

In Solidarity for a Green World



COP29
Baku
Azerbaijan

Dear Colleagues,

Following my previous letters outlining the COP29 Presidency's vision to enhance ambition and enable action, as well as my most recent letter providing the nine texts of the COP29 Pledges and Declarations for multistakeholder endorsement, I am writing to provide further details on the other five initiatives, which altogether constitute the comprehensive Action Agenda of the COP29 Presidency.

These 14 global initiatives aim to confront the most pressing problems, shine a spotlight on key priorities, and offer unique solutions based on the experiences and perspectives of the host.

The COP29 Presidency expresses its deepest gratitude to the countries and other stakeholders already confirming their endorsements to the COP29 Pledges and Declarations listed in Annex 1 and encourages all stakeholders to endorse them. The texts of the Declarations and Pledges, as well as their background information and the contacts are available in the COP29 web page.

We are also grateful to everyone who provided feedback on the concept notes of the following COP29 Initiatives, we incorporated these comments and are sharing relevant documents (concept notes, declarations and principles) attached as Annexes and published on the web, which reflect each initiative's objectives and expected outcomes.

1. The Climate Finance Action Fund (CFAF)
2. The Baku Initiative for Climate Finance, Investment and Trade (BICFIT)
3. The Baku Initiative on Human Development for Climate Resilience
4. The Baku Harmoniya Climate Initiative for Farmers
5. The Baku Global Climate Transparency Platform (BTP)

The COP29 Presidency's consultations with Parties and non-Party stakeholders also demonstrated a strong desire to boost complementarity and continuity among various initiatives of the COP Presidencies. Against this backdrop, several COP29 Presidency initiatives aim to enhance synergy and envisage the establishment of continuity coalitions.

The COP29 Presidency is also publishing on its website the programme of events that it will host during COP29. Many of these events are associated with the COP29 Presidency initiatives and will provide platforms for stakeholders to collaborate on implementation.

Once again, I strongly encourage **all Parties and non-Party stakeholders to join the COP29 Pledges and Declarations and support the other COP29 Initiatives**. You can express your interest in participating in all these initiatives and associated events through emailing the contact points.

Looking ahead, we are excited to **welcome everyone to Baku on 11-22 November for COP29**.

We look forward to working with you and we welcome all contributions to enhancing ambition and enabling action through each of these initiatives.

H.E. Mukhtar Babayev
COP29 President-Designate
Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources,
Republic of Azerbaijan

Annex 1

List of COP29 Pledges and Declarations previously shared and open for endorsements:

1. COP29 Truce Appeal
coptruce@cop29.az
2. COP29 Global Energy Storage and Grids Pledge
storageandgrids@cop29.az
3. COP29 Green Energy Zones and Corridors Pledge
zonesandcorridors@cop29.az
4. COP29 Hydrogen Declaration
hydrogen@cop29.az
5. COP29 Declaration on Green Digital Action
digitalisation@cop29.az
6. COP29 Declaration on Reducing Methane from Organic Waste
methane@cop29.az
7. COP29 Declaration on Multisectoral Actions Pathways (MAP) to Resilient and Healthy Cities
MAP@cop29.az
8. COP29 Declaration on Enhanced Action in Tourism
tourism@cop29.az
9. COP29 Declaration on Water for Climate Action
water@cop29.az

List of COP29 initiatives (concept notes, declarations and principles) information on which is enclosed to this letter:

10. The Climate Finance Action Fund (CFAF)
CFAF@cop29.az
11. The Baku Initiative for Climate Finance, Investment and Trade (BICFIT)
BICFIT@cop29.az
– Declaration on Baku Climate Coalition for SMEs green transition
info@greensme.org
12. The Baku Initiative on Human Development for Climate Resilience
humandevlopment@cop29.az
13. The Baku Harmoniya Climate Initiative for Farmers
harmoniya@cop29.az
14. The Baku Global Climate Transparency Platform (BTP)
– Baku Declaration on Global Climate Transparency
BTP@cop29.az

Annex 2

The Climate Finance Action Fund (CFAF)

The Climate Finance Action Fund (CFAF) proposes a novel approach to increasing climate finance flows by involving fossil-fuel producing countries and companies. CFAF will be established as an investment fund focused on income-generating investments in developing economies that foster climate action and drive development outcomes.

The proposed fund will concentrate on climate-related projects, foster renewable energy production with co-benefits in job creation and green diversification, and support research and development (R&D) to innovate new climate solutions. 20% of the generated income will be allocated to the Fund's Rapid Response Facility, aimed at providing highly concessional and grant-based assistance to address the impacts of natural disasters in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs).

CFAF's establishment will be contingent upon securing pledges from at least 10 countries and reaching a collective funding target of at least USD 1 billion, and participating parties will acquire shareholder status within the CFAF.

CFAF will deploy a diverse range of financial instruments for its investments, including green bonds and other debt instruments, venture capital, and equity instruments. CFAF will also provide off-take agreement guarantees and first-loss capital for low-carbon projects.

CFAF will be overseen by a Board of Directors, which will be composed of shareholder representatives and will serve as the highest governing body, providing comprehensive leadership on the Fund's mission, investment strategy, and management. The Board will perform strategic and fiduciary oversight, provide guidance, approve projects, and evaluate their performance.

The Secretariat will manage the Fund's daily operations, including financial resource management, project proposal screenings and preselection for Board review, acting as a central hub for communication, executing decisions made by the Board, and coordinating interactions with existing climate funds and platforms when applicable.

An Independent Audit Committee will be established to ensure transparency and accountability in the Fund's operations. To ensure effective governance and uphold environmental integrity, CFAF will implement operational guidelines, a risk management framework, and social and environmental safeguards. Robust evaluation criteria and a clear fund allocation process will assess project compatibility with the fund's objectives and determine the appropriate support for each project.

Launching the CFAF offers a historic opportunity for participating countries and companies to reaffirm their commitment to climate action and sustainable development.

Annex 3

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

Background

The Baku Initiative for Climate Finance, Investment, and Trade (BICFIT) Dialogue is an initiative of the COP29 Presidency, co-facilitated by UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and UN Development Program (UNDP), in collaboration with the World Trade Organization (WTO) Secretariat, International Trade Center (ITC), and the respective Presidencies of the Conference of the Parties (COP) of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), along with various international organizations, multilateral development banks, multilateral climate funds, civil society organizations, think tanks, and academic institutions.

BICFIT Dialogue represents the continuation of the growing momentum on the mutually reinforcing role of climate finance, investment, and trade in addressing the intersectional challenges of climate change and sustainable development, as acknowledged during COP26, COP27, and COP28.

Objectives

Respecting the sovereignty of all Parties, the BICFIT Dialogue aims to advance national ambitions and actions through the synergistic utilization of climate finance, investment, and trade in accordance with the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement. It seeks to foster socio-economic co-benefits of climate policies, ensuring equitable and environmentally sustainable transitions for vulnerable populations, including micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) and countries with special needs.

This initiative is voluntary, inclusive of all Parties and observers, and is designed to facilitate knowledge sharing, mutual learning, and coordination among ministries, governments, and other stakeholders.

BICFIT Dialogue's platform is intended to strengthen support for countries' Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), and Long-term Low-Emission Development Strategies (LT-LEDS) while fostering alignment with sustainable development.

Core Pillars

BICFIT Dialogue's deliverables initially envisaged to focus on five core pillars:

1. Climate Finance

- Encourage Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs), Multilateral Climate Funds (MCFs), philanthropic organizations, and development partners to enhance climate finance while ensuring national ownership, aligning with countries' Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), Nationally Adapted Plans (NAPs), and other national strategies.
- Improve the accessibility and effectiveness of climate finance for developing countries, particularly through mechanisms that increase private sector engagement, such as blended finance.
- Facilitate platforms for MDBs and MCFs to support the development of green products, aligning climate action with sustainable development goals and furthering global decarbonization.

2. Attraction of Climate Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

- Support developing countries in identifying intersections of climate action needs with market opportunities.
- Encourage alignment of investment and climate goals through sustainable investment incentives, including through new initiatives such as Green Free Economic Zones (GFEZs).
- Promote innovative financial instruments to de-risk climate investments, backed by MDBs and supported by policy frameworks that build investment in human development.

3.Coalition of SMEs Green Transition

- Strengthen national capacities to incorporate MSMEs and entrepreneurs in climate plans, supporting inclusive green growth through targeted support and incentives.
- Promote and implement the Declaration on Baku Global Climate Coalition for SMEs Green Transition.

4.Knowledge Sharing

- Promote knowledge-sharing on aligning climate finance with trade and investment, fostering climate-resilient economic growth with a focus on green jobs and economic diversification.
- Facilitate international cooperation through programs like the Aid for Trade Initiative, aiming to maximize synergies between climate action and the SDGs.
- Support countries in building human capital and value addition, especially in critical minerals and environmentally sound technologies, to support clean energy transitions.

5.BICFIT Dialogue Conference

- Establish a BICFIT Dialogue Conference for cooperation among climate, investment, and trade communities, hosting the inaugural conference as part of the UNCTAD World Investment Forum and alongside the WTO Public Forum.
- Encourage active participation from Parties and observers, promoting global cooperation, and ensuring diverse perspectives inform BICFIT Dialogue's approach.

Global Coordination and Accountability

BICFIT is intended to complement existing global initiatives, avoiding duplication by coordinating efforts and creating synergies with other initiatives like the Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero (GFANZ), Coalition of Finance Ministers for Climate Action, Coalition of Trade Ministers on Climate, and others. All processes will remain transparent, with Party-led accountability to ensure BICFIT Dialogue's success and engagement across future COP Presidencies.

BICFIT Dialogue envisions itself as a central hub that brings together key coalitions, such as the Coalition of Trade Ministers on Climate, the Coalition of Finance Ministers on Climate Action, the Climate FDI Coalition, and the newly initiated Baku Global Coalition for SMEs Green Transition, to align climate finance, investment, and trade with sustainable development priorities.

Declaration on Baku Climate Coalition for SMEs green transition¹

We, the representatives of governments and states, parliamentarians, international organizations, chambers of commerce, private sector, non-governmental organizations, science and academia, private investors, financial institutions, and innovation clusters,

Recognizing that climate change is generating significant damage, degradation, and impacts to people, economies, and livelihoods,

Acknowledging that reducing carbon emissions requires a comprehensive approach from both public and private sectors, as well as a transformation of the global economy, including production and consumption, financing, investment, trade, behavior, and skills,

Recognizing that Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) are the primary drivers of the world's economy, representing approximately 90% of companies, creating 50% of global employment, and producing 40% of the world's GDP, with an especially important role in global value and supply chains

Emphasizing the critical role of SMEs in achieving inclusive and sustainable economic growth, fostering innovation, and decreasing income inequalities across the world, especially in rural areas and among women,

Noting that SMEs can play an important role in economic diversification, particularly for resource-rich countries suffering from commodity price fluctuations,

Stressing the importance of SMEs in building green economies and developing innovative climate solutions, and their potential to lead green entrepreneurship when encouraged,

Stressing that SMEs' transition to green business models can significantly promote sustainable consumption,

Acknowledging that although each SME's environmental impact is relatively small, collectively they contribute substantially to greenhouse gas emissions and energy consumption in the business sector,

Emphasizing that addressing the climate crisis requires a global net zero transition of SMEs, involving millions of SMEs adopting green business models,

Highlighting the significant gap in awareness, access to knowledge, and technology between large corporations and SMEs,

Accentuating that despite the growing pool of sustainable finance, SMEs' access to climate finance remains a major challenge impeding their transition to net zero,

Noting that the consequences of global warming generate disproportionately negative impacts on SMEs worldwide, whose size, vulnerability, exposure, lack of financial capacity, and scale make it difficult to mitigate these new challenges,

Acknowledging that SMEs are to navigate a complex ecosystem of numerous actors, including public and private financial institutions, policymakers, regulators, fintech companies, ESG rating providers, consulting service providers, auditors, and accountants,

Stressing the importance of the South-South and the triangular cooperation in identifying country and region specific challenges faced by and capitalizing on the relevant best practices in supporting SMEs in their green transition, as well as in delivering tailor made solutions,

Underlying critical importance of the bioeconomy in providing sustainable solutions to challenges posed by climate change and the growing food demand, and emphasizing significant role SMEs could play in developing global bioeconomy when properly supported,

Commit to work together towards the objectives of the Baku Climate Coalition for SMEs' green transition, to:

1. Raise awareness among SMEs, enhancing their capacities and capabilities, by:

- Establishing specialized training programs, digital platforms, mentorship, and consulting services to disseminate knowledge and best practices, facilitate technology adoption, and encourage innovation and supply chain solutions;

¹To be presented during the BICFIT Dialogue's official launch event, hosted by the COP29 Presidency, in partnership with UNCTAD, UNDP, WTO Secretariat and ITC on 14 November 2024, as part of Finance, Investment and Trade Day. National governments and other stakeholders can endorse the Declaration on Baku Climate Coalition for SMEs green transition through any official written communications (letter, note verbale, etc.) to the COP29 Presidency or email to info@greensme.org or through www.greensme.org

- Enhancing climate risk management knowledge for SMEs in key sectors, including agriculture, manufacturing, and industry;
- Building capacity across food supply chains;
- Facilitating the measurement of SMEs' environmental footprints and integration of climate risks into business models;
- Improving access to technology to enhance energy efficiency and contribute to decarbonized action plans;
- Encouraging larger companies to support SMEs' green transitions and integrate them into supply chains;
- Supporting research initiatives and academic endeavors on SMEs' roles in green transitions and their adaptation strategies;
- Increasing national efforts to upgrade workforce skills in SMEs, enhancing human capital for green transition challenges;
- Recognizing and promoting SME champions in green transitions to foster a climate-sensitive business culture; and
- Considering establishment of Green SME Resource Centers in each country to raise awareness and facilitate access to technology, know-how, and financing for net zero goals.

2. Stimulate SMEs' demand for green finance and investment, by

- Mapping the SME financing ecosystem and enhance coordination through capacity building, policymaking measures, and requisite infrastructure;
- Enhancing SMEs' ability to measure, report, and improve sustainability performance, facilitating access to finance;
- Integrating cleaner production, resource efficiency, and circular economic principles into SMEs' cost optimization efforts;
- Facilitating SME participation in green capital markets with financial incentives, such as subsidies, tax incentives, and credit guarantees for sustainability-linked lending;
- Encouraging large companies to finance SMEs' greening efforts;
- Urging finance providers to offer tailored financing solutions for SMEs considering their specific circumstances and opportunities for greening;
- Supporting SMEs' access to digital and innovative financing solutions, assisting unbanked and underbanked SMEs in green transitions; and
- Allocating additional funds to support energy efficiency measures and the greening of SMEs

Annex 4

Baku Initiative on Human Development for Climate Resilience

I. Background

The concept of human development goes beyond economic productivity, focusing on the overall well-being of individuals, including health (physical, mental and psychosocial well-being), education, jobs and a decent standard of living. On one hand, human development brings economic benefits to society; on the other it puts human well-being at the center of the debate. Healthier, resilient, better educated and skilled people are spurring innovative climate solutions and powering the green industries of tomorrow.^{2 3} Human development enhances resilience to climate events through better health, social protection, informed education, and improved skills, all of which contribute to greater adaptability and recovery capabilities.^{4 5}

The 2021 report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) clearly states that human activities have significantly warmed the atmosphere, oceans, and land, causing rapid changes across Earth's systems.⁶ Climate change, combined with biodiversity loss and pollution, threatens all areas of human activity, from health to infrastructure. Children and youth, women, indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, displaced persons, migrants and refugees are particularly vulnerable to these impacts.

With a changing climate comes more complicated health challenges. Climate change is impacting health in a myriad of ways, including by leading to death and illness from increasingly frequent extreme weather events, such as heatwaves, storms and floods, the disruption of food systems, increases in zoonoses and food-, water- and vector-borne diseases, and mental health issues. It also puts additional strain on health systems and facilities. Research shows that 3.6 billion people already live in areas highly susceptible to climate change. For instance, extreme heat could lead to at least 21 million additional deaths by 2050 and stunting due to impacts on nutrition from decreasing crop yields while diarrhea, malaria, and dengue outbreaks may increase with heavier precipitation.⁷ Increased physical and mental health risks have wider effects on lives and livelihoods, impacting the ability to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities as well as equal pay for equal work.

Children are disproportionately vulnerable to the effects of climate change due to their unique physiological development, behavioral traits, and dependence on caregivers. Children and youth are suffering a lifetime of lost opportunities from the damage and deprivation of the climate crisis, including displacement and disruption to essential services they rely on to survive and thrive. These services include health, education, water and sanitation, nutrition, child protection, and social protection. Climate-related disasters already disrupt the education of nearly 40 million children annually, and this number continues to increase every year.⁸ Moreover, these disproportionate and unique impacts on children are not gender-neutral but rather amplify already existing gender inequalities. Without urgent action, climate change could prevent 12.5 million girls from completing their education annually by 2025.⁹ Therefore, ambitious and child-responsive climate policies, actions, and climate finance are necessary to meet their specific needs, including targeted measures that ensure continued access to climate-resilient and sustainable essential services, which children rely on to survive and thrive.

² UNDP, Human Development Report - Sustainability and Equity: A Better Future for All, 2011.

³ UNESCO, Education for Sustainable Development Goals - Learning Objectives, 2017.

⁴ The World Bank, How to Protect, Build, and Use Human Capital to Address Climate Change, 2023.

⁵ UNESCO, Global Education Monitoring Report 2020 - Inclusion and Education: All Means All, 2020.

⁶ IPCC, IPCC Sixth Assessment Report, The Physical Basis, 2021.

⁷ The World Bank, World Bank Climate and Health Program, 2023.

⁸ UNICEF, The climate-changed child: A Children's Climate Risk Index Supplement, 2023

⁹ The World Bank, Why we must engage adolescent girls in climate change solutions, 2022.

Approximately half of the 100 countries assessed lack any reference to climate change in their national curriculum frameworks, and fewer than 30% of teachers feel adequately prepared to address it within their local context.¹⁰ Alarming, 70% of surveyed youth express an inability to articulate climate change beyond general principles, coupled with anxiety about their future.¹¹ Ensuring climate-smart education systems that are safe and resilient to climate change-related risks is the basis for protecting the right to education. Moreover, education is a key enabler for innovative solutions to climate change by ensuring that people are empowered with the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes needed to act as agents of change. Rooted in Education for Sustainable Development, greening schools, curriculum including learning assessment, teacher training and education system's capacities, and lifelong learning in communities contribute to adapting to and mitigating the effects of climate change. However, while it is estimated that a low-cost adaptation package for education systems would cost \$18.51 per student, at most, 1.5% of all climate finance is spent on education, reflecting a huge investment gap.¹²

Transition to climate-resilient, decarbonized and resource-efficient economies and societies has a profound impact on the labor market, creating new jobs, causing some job losses and changing the skills composition of many jobs. Earlier ILO research has estimated that close to 103 million jobs could potentially be created but nearly 78 million jobs could be lost by 2030 under two global policy scenarios – the energy sustainability and the circular economy scenarios.¹³ In addition, the greatest job creation impact is expected for male-dominated occupations, calling for targeted measures, including training women, to break existing gender occupational segregation and inequalities. In other words, a just transition requires significant investment in social protection, education and training for new green jobs, as well as reskilling and upskilling workers from declining industries to growing ones.

Social protection reduces vulnerability, builds resilience to the impacts of climate change and enhances adaptive capacities, including of future generations. Social protection also mitigates unintended consequences of the green transition on workers, enterprises and affected communities, thereby garnering public acceptability and political support for climate and environmental policies. Strategic planning and financing should ensure that everyone, including the most vulnerable, has access to social protection. The provision of social protection must be based on rights which will ensure the sustainable and just transition and empower populations.

Several sessions of UN Climate Change Conferences have addressed issues related to climate change and various human development aspects (health, education, jobs and skills, as well as children and youth, and gender), however, less attention has been given to human development as a thematic area.

¹⁰ UNESCO, Teachers have their say: motivation, skills and opportunities to teach education for sustainable development and global citizenship, 2021

¹¹ UNESCO, Youth demand quality climate education, 2022

¹² The World Bank, Choosing Our Future: Education for Climate Action, 2024

¹³ ILO, Skills for a greener future: a global view, 2019

II. Baku Initiative on Human Development for Climate Resilience

Against the above background, COP29 Azerbaijan Presidency has announced the first-ever holistic Human Development Day at COP29 – the “Baku Initiative on Human Development for Climate Resilience” as the first-ever COP Presidency initiative aimed at tackling intersectoral synergy and complementarities between education, health, social protection, skills and jobs, with a special focus on children and youth.

COP29 Presidency-led initiative entitled “Baku Initiative on Human Development for Climate Resilience” will culminate in the following **outcomes**:

1. A High-Level Meeting hosted by the COP29 Presidency, in partnership with Asian Development Bank, Green Climate Fund, ILO, UNESCO, UNICEF and WHO on 18 November, the Human Development Day. The Meeting will take a holistic view of how climate change impacts human development, including health, education, decent jobs and skills, women, children’s rights and capacities of youth. This meeting will provide a platform for stakeholders to build synergies across their respective fields and capabilities, while highlighting the importance of why investment in human development is a climate-smart investment. The high-level meeting will then be complemented with High-Level Roundtables to delve deeper into each thematic priority. Roundtables will provide opportunities to discuss the key questions identified under the topics of education; health; green jobs and skills; children and youth;
2. The announcement of the Joint Statement on Baku Initiative on Human Development for Climate Resilience among UN agencies, Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) and Multilateral Climate Funds (MCFs), which is aimed at enhancing cooperation and bridging global efforts to address climate change impacts on human development. The initiative will focus on health, education, social protection, decent jobs and skills development, and promote sustainable development, just transition and well-being, particularly for workers at risk of losing their jobs, women, children, youth and as well as contribute to enhancing climate finance and advocating for integration of human development considerations into climate resilience strategies;
3. The adoption of the Baku Guiding Principles on Human Development for Climate Resilience, a set of core principles that reflect the strategic direction and aspiration for human development in the context of climate resilience;
4. Driving global cooperation on greening education to ensure that environmental literacy becomes an essential objective of education, and that school infrastructure is resilient and sustainable. This will be enabled via the Greening Education Partnership and developing environmental literacy metrics through assessment mechanisms such as the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) and others;
5. The establishment of Baku COP Presidencies Continuity Coalition for Climate and Health between past, current and future COP presidencies in partnership with the World Health Organization (WHO), to ensure the coalition-led advocacy for health in the climate change agenda. The Coalition will work towards advancing the implementation of health commitments from previous COPs and strengthening the integration of health into climate action. It aims to support the mobilization of collective efforts to scale up climate action in health and health systems, as well as harmonize and synergize existing climate and health-related initiatives. To ensure continuity, the upcoming COP Presidencies will be invited to join the Coalition and encouraged to include health in their Presidency initiatives.

Baku Guiding Principles on Human Development for Climate Resilience¹⁴

The purpose of this document is to highlight guiding principles across the areas of education, health, jobs and skills, and children and youth, with the aim of enhancing ambition and elevating action of the Baku Initiative on Human Development for Climate Resilience. These principles are not legally binding but are intended to inspire and influence actions related to human development. The renewed approach to investing in human development focuses on equipping all people with the tools, support, and opportunities to live healthy lives, gain knowledge and skills, and access the resources necessary for achieving climate-resilient development.

Principle 1 – Align climate action with human development for a resilient future

This principle emphasizes integrating human development as a cornerstone of climate action to strengthen resilience. It calls for national climate policies, including Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), to prioritize human development through greater focus on education, skills, health, the labour market and social protection measures, with specific attention to the needs of children and youth in the vulnerable communities. By aligning these priorities with economic and climate objectives, policies can drive the creation of quality jobs, and support just transition to low-carbon, resource-efficient economies.

Principle 2 – Enhance social dialogue, partnership and collaboration on human development policies for climate response

Social dialogue and partnership are key to the effective design, planning, implementation, and evaluation of policies on just transition pathways to a climate-resilient and sustainable future for all. Climate action requires robust coordination and synergy among all stakeholders, including representatives of governments, employers and workers, international organizations, civil society, academia and other relevant actors, including children and youth. The meaningful participation of all relevant stakeholders should facilitate collaboration, aligning resources, sharing best practices and ensuring their collective climate action in education, decent jobs, skills and health.

Principle 3 – Invest in integrating quality climate change education at all levels and regularly assessing student competencies to address climate change

This principle aims to ensure that all learners, including children, youth, adults, in particular girls and women, migrants, and vulnerable groups, acquire essential knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes on climate action and resilience, addressing the cognitive, social, emotional, and behavioral domains of learning. It seeks to integrate climate change education across all relevant subject areas, including social, economic, and environmental dimensions, at all levels of formal, informal, and non-formal education and learning, including knowledge and values from indigenous systems and practices, from early childhood to technical and vocational education and training, and higher education. Achieving this requires collaboration on greening curriculum, schools, teacher training and education systems' capacities, and communities. Assessment plays a key role in guiding educational priorities. It is crucial for education systems to gather data on learning outcomes related to environmental sustainability and climate change. Through the integration of climate literacy into national and international assessments, countries can monitor progress against benchmarks and learn from the practices of top-performing systems.

Principle 4 – Build climate-resilient and low-carbon education systems

This principle aims to enhance the climate resilience of education systems, including schools and other educational infrastructure. It seeks to both ensure that education systems will continue to function or quickly recover from disruptions caused by climate events through resilience-strengthening measures (adaptation) as well as reduce emissions from the education sector, encouraging low-carbon facilities, activities and supply chains (mitigation). Strategic investments in green, safe and adaptive educational infrastructure and systems are crucial for enabling uninterrupted access to essential services for the most vulnerable and shielding them from further harm.

Principle 5 – Enhance support to greening skills, qualifications, and occupational standards for priority sectors

This principle aims to scale up the creation of decent green jobs by equipping workers, including women and youth, with the necessary knowledge and skills through targeted skilling, reskilling, and upskilling. It involves anticipating future skills needs, developing qualifications and occupational standards relevant to the labour market requirements in green economies, and closing the gender gap in access to skills in collaboration with enterprises, industry, training institutions and workers' organizations. This helps industries, workers, and communities mitigate and adapt to climate change. The principle encourages climate-responsive enterprise development and job creation, including the decarbonization of employment-intensive sectors such as transport (road, rail, maritime), agriculture, construction, and manufacturing. Green industrial transitions, supported by gender-inclusive and accessible financing for enterprises, would facilitate the shift toward e-mobility, climate-resilient agriculture, smart cities, and other green initiatives.

¹⁴To be endorsed during the High-Level Meeting, hosted by the COP29 Presidency, in partnership with Asian Development Bank, Green Climate Fund, ILO, UNESCO, UNICEF and WHO on 18 November 2024, as part of Human Development Day.

Principle 6 – Invest in entrepreneurship, innovation, and talent for the application of new and green technologies with job creation potential

This principle seeks to promote entrepreneurship, innovation, and investment in clean technologies to accelerate the transition to climate-resilient development and unlock jobs for youth and workers in transition, including women and caregivers. It also aims to inspire adaptive and dynamic research to inform innovations and new developments to address systemic gaps and promote equity of the benefits of climate-resilient development. Achieving these goals requires the development of enabling pathways for economic participation of all, including targeted subsidies, incentives, and incubators that support green and social impact entrepreneurship.

Principle 7 – Promote integrated climate and health surveillance and early warning systems

With increasing frequency and severity of extreme weather events, health systems must integrate tools that enable the timely prediction, prevention, detection, diagnosis, and treatment of climate-sensitive health risks into primary health care. Moving towards integrated systems requires a close and coordinated approach to data collection and analysis for decision-making that encompasses the integration of meteorological and health data. Anticipatory action, leveraging early warning systems and health response protocols, including in the education and training activities of health professionals and occupational safety and health measures, should be enabled to protect workers and communities and address the health risks of climate change, including injuries, heat stress-related illnesses, productivity loss and the spread of infectious diseases. The age-related and gendered dimensions of these climate-related health risks should be understood, and measures developed in an age- and gender-responsive manner.

Principle 8 – Build climate-resilient, low carbon health systems and health care facilities, including supply chains

Building climate-resilient and low-carbon, sustainable health systems and health care facilities that are responding to the impacts of climate change should be approached comprehensively. The climate crisis is also a health crisis, and therefore health systems and health need to adapt to and address the increasing health risks posed by climate change, especially for vulnerable groups, including children, youth, women, indigenous peoples, people with disabilities, migrants and displaced people. To build more resilient health systems, including climate resilient health care facilities and infrastructure is crucial. It is critical to promote decarbonization of health, implement increasing energy efficiency and ensure access to reliable, clean energy sources, as well as to reduce the impacts of global supply chains, product packaging, and environmental waste from pharmaceuticals. Many health care facilities globally still lack access to power, and advancing sustainable energy solutions such as solar power will not only increase access but do so in a lower carbon way. Expanding energy access will also yield improvements in quality of care, reduce costs, and enhance efficiency. Similarly, enhancing appropriate waste management solutions and improving recycling and product recovery schemes will reduce not only carbon footprints but also the risk of dangerous waste products affecting health outcomes.

Principle 9 – Prioritize children’s unique vulnerabilities in climate action, including through investment in climate-resilient and sustainable essential services

Children are disproportionately vulnerable to the effects of climate change due to their unique physiological development, behavioral traits, and dependence on caregivers.

There are unique and differentiated impacts for both girls and boys, although young and adolescent girls are particularly vulnerable. Ambitious and child-responsive climate policies, actions, and climate finance are necessary to meet their specific needs, including targeted measures that ensure continued access to climate-resilient and sustainable essential services, which children rely on to survive and thrive. These services include health, education, water and sanitation, nutrition, child protection, and adaptive social protection. Additionally, empowering children through education, meaningful participation in climate decision-making processes, and access to justice – while promoting the interests of present and future generations – is essential to promoting the rights of children in climate action.

Principle 10 – Strengthen adaptive social protection systems to build resilience for all, especially for the most vulnerable

Climate change exacerbates the vulnerabilities and risks people face throughout their lives and erodes progress in education, healthcare, and employment, with differentiated consequences for children, youth, women, and other vulnerable and marginalized groups. Governments should provide access to universal child-sensitive social protection systems to reduce inequalities, eliminate exclusion, prevent poverty, and protect vulnerable groups from the impacts of climate change and workers’ transition to climate-resilient development. Social protection systems should be adequate, flexible, crisis-ready and coordinated with care services and learning provisions for climate resilience, including psychosocial support and risk-informed education. It is also critical to provide income security for people of working age, including caregivers, and to ensure that education, healthcare, and income support are sustained to facilitate the empowerment of both current and future generations. Such strategies and associated investments can shield households, enterprises, workers, and communities from the impacts of climate shocks and stressors, thereby enhancing adaptive capacity and human development.

Principle 11 – Invest in solutions for communities and migrants affected by climate change

It is critical to prioritize comprehensive adaptation planning and implementation to enhance climate-resilient development, ensuring access to education and other essential services, so that people have the choice to live in dignity and safety in their areas of origin, including areas affected by disasters and conflicts, as underlined in the COP28 Declaration on Climate, Relief, Recovery and Peace. Ensuring the right to education, decent work and facilitating pathways for safe, orderly and regular migration is essential for strengthening people's resilience. To enable this, it is necessary to facilitate countries' and communities' access to finance for responding to climate mobility, and to promote the participation of migrants and displaced persons in decent work, including in climate action, paying particular attention to the needs and priorities of women and girls. This involves planning for skills anticipation, training and retraining while ensuring access to essential services, including health and education along the migration routes and in destination countries, and investing in migrant-sensitive health systems.

Principle 12 – Scale up public-private and innovative financing solutions to strengthen human development for climate resilience

This principle calls for scaling up financing, including through new and holistic climate financing solutions, to enhance the quality and equity of education, health, jobs and skills, and initiatives focused on children and youth. Adopting innovative financing approaches that are age and gender-responsive – alongside partnerships with and incentive mechanisms for private sector investments, social impact investors, and philanthropy partnerships – is fundamental for ensuring the long-term sustainability of innovative solutions and climate resilience.



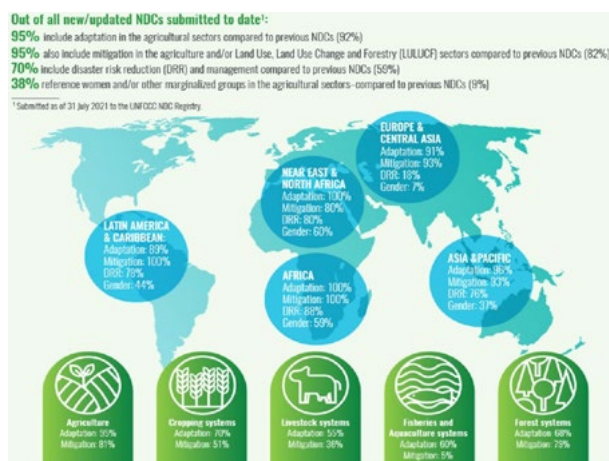
Annex 5

The Baku Harmoniya Climate Initiative for Farmers

Rationale

With only six years left until 2030, the urgency to address climate change is escalating. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has confirmed the unequivocal and unprecedented trends of current and future climate risks. The impacts of climate change on agriculture are threatening food and water security for people around the globe. Climate change adaptation and mitigation action in agriculture has the potential to address multiple challenges including food insecurity, land degradation and water scarcity while ensuring farmers' livelihoods and supporting the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Figure 1. Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)



Source: FAO 2021. Global update report – Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries in the Nationally Determined Contributions. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cb7442en>

Thus, agriculture presents a unique opportunity to address multiple challenges, by offering wide-ranging solutions. Most of these solutions have been reviewed by the IPCC and quantified in terms of adaptation-mitigation and other benefits including socio-economic aspects. Furthermore, at COP23, the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture¹⁵ recognized the unique potential of agriculture in tackling climate change. The Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture addressed complementary and interrelated topics and identified no-regret climate actions, including on soils, nutrient use, water, livestock, methods for assessing adaptation, and on the socio-economic and food security dimensions of climate change across the agricultural sectors. Many countries have already recognized this by prioritizing agriculture and land use in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs). These plans also emphasize the importance of addressing the vulnerabilities, needs, and capacities of women, smallholder farmers, Indigenous Peoples, and youth to increase the effectiveness of climate initiatives, specifically in rural areas and enhance sustainable and inclusive development.

Growing momentum for Agriculture at UN Climate Change Conferences

Agriculture has gained prominence in the last two Presidencies' agendas of the Conference of Parties (COP) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Earlier examples include the Agriculture and Food Security Action event, the Global Climate Action on Agriculture and the launch of the Agriculture Adaption for Africa (AAA) Initiative developed under the Presidency of Morocco at COP22 in 2016. More recently, in November 2022, the Egyptian COP27 Presidency increased the focus on agriculture with Adaptation and Agriculture Day, which was opened with the launch of the Food and Agriculture for Sustainable Transformation (FAST) Initiative. The COP27 Presidency also launched the Initiative on Climate Action and Nutrition (I-CAN) to catalyze, mobilize, connect and advocate for integrated climate and nutrition action. Additionally, at COP27, the Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda was initiated under the lead of the High-Level Climate Champions.

There has been increasing momentum on the agriculture, food and water nexus in the global arena. COP28 witnessed a historic milestone with Food, Agriculture and Water Day, when 160 countries endorsed the “COP28 UAE Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food Systems, and Climate Action” and the establishment of the Technical Cooperation Collaborative (TCC). This dedicated day also featured the first High-Level Event Inception Meeting of the FAST Partnership at COP28 as part of other high-level agriculture and food-related events.

Global climate discussions have increasingly focused on the keyword “implementation”, in order to go from formal dialogue and commitments to concrete action on the ground. Several bottlenecks have been identified such as a need to reinforce capacities, access climate finance, and provide more clarity on the global landscape of agriculture initiatives.

¹⁵See the dedicated website and the agreed conclusions on the different topics

Building on the multiplicity of initiatives, coalitions, networks, alliances, and partnerships: In addition to the above-mentioned COP Presidency-related initiatives, several other initiatives have been launched over the last ten years, either as direct COP Presidency initiatives (e.g. the AAA Initiative, the “4p1000 Initiative: Soils for Food Security and Climate” at COP21, the Platform of Latin America and the Caribbean for Climate Action on Agriculture [PLACA] at COP25, the UK Breakthrough at COP26, the Action for Water Adaptation and Resilience [AWARE] at COP27); or as initiatives indirectly related to the UNFCCC process that build on the momentum from the annual UN Climate Change Conferences (e.g., Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate [AIM4Climate], the Global Methane Pledge [GMP], the Global Methane Hub [GMH] etc.).

There are also initiatives and coalitions that are relevant to the nexus of agriculture, climate change and finance that have been established independently of a COP but remain relevant to the UNFCCC climate change agenda. Examples include the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), the Global Research Alliance for Agricultural Greenhouse Gases (GRA), the Livestock Environmental Assessment and Performance Partnership (LEAP), the Public Development Bank Platform for Green and Inclusive Food Systems (Agri-PDB), the Feed the Future initiative, the Climate Resilience Food System Alliance (CRFS) which hosts the Water-Resilient Food Systems partnership and others. An initial assessment estimates that there are more than 90 relevant global or regional initiatives, coalitions, networks, alliances, and partnerships focused on policy, capacity building or access to finance-related activities at the nexus of agriculture and climate change, with about half established after 2020.

In partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the COP29 Presidency will launch¹⁶ the **Baku Harmoniya Climate Initiative for Farmers**.

Main objective of the Harmoniya Initiative

Given the multitude of initiatives, there is a clear need for coherence, alignment and sharing of lessons learned to deliver greater impact. The **Harmoniya Initiative** will serve as an aggregator, bringing together disparate initiatives, coalitions, networks, and partnerships to empower farmers, villages and rural communities. It will launch a portal with the goal of clarifying the landscape of programmes, sharing experiences, identifying synergies and gaps, and fostering collaborative efforts concentrated on the agriculture, food and water nexus. Harmoniya will focus on evidence-based knowledge and align with scientific best-practices, with a particular focus on technologies contributing to resilient and sustainable agriculture. The initiative will focus on agrifood systems transformation and enhancing climate policies, with the objective of creating an enabling environment for implementation, considering the diversity and complexity of agricultural systems.

Harmoniya will focus on three main goals:

1. Clarifying the landscape of initiatives and offering a platform for knowledge and experience exchange and fostering more efficient collaboration.
2. Catalyzing investments in agrifood system transformation from both private and public sectors, building on strong collaborations with Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) and Agricultural Public Development Banks (PDBs), and developing synergies.
3. Empowering farmers, in particular women and youth and supporting the development of climate-resilient villages and rural communities for adaptation action in the food, agriculture and water sectors.

The Harmoniya Initiative will acknowledge the role of the food, agriculture, and water nexus in which farmers, villages, and rural areas are recognized, empowered and financially supported as key agents of change. Activities will encompass the broad scope of agriculture and food systems, considering the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals and taking into account tradeoffs and synergies, to unlock the entire potential and respond to the need for more sustainable and resilient agrifood systems. The initiative will look at opportunities to realize diverse co-benefits from climate actions in agriculture and food systems, such as increasing farmers’ resilience and reducing the risk of loss and damage, reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and increasing GHG sinks when possible, reducing food losses and waste, conserving biodiversity and soil health and applying innovative approaches while considering national circumstances and knowledge. Harmoniya will also contribute with activities to build evidence and success stories for the **2026 International Year of the Woman Farmer**.

The COP29 Presidency is also working with the FAST Partnership to identify further resources and climate funding opportunities to empower farmers and rural communities to develop skills and accelerate access to new digital technologies. The initiative will actively engage with farmers’ organisations and relevant UNFCCC Constituencies to ensure that communities are heard, and their interests represented. As host of COP29, Azerbaijan is currently co-chairing the board of the FAST Partnership within the FAO, and the FAST Task Force will support the Harmoniya Initiative. The COP29 Presidency aims to enable action with governments, MDBs, national agricultural PDBs, the private sector, philanthropic institutions, international organisations and other stakeholders preparing to engage with the Harmoniya Initiative when it is launched.

¹⁶See Annex 11: <https://cop29.az/en/pages/cop29-presidency-action-agenda-letter>

Annex 6

The Baku Global Climate Transparency Platform (BTP)

Background

In the context of climate change transparency refers to the reporting and review of relevant climate information and data. The scope of relevant data includes countries' greenhouse gas emissions and removals, policies and measures, progress towards targets, climate change impacts and adaptation, support provided and mobilized, needed and received. Transparency of climate action and support is key to building mutual trust and confidence among Parties.

A central component for improving transparency is the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF), established by the Paris Agreement that provides common guidelines for all Parties while offering flexibility on some provisions for those developing country parties that need it in the light of their capacities.

The ETF includes three key elements:

- Preparation and submission of National Inventory Reports (NIRs) and Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs), providing a snapshot of information on greenhouse gas emissions and removals, climate action, and climate support.
- The Technical Expert Review (TER) of the NIRs and BTRs by a team of international experts, which reviews and analyzes the national climate reports submitted by Parties.
- The Facilitative Multilateral Consideration of Progress (FMCP), which allows for an open dialogue on climate actions, successes, and challenges.

Through the submission of the BTRs, the ETF provides an avenue for Parties to showcase how they are reducing net emissions through active climate policy, protecting their populations and ecosystems by adapting to the adverse impacts of climate change, and how support is provided and mobilized to implement the necessary transformations. Furthermore, the TER and the FMCP provide platforms for Parties and international experts to engage in a consultative and facilitative process to exchange experiences and lessons learned, leveraging technical feedback to accelerate the implementation of fair and ambitious climate action, as well as to identify areas for improvement and capacity-building.

The implementation of the ETF is guided by its modalities, procedures and guidelines (MPGs) which apply to all Parties. Recognizing that countries have different starting points, the ETF and its MPGs provide flexibility to those developing country

Parties that need it in light of their capacities for some of the specific provisions of the MPGs. These flexibilities are expected to provide time and space for those developing country Parties that need it to meet the required reporting guidelines, just as all Parties improve over time.

For many developing country Parties, implementing the ETF will require a change of approach in how they implement their international reporting obligations. What was often a project-based or ad-hoc preparation of national communications (NCs) and biennial update reports (BURs) will now require a holistic and sustained approach to ensure timely submission of BTRs every two years and active participation in the TER and the FMCP.

2024 represents a significant milestone for the ETF implementation, as all Parties to the Paris Agreement are required to submit their first BTR at the latest by 31 December 2024 and every two years thereafter. Least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS) may submit their first BTR at their discretion.

Achieving a comprehensive understanding of the ETF and of its practical requirements to identify, collect and report all the information prescribed by the MPGs is essential for timely preparation and submission of the BTRs.

The new online ETF reporting tools, officially launched on 28 June 2024 enable countries to track and submit crucial climate data and information, from greenhouse gas inventories to progress in implementing their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). At a national level, these online reporting tools will enable Parties to compile data and generate reporting tables using agreed formats, ensuring a more streamlined and consistent reporting process, and enabling aggregation of data.

The new online ETF reporting tools, officially launched on 28 June 2024 enable countries to track and submit crucial climate data and information, from greenhouse gas inventories to progress in implementing their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). At a national level, these online reporting tools will enable Parties to compile data and generate reporting tables using agreed formats, ensuring a more streamlined and consistent reporting process, and enabling aggregation of data.



Objectives

With a view to contributing to the on-going efforts of developing country Parties to prepare and finalize their BTRs and achieve full implementation of the ETF, the COP29 Presidency, with the support of the UN Climate Change Secretariat is launching an initiative called the Baku Global Climate Transparency Platform (BTP).

Aimed at being a vital platform to facilitate the effective implementation of the ETF, the BTP will ensure political support in:

- Encouraging Parties to advance their transparency agenda, including through timely submission of BTRs while keeping in mind LDCs and SIDS's discretion;
- Identifying policies and possible means of implementations, including various financial mechanisms and initiatives, that can accelerate timely submission of BTRs and facilitate subsequent process;
- Mobilizing targeted capacity-building for developing country Parties;
- Promoting exchange of experiences and lessons learned;
- Facilitating collaboration and coordination amongst stakeholders;
- Promoting networking among Parties and stakeholders that have the potential to provide support on preparation of BTRs;
- Enhancing the understanding of how to leverage the TER process to inform national policies and sustainable development;
- Building capacity and ensuring active participation of experts in the TER process.

The BTP is designed to build mutual trust and confidence among Parties, ensure support for developing country Parties in preparing and finalizing their BTRs, encourage full implementation of the ETF, and advance the transparency agenda during COP29 and beyond.

The BTP will also collaborate with existing transparency platforms and initiatives to ensure coherence and enhance the effectiveness of our collective efforts. It will provide a space for cooperation and coordination among stakeholders from all parts of society, including government, international organizations, NGOs, and the private sector. By doing so, it will enhance our collective efforts by promoting the sharing of experiences, challenges, and successes of Parties in preparing their BTRs and implementing the ETF.

Operationalization of the BTP

The BTP will follow an interlinked two-stage approach aimed at enabling the timely delivery of BTRs and supporting the full implementation of the ETF.

In the first stage it will focus on generating political momentum for the submission of the first BTRs and enabling their delivery through capacity building activities. Building upon the first COP29 transparency workshop, held in Baku on May 13-14, 2024, the BTP has already initiated a series of follow-up in-person and online global and regional workshops with the support of interested partners and will continue to organize these workshops over the upcoming months in collaboration of the UNFCCC and other UN agencies and partners. The main purpose of the workshops is to build confidence among Parties and to contribute to the capacity building activities and on-going efforts of developing country Parties to prepare and finalize their BTR. The workshops are also to be used to generate public expression of intent by Parties to submit their BTRs by COP29, or their public affirmation that they will do so by 31 December 2024 at the latest.

Building on previous events and high-level dialogues, the Ministerial Meeting on Global Climate Transparency to be organized at COP29 as part of the BTP will become an important milestone in reinforcing the political commitment to transparency and accountability in climate action.

In the second stage, the BTP will serve as a space to exchange views on post-BTR submission developments and encourage the continuation of the initiative to take stock of progress made by Parties throughout the COP29 Presidency year and beyond. It will ensure targeted support for the full implementation of the ETF through the following key activities:

- Working with the UNFCCC Secretariat and other interested partners to continue mobilizing technical support to assist developing country Parties with submission of their BTRs;
- Offering an informal space for a diverse range of stakeholders to engage in the ETF with a view to further enhancing the role and use of transparency as a concrete tool for informed decision-making;

- Promoting active participation of experts in the TER process to build capacity and gain experience through on-the-job training and in-depth exchanges with other members of the expert review teams and with the BTR team in the country undergoing TER;
- Assisting developing country Parties with participating effectively in the TER and the FCMP, helping them to make best use of these processes to identify areas of improvement;
- Supporting developing country Parties in addressing areas of improvement and capacity-building needs identified by themselves and through the TER process;
- Promoting lessons learned and experiences, using them as a source of technical knowledge and informing the review of the MPGs;
- Facilitating coordination and collaboration among the entities involved in providing support to developing country Parties;
- Organizing an open dialogue with interested Parties and partners to take stock of the progress of the actions prescribed above and provide, as applicable, appropriate suggestions of how the platform could continue making impactful interventions;
- Initiating the Annual BTP Dialogue to engage with key stakeholders to better understand how the BTP can further promote transparency in climate action and meet the needs of Parties most effectively. The BTP dialogue will help to identify and address capacity gaps and technical needs of Parties, ensuring that all countries can be well-prepared to meet their transparency obligations.

National governments and other stakeholders can join the Baku Transparency Platform through any official written communications (letter, note verbale, etc.) to the COP29 Presidency or email to BTP@cop29.az

Baku Declaration on Global Climate Transparency¹⁷

We, national governments and other stakeholders, including international organizations, financial institutions, philanthropies, private sector entities, academia, and civil society organizations:

Emphasizing that enhancing transparency, fostering international cooperation, and raising ambition through individual and collective efforts are essential to achieve our climate goals and create a sustainable future for all;

Recalling Article 13 of the Paris Agreement, which establishes the enhanced transparency framework (ETF) for action and support, designed to build mutual trust and confidence and to promote effective implementation of the Agreement and the achievement of its goals;

Recognizing that biennial transparency reports (BTRs), as a critical element for successful implementation of the ETF, are vital for tracking progress towards our individual and collective climate goals, building trust and confidence, and assessing gaps and identifying areas where we need to accelerate action, as well as contributing to future global stocktake processes under Article 14 of the Paris Agreement;

Expressing appreciation to Parties that have submitted their BTRs;

Acknowledging that Parties have differing levels of capacities for preparing BTRs and that least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS) may submit BTRs at their discretion, in line with decision 18/CMA.1, paragraph 4;

Highlighting the importance of the provision of increased support to developing countries for implementing the ETF;

Expressing appreciation to all support providers for assisting developing countries in implementation of the ETF, including the preparation of BTRs;

Welcoming efforts by the COP 29 Presidency to support developing countries in preparing their BTRs and encouraging universal implementation of the ETF by establishing the Baku Global Climate Transparency Platform (BTP);

Emphasizing the gender-differentiated impacts of climate change and the importance of integrating gender considerations where applicable;

Noting the increasing role of digital technologies and innovations in climate action for advancing and scaling up transformative climate solutions,

therefore:

1. Reaffirm that Parties to the Paris Agreement shall submit their first BTRs at the latest by 31 December 2024 and every two years thereafter;
2. Urge all Parties to the Paris Agreement to submit their first BTRs by the deadline referred to above, while noting that LDCs and SIDS may submit this report at their discretion;
3. Recognize the challenges that some developing country Parties face in implementing the ETF in a sustainable manner, including the establishment and enhancement of their national reporting systems within their respective national Governments;
4. Appreciate efforts by the COP 29 Presidency, the UN Climate Change secretariat and their partners to build confidence and capacity of developing countries to prepare and submit their first BTRs;
5. Affirm our collective support to continue to provide capacity building for the development of institutional capacities, scale up and enhance access to support, provide technical assistance to developing country Parties, and share best practices to aid in the preparation of BTRs and facilitating improved reporting over time, as well as participation in the technical expert review and facilitative multilateral consideration of progress;

¹⁷ To be presented during the Ministerial Roundtable on Global Climate Transparency, hosted by the COP29 Presidency, in partnership with Japan, South Africa, USA, Italy and Kazakhstan on 18 November 2024.

6. Invite Parties and, as appropriate, intergovernmental organizations to nominate technical experts with the relevant qualifications to the UN Climate Change roster of experts;
7. Encourage Parties and relevant stakeholders to provide support to implement the ETF, including technical expert reviews of BTRs;
8. Affirm that the BTP is to serve as a platform to support Parties in preparing their BTRs, in collaboration with existing transparency platforms and initiatives, by mobilizing resources for the implementation of the ETF and promoting cooperation and knowledge exchange on the full spectrum of the ETF;
9. Support the BTP in its objective to build mutual trust and confidence and capacity of developing countries in preparing and submitting their BTRs;
10. Encourage a collaborative spirit among stakeholders to achieve universal implementation of the ETF and a robust transparency arrangement under the Paris Agreement that engages all relevant stakeholders;
11. Urge gender responsive and inclusive climate policy and action to enhance transparency;
12. Encourage the exploration of opportunities to apply digital technologies and innovations to enhance climate transparency, while also addressing the associated challenges and risks posed by digitalization.

National governments and other stakeholders can endorse the **Baku Declaration on Global Climate Transparency** through any official written communications (letter, note verbale, etc.) to the COP29 Presidency or email to BTP@cop29.az