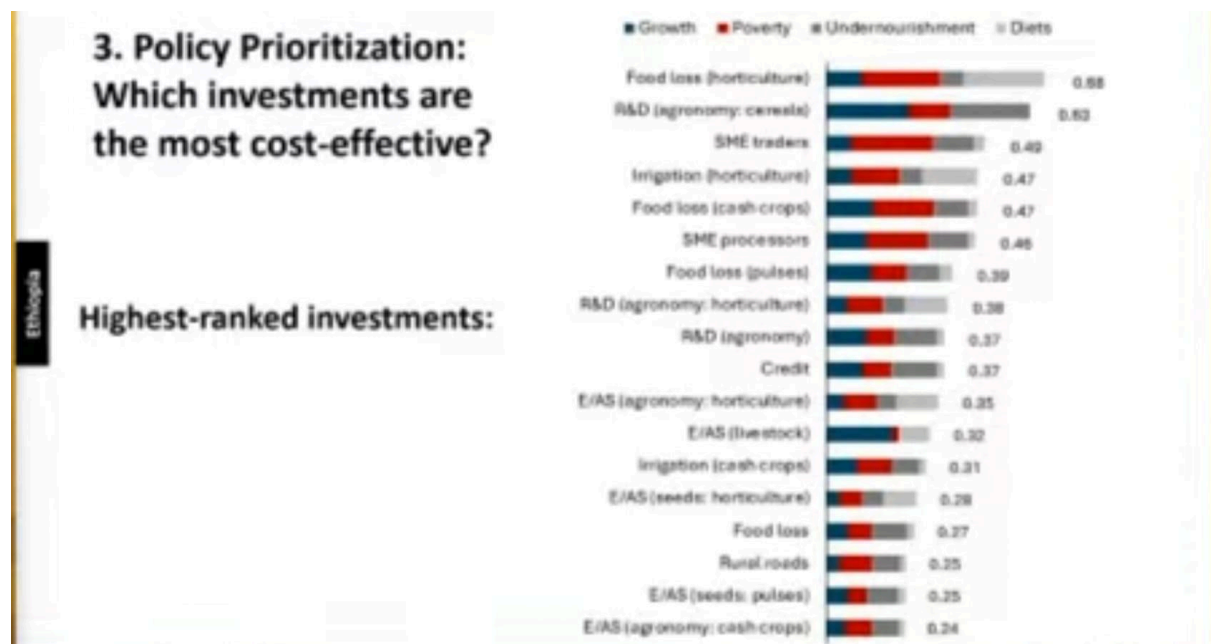
Other texts are out but with various bracketed sections, disagreements, and caveats around legal status. It seems unlikely that much will be agreed here.

## **Other events**

An **AFSA and Agroecology Coalition UNFCCC side event** saw confirmation from Kenya that their NDC3.0 will include climate-smart agriculture and agroecology. This will draw upon their National Agricultural Strategy for Food Systems Transformation (coming in December). The NDC Dialogues have included representatives from across government and across sectors. Agroecology is seen as key to agricultural resilience and triple wins for productivity, community resilience, and managing emissions. The Asian Development Bank presented their enthusiasm to support farmers, with decarbonising the rice sector as a priority. Colombia and Brazil are fellow front-runners in producing national agroecology strategies, along with Tanzania.

The Presidency event on **children and climate change** reminded us that malnutrition underlies half of all under-five mortality, and causes lifelong developmental disadvantages. Zambia highlighted the important role of school feeding programmes. Others pointed to the need for more climate finance for children. Currently, only 2.4% of climate finance is programmed in a child-responsive way. The UNICEF Threat to Progress report featured.

Another **UAE Declaration follow-up event** saw H.E. Mariam Almheiri launch the Future Food Systems Programme with IFPRI, designed to help 15 countries align NDCs, NAPs, and other strategies with the Emirates Declaration. Those 15 countries are: Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal, Philippines, Vietnam, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Rwanda, Uganda, Brazil, Caribbean SIDS. The detailed modelling and foresight exercises are designed to ensure that food systems feature in National Development Plans and, crucially, budgets (in a medium-term framework). Tanzania shared their agriculture master plan and food systems approach, with targets for GDP from agriculture (5x increase) and sustainable, resilient production of key commodities. The speaker linked undernourishment, reducing the shame of the population working in agriculture, and poverty - but noted food loss (especially in horticulture and cereals) as a key issue.



## Week One Closing Plenary (Saturday night) (notes not yet refined):

The Presidency apologised that we were starting late because we were trying to get as many conclusions as possible. Something about the tone suggested these efforts were not successful.

### **SBI-only**

Compilation and syntheses of biennial reports: kicked to SB62

GHG Inventories: continue consideration at SB62

Reporting from Parties not included in Annex I: constructive discussion on National Communications; agreed to continue consideration at SB62.

Provision of Financial and Technical Support: could not conclude at this session; moved to next session

Summary Reports on Technical Analysis of Reports of Parties not included in Annex I of the Convention: considered published summary reports from Biennial Update Reports and took note of 180 technical analysis summary reports pre-Sept 2024. Constructive discussion and noted importance of information therein.

Report of Consultative Group of Experts: conclusions adopted as presented

Matters relating to GST: Modalities of UAE Dialogue. Forwarded to CMA for 6th session based on informal note prepared at this session, which has divergent views, is not agreed upon, is not exhaustive, has no formal status, is open to revision, and does not preclude expression of any further views. EU comes in: the world expects, and the EU had hoped to get further. Would like follow-up on all elements of the GST (by which they mean to include both adaptation and loss and damage alongside mitigation). Samoa on behalf of AOSIS: expresses concern but faith in future progress. Underscores facts about urgency of need, and says that some Parties would like to 'conveniently forget' what we agreed. SIDS cannot consider this COP a success if there is no opportunity to advance after the GST. We are surprised and disappointed by the situation thus far. AILAC: wanted to focus on means of implementation and finance. The EIG said that the implementation of the GST should be incorporated in the NCQG. So, yes - forwarded to CMA6, amid much lamentation and disappointment.

Matters relating to adaptation: NAPs draft conclusions adopted following significant progress throughout Saturday, so on to further consideration at COP29 on the basis of this text (<https://unfccc.int/documents/643857>). For the nerds among us: this one is actually quite interesting, in that the Presidency had earlier sought to limit scope of discussion for week two (for the sake of simplicity) - but parties decided to forward discussions to the second week anyway.

Matters relating to the LDCs: conclusions adopted (<https://unfccc.int/documents/643852>) and draft decision recommended for adoption by COP29. Malawi takes the floor *after* adoption just to say thanks, which was a rare nice vibe.

Technology transfer and development: links between technology mechanism and financial mechanism; to be continued at SB62. Malawi expresses concern and regret on lack of progress, as well as dissatisfaction with co-facs. They do not agree to kicking this to SB62. Pushed to the end of the agenda. Coming back now (two hours in), Malawi further explain:

Poznan Strategic Programme on Technology Transfer: conclusions adopted

Technology Implementation Programme: kicked to CMA6

Review on Standing Committee on Finance: to continue at SB63 (not a typo)

Matters relating to capacity building: draft decisions adopted

Gender and climate change: forwarded to COP29 for consideration on the basis of the SBI61 draft text. EU comes in. I'm not quite sure why. Concerned by backsliding on agreed language from 10 years ago. Want to continue work next week. In earlier discussions, Saudi Arabia had said the matter is *significant and sensitive*, and the YOUNGO and Women and Gender constituencies lamented discriminatory nature of the text, which even brackets language on addressing violence against women. Iran expressed concerns about contradictions to national legislation. The EU, AILAC, Mexico, Brazil, and Australia spoke out against any backsliding.

Action for Climate Empowerment: conclusions adopted as presented

## **Joint Items**

GST (Procedural): another text for further discussion but with no formal status and all open to revision, addition, deletions, and so on.

GGA: conclusions as presented adopted (<https://unfccc.int/documents/643847>) and forwarded to CMA6 for further consideration.

*Side-note to mention that the SBI Chair is better with his gavel than the SBSTA Chair. It makes a nice, woody \*thwack\*, whereas the SBSTA Chair gets a sort of hollow \*tink\*.*

Adaptation Committee: no progress, and EU intervenes to express disappointment at the fact that it's the fourth year running with no progress.

Joint Annual Report of the Executive Committee of the WIM for Loss and Damage and the Santiago Network: could not conclude consideration of the matter at this session, so pushed to next session (SB62).

Review of the WIM on Loss and Damage: could not conclude anything on this session. Pushed to next session.



MWP: could not conclude consideration at this session. Pushed to next session without even so much as a text to reflect the discussions held this week. UK intervenes and proposes that the item should be forwarded to CMA for further guidance (so would continue into week two of COP) with an informal note. The UK is supported by:

- Peru: accuses a group of Parties of blocking progress, also wanting to continue work next week.
- Japan: supports
- Canada: also keen to continue engagement under the CMA, supporting procedural conclusions put forward by UK.
- Australia: feel this is an unacceptable outcome. *We stooped to a new low today, with a group of Parties blocking acknowledgement that this has even taken place.* Must continue to CMA with procedural conclusions.
- Samoa on behalf of AOSIS: supports further discussion at CMA6.
- NZ: supports.
- Switzerland: supports UK
- Norway: supports, and notes that the world expects more than silence. *We expect an orderly transition from SB to CMA.*
- USA: deeply disappointed by the pace and status, and Parties refusing to forward a simple compilation of views.
- Malawi: also concerned by lack of progress. Supports taking this into CMA.
- EU: support UK proposal.
- Colombia: aligns with Peru. Notes need for both NCQG and corresponding progress on individual and collective measures. Hope to continue in constructive way next week. Strongly reject application of rule 16.
- Chile: complements Peru. Not supportive of rule 16. Adopt procedural conclusions and continue next week.
- Cook Islands: aligned to Samoa. Procedural conclusions offer a constructive pathway forward. Calls for a decision.
- Nepal: aligns to Malawi. Keen to continue under CMA.
- Fiji: strongly supports UK proposal.
- Mexico: supports proposal by the UK

But was opposed by:

- Kenya: for Africa, the success of the conference goes beyond the agreement of texts. Regrettably, COP29 is not charting that course. No convergence on mandate and scope of MWP. Will not accept the top-down and prescriptive nature of the text. It is not right to use MWP as a placeholder for policy messages and GST. Efforts to transform MWP into a platform for setting targets is not in line with its mandate.
- Bolivia: could not find agreement, rule 16 should be applied; deeply disrespectful to be termed 'blockers' in MWP meeting. *The views expressed by our partners are so far out of the mandate that it became difficult even to find a common starting point.* Mainly linked to lack of finance agreed under NCQG. Mitigation action by developed countries not forthcoming. Emissions from developed countries are higher. *This is a stadium, but we must put an end to the games.* Parties are putting the mitigation burden on the developing countries.

- Saudi Arabia on behalf of Arab Group: aligns with LMDC and AGN. Working within the agreed mandate, but see attempts to condition progress, holding elements hostage to influence other outcomes. It undermines progress and trust. The MWP mandate is clear: facilitative, non-punitive, non-prescriptive approach, respecting nationally determined nature of NDCs. No new targets or goals imposed. We face efforts to undermine elements of this process. Eroding flexibility. Fragmenting mitigation from the critical means of implementation. We are deeply disappointed that some Parties seem intent on taking us off track. It is not the basis for the trust and unity we need to succeed. We call on all Parties to respect the mandate, honour agreement, and work constructively.
- India: we notice a tendency to ignore decisions taken in the past. We're being told to increase mitigation action by countries that have made little progress themselves and failed to provide finance. If there are no means of implementation there can be no climate action.

And a slightly different approach from Brazil (Grupo Sur): the MWP should stress facilitation of implementation and therefore favour continuing to discuss but with no base text.

Due to lack of consensus, the SB chairs are forced to adopt Rule 16 and pass to the next session with no conclusion. Iran and others sound exasperated.

JTWP: ...no, hang on. Switzerland coming back in on MWP.

MWP (cont): UK disappointed. EU: disappointed.

JTWP: pushed to next session. Brazil: doesn't agree about postponing, wants to continue work next week. Oh, but it's just happened anyway. That didn't take long. ***Edit to add: confusingly, subsequent reporting suggests this will be taken up at CMA6 (next week). I may have missed that.***

SSJWA: conclusions adopted as presented.

Response Measures: discussions did not reach a conclusion. Forward the matter to COP29 and CMP19 and CMA6 (so continue next week) taking into account draft texts on website, with all the usual caveats about the text not representing consensus.

### **SBSTA-only agenda items**

Research and systematic observation: adopted

Clean development mechanism: to be included in provisional agenda for next session (no conclusion reached)

Article 6.2: draft conclusions adopted as presented.

Article 6.4: adopted SBSTA conclusions and recommended to the CMA to consider (next week)

Article 6.8: it is so decided. Recommended a draft decision for adoption by CMA6.

Japan comes in: drafts still have remaining issues where views are not reflected.

Reporting tools under the ETF: conclusions adopted as presented. Hang on - Malawi coming in (while someone else has a sneezing fit) to express disappointment about lack of progress on capacity building for developing countries.

Technical review of information reported by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention in their biennial reports and national communications: SBSTA considered report, took note...

Technical review of greenhouse gas inventories of Parties included in Annex I to the Convention: adopted

Technical review of greenhouse gas inventories and other information reported by Parties included in Annex I.3: adopted

Features of the NDCs: three options were on the table, including concluding now, deferring consideration, or proceeding to inf-infs. Ultimately, with many views on the table, the co-facs were given the mandate to compile and forward for discussion during the second week.

Topics on the table are:

- Russia: links between NDCs and the Paris Agreement, including on Mol
- Saudi Arabia: need for a common definition on climate finance
- Chile: raising ambition is about implementation, not additional features
- EIG: disagrees with Chile; additional features can fill the ambition gap
- AOSIS: additional features in line with science, informed by GST
- EU: inclusivity of NDC formulation, including gender-responsiveness

### **Other matters:**

Deputy Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC says there may be financial requirements associated and starts pitching for cash.

Simon Stiell and SB Chairs have spoken, it's all over, we can all go home... but then Australia (for whom it is presumably 8am) chime in, too. And Switzerland. EU. Guys, seriously... It's 00:15. OK, nothing much. Just thanks to the SB Chairs. Onward. Goodnight.

### **Summary and what's moving forward**

To next week (14): NCQG; dialogue on implementing the GST outcomes; Article 6.4; Article 6.8 (for adoption); features of the NDCs; GGA; National Adaptation Plans; Just Transition Work Programme; Response Measures; logistical elements of the overall GST process; gender; Report of the Adaptation Committee (for adoption); Matters related to LDCs (for adoption); administrative, financial, and institutional matters (for adoption)

To next SBs (June 2025) (11): MWP; Article 6.2; emissions from fuel for aviation and maritime transport; matters relating to the Clean Development Mechanism; review of the

Adaptation Committee; Review of the WIM; report of the Executive Committee and Santiago Network; compilations and syntheses of biennial reports; report on national GHG inventory data; reporting from non-Annex I parties' national communications; provision of financial and technical support for developing country reporting; provision of financial and technical support to developing countries for reporting under the Paris Agreement

To later date (after June 2025) (1): review of the SCF

Complete (10): GHG Data Interface; Annex I reporting; annual reports on technical reviews; technical review of GHG inventories; summary reports on the technical analysis of biennial update reports; report of the CGE; reporting tools under the ETF; SSJWA; Research and Systematic Observation; ACE

Monday 18th November

OK, well, that was the first of two very long days.

### **The good news**

The Baku Initiative on Human Development launched, with significant recognition of the importance of health and nutrition. In a climate and health ministerial later on, these connections (and the Initiative on Climate Action and Nutrition specifically) were emphasised.

[WWF](#) and [FAO](#) both produced their updated analysis of (agri)food systems in the NDCs, presenting a generally positive picture of inclusion.

The climate ambassador of Sweden announced that Sweden will include sustainable food systems including nutrition targets in their updated NDCs.

AIM4Climate published [this list](#) of innovation investments to date.

...and the dates for COP30 came out: 10th - 21st November 2025 in Belem.

### **The bad news**

The COP Presidency promised results on Mitigation and committed to push on the NCQG (especially the structure, quantum, and contributors), but the mood is still grim after Saturday's plenary. Low trust and stalling negotiations seem to have knocked the wind out of our sails. Across the negotiations, there was much quibbling.

The report of the Standing Committee on Finance met surprisingly angry responses from the African Group (due to failure to discuss or act on substance of reports), and Russia (asking to delete paragraphs on gender-responsive finances).

The reports of and guidance to the GEF and GCF saw plenty of debate. New texts needed.

### **The indifferent news**

Work continues on the GGA and Articles 6.2 and 6.4, as well as the GST implementation and other finance items, but without any great progress.

There will (almost certainly) not be a cover decision.

Tuesday 19th November

Writing this from the Mitigation Work Programme IC late on Tuesday evening, perhaps my enthusiasm for today's events is waning and some feelings of disappointment are at the surface.

### **The good news**

Many organisations took the opportunity to publish reports and new evidence:

- [School feeding for food systems transformation](#) (ODI)
- [Agrifood Systems in the NDCs](#) (FAO)
- [Toolkit for National Action on Climate, Biodiversity and Water in Agriculture and Food Systems, Food Forward NDCs, Food Systems Trends in NDC Partnership Report, and Why and How to Incorporate Reducing Food Loss and Waste into NDCs](#) (WWF)
- [Myths perpetuated by the food industry](#) (CAFOD)
- [Overview of big agriculture delegates at COP29](#) (DeSmog)
- [Climate finance is failing farmers](#) (including analysis on finance to family farmers)
- [Innovation Achievements and Opportunities in Climate Adaptation Finance](#) (IFAD)
- [The Triple Gap in Finance for Agrifood Systems](#) (FAO and CPI)
- [Alliance of Champions for Food Systems Transformation Progress Snapshots](#) (ACF)

The Alliance of Champions for Food Systems Transformation all but confirmed Tanzania as a new member, with Vietnam expressing an interest in joining soon.

The Declaration on Reducing Methane from Organic Waste [launched](#) (properly), with 30+ signatory countries, including 8 of the 10 largest emitters of methane from organic waste. Part of the pledge commits to sectoral targets under new NDCs. In the launch event, Japan, South Korea, USA, Slovakia, Germany, the EU, the UK, Canada, Panama, Turkey, Guatemala and Bangladesh all expressed support and gave examples of commitments at national level. UNEP also presented their support.

Elsewhere, the [Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty](#) was launched at the G20.

### **The bad news**

The Mitigation Work Programme seems miles from a positive resolution at this stage on Tuesday evening. Parties disagree about what should be in the scope of the discussion, how it should reflect the GST, whether it should refer to NDCs at all, and how to conduct future work(shops) under the MWP. Developing country parties feel that most inclusions in the MWP from the GST would be 'cherry-picking' for political purposes.

The UAE-Belem Dialogue on the follow-up to the GST is still bogged down in the same argument about whether it should including finance, everything, or everything but with a focus on finance.

Finance still tricky. Nothing much moving fast. While the CLIC, CPI, FAO report mentioned above finds that agrifood systems require \$1.1tn annually, or 40x current level of investments, to align with a 1.5-degree pathway.

## **The indifferent news**

Harmoniya launched, with objectives to create a 'streamlined knowledge hub' for collaboration and learning; make both public and private investment in food systems more attractive; and empower farmers (both women and youth) to adapt to climate change. Various countries expressed their support for the concept throughout the day, though none made new commitments or announcements.

The COP-to-COP initiative ensured that we all recognised the living and breathing nature of the Agriculture Breakthrough, Global Methane Pledge, the Global Agriculture Policy Dialogues, just rural transition support programme, Water Resilient Food Systems Partnership, AIM4Climate and AIM4Scale, FAST, the Emirates Declaration, and (now) Harmoniya. Many countries shared their own experiences, including the COP Presidencies.

The high-level event on the Water Resilient Food Systems initiative (launched last year) highlighted increasing water demands, including from food systems, low water use efficiency, and the need to improve - especially in urban environments. There were no specific new commitments.

The FAST Ministerial saw comments from various supporting countries, including USAID describing the FASA investment fund of funds to support SMEs and smallholder farmers in Africa, while also pointing to past investments in AIM4Climate, CGIAR, Feed the Future Innovation Labs, and mobilising private sector finance through the AIM4Climate innovation sprints.

Overall, it was a long day of widespread agreement about what we need to do to transform food systems and many examples of national level efforts, but without substantive news to report.

## Food Systems in the National Statements


Taking a break here from daily summaries to note the mentions of food systems in the national statements - half of which were delivered last week, and the rest this.


- Kazakhstan: agriculture sector, carbon farming, reducing methane from ag
- Guinea-Bissau: mitigation and resilience through reforestation and mangrove protection; water conservation; sustainable agriculture for food security
- Belarus: points to agriculture as primary issue
- Mongolia: describes green agriculture movement
- Moldova: most climate vulnerable country; pointed to reduced agricultural yields due to impacts of climate change and issues of water access for agriculture
- Brazil: mentioned role in global food security and its 'green agriculture sector'
- Tanzania: mentions of clean cooking
- Angola: agricultural adaptation; noting hunger and poverty links, need to act on food systems
- Malawi: noted food security as key parallel issue
- Jordan: climate-smart agriculture
- Hungary: *the price of the transition cannot fall on farmers*
- Indonesia: noted food security and carbon credits as key issues
- Russia: new agricultural technologies
- Tonga (1.5hrs into day two statements): *robust food systems*
- Morocco: recalled the Initiative for the Adaptation of African Agriculture, launched at COP22. Referenced soil, water for irrigation, and resilient agricultural technologies.
- Kenya: transform agriculture and food systems; noted impacts of climate change on agriculture and food security
- Ukraine: the new NDC will be submitted on time and will include recovery from impacts of 'Russian military actions'
- Denmark: focused primarily on emissions from agriculture and the new carbon tax on farming; conversion of farmland to forest
- Azerbaijan: primarily contents of National Adaptation Plan
- Eswatini (not food but good quote): *Upon the conduct of each depends the fate of all.*




## Wednesday 20th November Stocktaking Plenary


>>> 10:00am updates


 the Stocktaking Plenary (and remaining National Statements) will take place today (starting about now)


 all technical work should conclude today (e.g. adoption of reports and agreement on procedural matters of other workstreams)

Then all the focus for today until we finish (which was almost certainly be late), will be on:

 the NCQG, especially donor base and quantum (i.e. who should pay and how much). Latest rumours are of a \$200-300bn quantum, which would be disappointing to developing countries. A text is expected before plenary.

 the follow-up to the Global Stocktake (i.e. translating global findings to national action)

 the Global Goal on Adaptation (i.e. what to do with the indicators and how to unlock finance for adaptation). A text is expected on Wednesday. Meanwhile, the discussions on the NAPs will probably be kicked down the road to SB62. Parties have not yet been able to agree on either a new text nor the draft procedural conclusions (which will be discussed in MR3 at 11:45).

 Article 6 (i.e. working out the appropriate bilateral and universal mechanisms for the carbon markets). A new text is expected today, but time is very short to make meaningful progress.

Finally, it's unclear what's going on with the Just Transition Work Programme. There's no text, no negotiation scheduled, and no real news to report (as far as I can see).

>>> Midnight updates

So, in theory, we should be seeing new texts on the NCQG, MWP, JTWP, and UAE Dialogue right about now, with the rest to follow early on Thursday morning. The Presidency has said we're on for a Friday finish. They're due by midnight. It's 23:41 at time of writing. Nothing yet.

On the NCQG, everything seems to be on the table. Public finance goals seem to range from \$200bn (rumoured lower bound) to \$900bn (highest suggested contribution), and various points in between. Other matters are still undecided, including contributor base and sources and structure. The only real agreement is that about \$1.3tn overall goal is about right. Which is odd, really, as the latest FAO-CPI figures show that food systems alone need \$1.1tn.

The only text emerging now is the Technology Implementation Programme (procedural conclusions, kicking to SB62). So I think I will sleep peacefully and see where tomorrow takes us.

Elsewhere, the Presidency events focused on climate and nature issues around cities and urban environments. Urban agriculture and food consumption in cities were called out frequently as crucial interventions for climate, nature, and human health. Food waste in cities also had a strong mention from UNEP. The IPCC report in 2027 will be on cities and climate change.

And it would be remiss not to mention the fantastic workshop held today by the Alliance of Champions for Food Systems Transformation, co-hosted by FOLU, CGIAR, WWF, Climate Focus, FAO. It covered practical steps to include food in the NDCs, to finance those commitments, and to implement. The discussion was detailed and insightful, and really made some of the lofty language of COPs feel all the more tangible.

Thursday 21st November

Nothing was happening and then it was all happening. New texts appeared on the [NCQG](#), [MWP](#), [GST Outcomes](#), [GGA](#), [Article 6.4](#), [gender and climate change](#), [JTWP](#) - and other things that we're not following so closely (dare I say?) like [cooperative approaches](#) and [response measures](#).

Parties met in plenary. The Presidency spoke positively and optimistically about the balanced texts and opportunity to close off by Friday evening. The EU, first to respond, disagreed: *the text we now have in front of us is unbalanced, unworkable, and unacceptable.*

A summary of reactions in the morning plenary:

- EU: MWP too weak; NCQG a long way off (contributor base; public finance for adaptation and most vulnerable; more diverse set of sources; too many elements outside the NCQG [subsidies, response measures])
- Australia (on behalf of Umbrella group): MWP is too weak on NDCs, energy transition, mitigation and should match GST outcomes. Fossil fuels should be explicit. Gender missing. Adaptation roadmap lacking.
- Samoa (on behalf of AOSIS): NCQG lacking for a number. Insist upon SIDS and LDC minimum numbers, which the EU just said they wouldn't accept. *This is one of our main red lines.* Need clear links between GST outcomes and MWP. GST needs to be considered in its entirety. On GGA, feel that their inputs have been ignored.
- Zambia: concerned and sad to see no quantum in the text.
- Malta: multiple concerns on more specific issues; believe they can reach a balanced outcome
- Uganda (on behalf of G77 and China): lack of a figure (total finance goal from public funds); unhappy about investment terminology and domestic finance; CBDR not reflected; Loss and Damage not reflected. Calls for developed country leadership.
- Honduras on behalf of the Coalition for Rainforest Nations: NCQG *completely unbalanced text that does not bring us any closer to a landing decision.* Doesn't believe the reference in *high integrity voluntary carbon markets*. But saw some progress on Article 6.
- Japan: NCQG needs clarity on types of finance. GGA should prioritise indicators and do not support new processes (Adaptation Roadmap). UAE-Belem programme should not include MoI.
- New Zealand: frustrating across the board; backsliding on GST, UAE restricted in scope, NCQG text 'not useful'. No bridging solution to find compromise solutions. We're losing the *historical* mitigation outcome from Dubai. MWP lacks high-level mitigation messages. GGA: faith in the process.
- Germany: MWP does not show any progress or suggest any clarity on action (including in the NDCs). Economy-wide emissions reductions aligned to 1.5. High-level political messages on how we'll do this (energy, fossil fuel subsidies, no new coal, phase-out of unabated coal power generation, suspending new coal, deforestation). Urged increased MOI.
- Poland: deeply disappointed by the text on mitigation. No space to discuss anything on GST outcomes so suggested annual implementation reports.
- AILAC: laments lack of a finance goal; Adaptation needs means of implementation; Article 6 balanced so they are open to engage (but uncomfortable); Lima Work

Programme on gender is neither backsliding nor increasing ambition. Developing countries will not accept anything below \$1.3tn and clarity on public finance and mobilisation components. GST needs to be comprehensive.

- Pakistan: notes that the NCQG still lacks a quantum and described country-specific allocations as 'unfair'
- Zambia: concerned and sad there is no NCQG quantum. GGA requires more clarity to the experts.
- France: expresses a lack of consensus.
- Bolivia on behalf of LMDC: text should reflect Paris Agreement (but notes areas of misalignment); lack of a finance goal for developing countries from developed countries... Wow, quite a lot of negative feedback on multiple elements of pretty much every text. Generally centres around the heavy burden places on developing countries and the need for greater ambition and support from developed countries. JTWP possibly the worst among them, with multiple paragraphs to be removed. Rejected voluntary support and expansion of contributor base for finance. Urged \$600bn. Called for deleting language on fossil fuel investment and subsidies and carbon pricing.
- Kenya on behalf of AGN: concerns about lack of quantum ambition in the NCQG; GGA lacks indicators on adaptation finance; calls for principles of CBDR to be strengthened and to recall the Paris Agreement
- Türkiye: MWP should focus on cities and built environment; GST should focus on NDCs but this should be country-led, so negotiation should focus on MOI; support IPCC-Adaptation Roadmap links; climate finance responsibility of developed countries. Called for focus on MOI, GGA roadmap, and NCQG in line with Paris.
- Malawi: calls for specific figure for LDCs (\$220bn); NCQG should not have sub-section on contributors and recipients; should use funds serving the Paris Agreement; GST must focus on implementation, especially finance and MOI; want to see energy access reflected in the text. Article 6.2 closer.
- Denmark: focused on carbon market that ensures a fair sharing mechanism but feels we're moving backwards on accountability and transparency
- Switzerland: NCQG too long; GST not sufficient; MWP lacking; and (on behalf of EIG) says there's a lack of balance. NCQG crosses multiple red lines. Needs reducing and simplifying. MWP falls short. GST outcome lacks detail. Article 6 closer but note inconsistencies. Gender falls short on language on rights and access to resources.
- USA: treatment on Mitigation is unacceptable and backslides on Dubai. Appreciate streamlining on NCQG text but find it unbalanced and would not be able to agree. Unacceptable that the contributor base is not expanded.
- UK: MWP no way adequate. GST: implementation language weak. NCQG: neither option works. GGA: not there yet. Called for 1.5 degree roadmap.
- Colombia: aligned to G77, China, AILAC group. Calls for innovative, concrete financing mechanisms as we saw in CBD or proposed from Mia Mottley et al under the Solidarity Levies. We are *playing geopolitics*. Susana Mohammed gets a round of applause for calling out lack of political leadership or ambition.
- Chile: texts are BAU; no clear action on GST; limited progress on gender. NCQG: no reference to quantum; cannot have more compilation texts but rather need new proposals

- Panama: quite explosive. When he said he will not mince words, he wasn't kidding. Calls out lack of action and ruinous consequences. *One of the weakest texts on mitigation we've ever seen*. Calls out that loans would be unacceptable. Calls out spending on wars and fossil fuel subsidies. Lack of mitigation texts is a death sentence. *Despicable. Evil. 1.5 is a moral obligation*.
- Fiji: NCQG lacks a quantum; adaptation text insufficiently transformational. Need strong mitigation outcome and NCQG. Rejected weakening of language on LDC and SIDS special circumstances
- Suriname: focuses on 6.2 and 6.4. Should prioritise grant-based finance and ambitious financial commitment. Specific flows to SIDS. Inclusion of Adaptation Fund
- Indonesia: scale up mitigation action; principle of CBRD; more finance from developed to developing nations; GST should be on finance. Opposed conditioning of climate finance on domestic reforms, and keen to avoid gender fight.
- Canada: text takes us backwards. Decisions must call for ambitious NDCs; all GST elements; NCQG 'balance' (will agree on amount when we agree on other elements); adaptation insufficient; gender takes us back ten years
- Marshall Islands: insufficiency of texts; package 'fails the people of the Marshall Islands'. Transition away from fossil fuels. Minimum allocation for SIDS and LDCs. GGA needs to have money attached or else the process is meaningless. The text neither secures 1.5 nor gives me the finance I need to live in a 2.7 degree world.
- Saudi Arabia: NCQG shifts away from Paris Agreement (on contributor base); conditionalities about human rights for finance are unacceptable; Mitigation cannot be prescriptive. GST: should include multiple elements. JTWP: needs to be about MOI. Much focus on CBRD and the nationally-determined nature of activities. *"The Arab group will not accept any text that targets any specific sectors, including fossil fuels"*.
- Zimbabwe for AGN: finance primary issue; provision of financial support necessary for multiple outcomes; group does not accept gender language nor micro-management of gender language, nor requirement for national financing. The group rejects the gender text in its entirety. Request more time on NCQG.
- China: aligns to Uganda and Bolivia. Must reflect CBRD. Must refer back to Paris Agreement. NCQG: must be a larger quantum; obligation of developed countries different from voluntary support by developing countries. Paragraphs go beyond provisions of the Paris Agreement, including on access to funds. Amount, structure and quality should be the entire focus. MWP: should not touch on goals. Highlight developed country gaps. Highlight actions for mitigation and support. GST text not agreeable. Must clarify it's developed countries providing funding to developing.
- Iran: any issues beyond NCQG beyond red lines; equal access to all countries; special provisions not fair. Mandate of MWP is facilitative, so new targets, goals or guidelines are beyond scope.
- Tuvalu: maintain high ambition, recognise special circumstances of LDCs and SIDS in the NCQG
- South Africa: frustration, especially on mitigation and finance. No reference to public finance targets. Placeholder figures not helpful. Concerned about access and management elements, including involvement of non-UNFCCC finance flows and other contributors. ETF should be the accountability framework. UAE Dialogue houses mitigation messages but this is only possible if the scope of the UAE Dialogue goes beyond finance. Suggest MWP should take mitigation outcomes of the

GST as a whole. JTWP: lacks balance between international and national; this process should look at fair access to opportunities. *We remain far apart.*

- Malaysia: NCQG must be anchored in CBDR so cannot accept any shifting of responsibility from developed countries to any other country or entity outside the UNFCCC. Concerns about reduced investment flow to fossil fuels given important role of transition fuels. *Our right to develop must be respected.* Concerns on Article 6 mechanisms. GST: dialogues should be a facilitative platform supporting countries especially through MOI to achieve NDCs and NAPs. Access to MOI is the critical issue. Back to financial issues. JTWP: notes it's a balanced text but do not want to call out energy sector and, again, notes that it's dependent on MOI so should be in the text. Must be non-prescriptive, non-punitive, respectful, and ensuring no one is left behind.
- Maldives: similarly focused on finance.
- Kazakhstan: similarly focused on need to increase finance flows to developing countries. Includes innovative financing. GGA: sort of somewhat supportive? Wow. MWP: somewhat positive again, saying that it leaves parties to find their own way.
- Barbados: align to AOSIS. Focus on a balanced package is detracting from ambition. Concerns about finance and mitigation. Concern about cost of climate finance. No deviation from Paris Agreement Article 9 (responsibility of developed countries). Needs a clear number, in tandem with conversations about structure. Private finance structure would disadvantage SIDS. Stronger focus on L&D needed. Needs of adaptation fund must be reflected.
- Bangladesh: unimpressed by the multiple sources of finance in Option One. Cannot have more debt. Needs and circumstances of LDCs must be reflected.
- Sweden: fully aligned to the statement of the EU. Text is not sufficiently ambitious. There's a bit of 'just trust us' about the list of contributions to the finance. The NCQG must be ambitious and realistic. MWP: nowhere near what the planet needs from us. Commends Dubai and now we must honour the legacy. NDCs: present their own strategy. Stand ready to engage on solutions that are available.
- Sierra Leone: aligns with Malawi. Stressed that developed countries owe 'climate debt'
- Costa Rica: called for NCQG aligned with mitigation ambitions of developing countries, with at least 20% flowing through Financial Mechanism and AF.
- Holy See: goal should support energy transition through grants; strong on gender
- France: agrees with EU that the proposals on the table are unacceptable. We cannot kick topics to next year if we need to submit NDCs now. We are deeply troubled by retreat on Mitigation. One step forward in Dubai, two steps back in Baku. Must work on concrete implementation of the elements of the Global Stocktake. Keen to recognise human rights, women, girls, gender.
- St. Vincent & the Grenadines: On NCQG, cannot shift financial burden to developing/vulnerable countries, investment option is no option at all due to high climate risks. Must also increase access to grants/highly concessional financing, enhance accountability of financing for SIDS
- India: Align with Bolivia. Disappointed by lack of focus on means of implementation for mitigation, i.e. financing. Goal should be \$1.3 trillion USD, with \$600 billion must come through grants/equivalent resources. On mitigation work program text, calls for deleting of reference to GST decision 1 and noting pre-2020 mitigation gap by Annex I parties. Just transition begins with developed countries taking the lead and

providing means of implementation to developing countries. Does not accept heading of GST text either Lots of specific references to specific bodies of text (not all noted here). No need to focus on transformational adaptation anymore, but on other concepts like incremental adaptation in national contexts. This is the finance, balancing, enabling COP.

- Palau: On mitigation, current text is woefully inadequate to get us on track for 1.5C. Need clean energy transition, and high-level political messaging. On NCQG, disappointed in lack of progress on part of developed countries. Proposal of \$1.3 trillion is doable and relies on political will, need greater clarity/specificity on structure/flows/accountability of funding mechanisms. Need minimum allocation floor for SIDs and LDCs. On adaptation, need indicators for means of implementation. Need standalone agenda item for GGA to continue progress.
- Norway: highlighted need for commitments on GST, especially in mitigation, and then focused on human rights, gender, youth, children.
- Vanuatu (on behalf of Pacific SIDs): Frustration with mitigation ambition needed in this decade and advancement of NCQG text. Mitigation text is practically silent on agreements made last year (e.g. energy transition). UAE dialogue must establish mechanism for follow-up on items like financing. NCQG must ensure SIDs can access sufficient finance, with minimum allocation floor. PSIDs stand ready to support.
- Gambia: Aligns with Uganda, Kenya, and Malawi. Concerns with GGA: linkages needed between GGA and NCQG to ensure adaptation is supported; time for indicator mapping has passed, and must shift to development of new needed indicators. Regarding transformative adaptation, has been ignored, needs to be reinstated and adequately addressed as we move forward.
- Angola: On mitigation, Africa Group will not accept text that is top-down in nature which would make it difficult for Africa to move forward on mitigation matters.
- Ethiopia: Endorses statements by Kenya. Progress during this COP insufficient for the climate disasters that have ravaged African continent and millions of livelihoods. Adaptation maintains top priority that must be appropriately financed, calls for double of adaptation financing. Concerned on lack of progress, hopeful to make more in the coming hours.
- Russian Federation: UAE dialogue should facilitate comprehensive consideration of progress in implementing outcomes of GST. Unacceptable for us to now break UAE consensus. Regarding mitigation, MWP is not space to set new targets and can continue with a top-down approach. Unilateral trade measures must be properly addressed. On adaptation, support work on adaptation under a separate agenda item.
- Senegal: Align with Uganda's, Malawi, and Kenya's statements. Expect 1.3 trillion annually, particularly in the form of public provisions. Need framework with consensus modalities to agree on climate finance mechanisms. Surprised to see in NCQG that fund for LDCs and adaptation fund have not been acknowledged as financing entities even though they are the most effective at facilitating access to adaptation. Does not support inclusion of transformational adaptation (emphasised this twice).
- Israel: Mitigation decisions must incorporate energy transition. GST must be built upon. Regarding NCQG, without robust decision on GST and mitigation, difficult to



decide on concrete number, believes broadening the base of contributors for financing is necessary (end of statement cut off).

- South Korea: (beginning of statement cut off in recording). Acknowledge qualifiers and nationally determined approaches, but considers these elements subject to further negotiation. A perfect solution at this stage is impossible, need a reasonable compromise that ensures collective progress.
- Nepal: Aligns with Uganda, Malawi, and with Bangladesh. For L&D, financing should be grant based, and must reach common definition on climate finance. On gender, welcome considerations on care economy and all initiatives must be gender-sensitive.
- Brazil: Mitigation progress was great in Dubai (paragraphs 28, 33, 34). 1.3 trillion USD / year should be our north star here in Baku. Calls for alignment between NDCs, substance, and financing for implementation to meet 1.5c. Also need mechanism to monitor progress of financing commitments.
- Mexico: NCQG quantum must strike balance for mitigation, adaptation, and prevention and L&D needs. Of particular importance NCQG must respond to all needs of developing countries, but in particular to those relating to women and indigenous peoples. Text should strengthen transparency mechanisms. Adaptation text should also be sensitive to women's and intergenerational demands.

A final push for food systems in the NCQG text began (thanks to Clement at WWF).

Meanwhile, an event on Synergies across the Rio Conventions highlighted... well... synergies across the Rio Conventions. It called for coherent policies and gave examples of how various countries are approaching this. It's probably a good thing to say. Much focus on aligned and interoperable data, reporting, and planning frameworks.

Closed-door negotiations have continued all day. Parties will continue meeting through the night. New texts will appear for 'late Friday'.

Friday 22nd November

So, here we go. The final sprint. Although, really, we have no idea how much longer it will be before the gavel comes down. It's extremely unlikely to be today. Saturday? Perhaps. Sunday? Maybe. Malawi pointed out yesterday that negotiators and other delegates have flights to catch on Saturday. It could be a CBD COP16-style loss of a quorum.

Carbon Brief has had a sweepstake of predictions as to when we'll close COP29. On average, they put the final "gavel-down" moment in the small hours of Sunday morning:

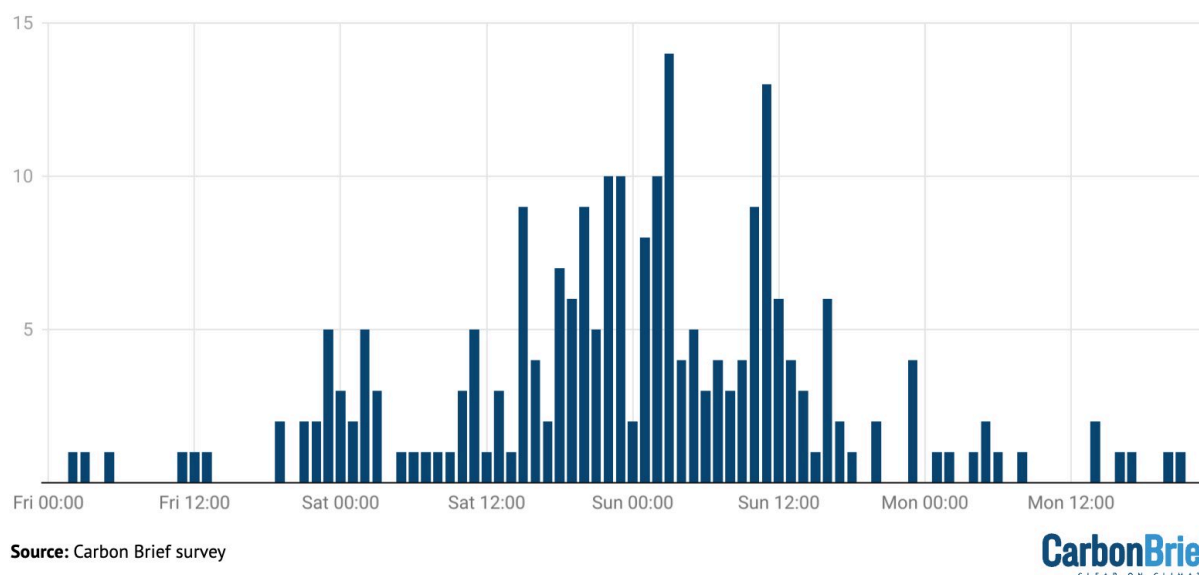
Mean: Sunday 00:23

Median: Sunday 01:34

Mode (nearest hour): Sunday 03:00-04:00

### COP29 'gavel-down' sweepstake

Number of guesses (grouped by hour) for when COP29 will end



Updated draft text is expected around noon, but already rumours of delays abound.

To update on some of the more technical, secondary elements:

- Discussions on guidance to the GCF, GEF, and delivery of the \$100bn goal are progressing slowly
- Procedural and logistical elements of the GST have been kicked to June 2025
- The report on the annual dialogue on the GST informing the preparation of NDCs has been a failure so far, with no agreement on even a 'compilation of views' to present
- Response Measures are in a stalemate

New texts eventually appeared mid-afternoon:

- NCQG: [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/NCQG\\_2.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/NCQG_2.pdf)
- JTWP: [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/UAE\\_just\\_transition\\_DD\\_2.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/UAE_just_transition_DD_2.pdf)
- MWP: [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/MWP\\_CMA6.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/MWP_CMA6.pdf)

- GGA: [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/GGA\\_4.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/GGA_4.pdf)
- GST: [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/UAE\\_dialogue\\_12.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/UAE_dialogue_12.pdf)
- RM: [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/RM\\_cop29\\_2.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/RM_cop29_2.pdf)

From a first read through, it's understandable why these texts have apparently been met with 'outrage'.

Various elements cross someone's red lines.

Obvious examples are the very low finance goal and the suggestion that all forms of finance can be included. The insinuation that developed country parties could voluntarily contribute is likely to also be seen as going beyond the Paris Agreement and mandate of the NCQG. SIDS and LDCs will be disappointed by the lack of a specific finance goal.

The GST text says nothing about fossil fuels and only has optional text on any specific actions at all (largely fairly gentle language about the energy sector).

The MWP text only includes some fairly soft language about following up on the cities and buildings theme this year.

The JTWP looks reasonable to me, but some parties may object to the language on gender and rights.

And the GGA is generally better, including some components we'll appreciate, but will probably be seen as too prescriptive for Parties to agree to. It's also unlikely that the global report on adaptation, made by collating a consistent set of indicators across countries, will prove popular.

Apart from that, as the joke goes, they're great! Actually, that probably doesn't really apply in this case...

*At this point, things started to move very quickly, and the rest of the information is reflected in my COP29 Debrief Document:*