



Date: 13 October 2025
Reference: ES/MTP/O/QR3 2025
Page 1 of: 8

MESSAGE TO PARTIES AND OBSERVERS

UN Climate Change Quarterly Update: Q3 2025

Dear colleagues,

Climate multilateralism is delivering real progress, even if still not yet quickly enough. Recent COPs have each delivered concrete outcomes – taking major global steps forward. Through UN-convened cooperation and national efforts, projected global temperature rise has been brought down from up to 5°C, which no economy or society could survive. We are now headed for around 3°C, which shows how far we've come, and also the work that still lies ahead.

Increasingly, the real economy is aligning with the goals of the Paris Agreement, even if still unevenly. Last year, global clean energy investment topped USD 2 trillion. Nearly 90% of new power capacity added was renewable, with momentum rising across almost all major economies, though much more work is needed to ensure the vast economic and human benefits of the clean energy transition are spread equitably across all nations.

Recent [data](#) shows renewable energy became the largest individual source of energy generation in the first half of 2025, surpassing coal after nearly 50 years. And a recent [open letter](#) by CEOs with over USD 4 trillion in annual revenue pointed out their businesses cut emissions by 12% while also growing revenues by 20% over the same period, showing that climate action is increasingly good for business bottom lines.

Adaptation solutions, too, are advancing, with their transformative potential becoming clearer, and efforts to scale and replicate are rising. Again, more and better climate finance is increasingly essential.

And just last month, the Climate Summit convened by UN Secretary-General António Guterres and President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva of Brazil during the UN General Assembly showed nations reaffirming their full commitment to climate multilateralism, and announcing new national climate plans, targets and other concrete steps to boost their climate actions and ambitions.

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



Page 2

Yet climate disasters are still outpacing our efforts to contain climate change. Every economy is feeling the impacts more acutely each year and paying a much higher economic and human price each year. We must pick up the pace.

This month, we will release three reports on National Adaptation Plans, Nationally Determined Contributions and Biennial Transparency Reports, that will shed light on where progress is happening and where more acceleration is still needed. More information, including the release dates of each of these reports, is contained in this update below.

I encourage Parties that have not yet submitted their new NDCs to do so before COP 30, so that delegates have a more complete picture as they go about their crucial work in Belém.

The Baku to Belém Roadmap from the COP29 and COP 30 Presidencies will also be vital, including to show how scaling climate finance up to USD 1.3 trillion annually will happen.

Looking ahead, COP 30 needs to deliver on several fronts.

COP 30 must respond clearly and strongly to what the latest data and science is saying about progress made and where acceleration is most needed. It must show climate multilateralism continues to deliver, with strong outcomes across all negotiations.

It must spur faster and wider implementation, across all sectors and economies leaving no one behind. That means delivering for the most vulnerable in all regions, especially emerging and developing countries.

It must connect climate actions more directly to real lives everywhere, showing that bold climate action means better jobs, higher living standards, cleaner air, healthier lives, more secure food, affordable clean energy and transport. Together we must work to spread these vast benefits to far more people, in all parts of the world.

The secretariat will be with you every step of the way.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon Stiell', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Simon Stiell



Adaptation

In July, a capacity-building [workshop](#) on National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) for African least-developed countries and small island developing states supported their work to prepare NAP summaries, project profiles, funding strategies, and a shared vision of what a “well-adapting country” looks like.

In August, the [NAP Expo](#), the largest annual climate adaptation event, focused on advancing NAPs ahead of COP 30 and bridging persistent financing gaps. The Expo, hosted by the Government of Zambia, also launched the [updated technical guidelines for the NAP process](#), while the Least Developed Countries Expert Group [met](#) to discuss outreach and application of these guidelines.

Also in August, experts under the UAE-Belém work programme published [a final list of potential adaptation indicators](#). Parties and observers reflected on this list at a workshop before COP 30, where Parties will aim to agree on a final list of indicators.

The Nairobi Work Programme advanced its work through three virtual expert meetings and an [event at the second Climate Week](#), co-creating pathways and exploring unconventional finance solutions. Its new report, [Strengthening Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning \(MEL\) Systems for Adaptation](#), highlights good practices, challenges, and the integration of Indigenous knowledge, while identifying opportunities to innovate MEL systems.

The NAPs progress report – the first of the secretariat’s key reports to be released ahead of COP 30 – will be launched on 21 October. The report is expected to show real progress, demonstrating that the foundations are now in place to protect and transform economies and societies. With analytical frameworks now established, the priority should now be to put these frameworks fully to work so they deliver stronger outcomes on the ground, at a much greater scale, unleashing the full transformative power of adaptation. This will require scaled-up finance, particularly for developing countries.

Nationally Determined Contributions

In September, the secretariat and its Regional Collaboration Centres (RCCs), together with partner organizations, hosted three Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) Clinics for Anglophone Africa, Francophone Africa, and Asia and the Pacific. These sessions focused on capacity gaps in investment planning and mobilization, supported countries in prioritizing investment needs, and outlined financing strategies. The clinics brought together representatives from key ministries and financial institutions to enable peer learning and sharing best practices.

Across all regions, the RCCs have boosted their support for Parties’ NDC development and implementation through targeted activities, working closely with governments to turn national commitments into actionable pathways.

September’s [UN Climate Summit](#) in New York, hosted by the UN Secretary-General and President Lula of Brazil, was an important moment globally for countries to announce and showcase their new NDCs, with more than 100 leaders re-affirming their unwavering commitment to multilateral climate action,



including from many of the world's largest economies, to the most vulnerable yet ambitious developing countries. A chair's summary is available [here](#).

The secretariat will publish its NDC Synthesis Report on 28 October. The report will synthesize new NDCs received up to 30 September 2025. Countries who have not yet submitted their NDCs are encouraged to do so promptly, before COP 30 in Belém.

Transparency

During Q3, the secretariat advanced its support to developing countries in preparing Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs) and participating in technical expert reviews.

Through UN Climate Change's [CASTT](#) programme, 119 developing country experts received training to strengthen their capacity to engage in the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF). In July, the secretariat assisted in conducting quality assurance of national greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory system and latest inventories at a national level and, in collaboration with UNOSD, trained experts from 13 countries on the ETF GHG inventory tool.

In August, UN Climate Change delivered its first-ever country-specific virtual training on the ETF reporting tools, tailored to the Solomon Islands.

In September, the secretariat, together with CBIT-GSP and other partners, organized the [Global Transparency Forum](#) in the Republic of Korea. The event reaffirmed global commitment to transparency, highlighted the role of support-providing institutions in strengthening national transparency systems, and underscored the need to scale up financial and technical support.

The secretariat also hosted webinars to build capacity and share experiences, including on data collection and management, ETF experiences, among other topics.

By the end of Q3, more than 760 experts from 123 developing countries had taken part in multi-day in-person or online workshops.

Looking ahead, the BTR Synthesis Report 2025 will be released on 31 October. This will be UN Climate Change's first report providing an initial picture of implementation progress (based on data submitted for 2021-22) in countries who have submitted BTRs. Importantly, the report will highlight some key enablers and accelerators of implementation, as well as barriers to overcome.

Climate Finance

The 2025 [Forum of the Standing Committee on Finance](#) (SCF) took place in September, under the theme "Accelerating Climate Action and Resilience through Financing for Sustainable Food Systems and Agriculture." Participants emphasized the importance of aligning climate finance strategies with NDCs, NAPs, and agricultural policies, enhancing ministerial coordination, and improving finance access for local actors.



They also highlighted the role of traditional knowledge, robust data, and inclusive approaches in building resilient food systems. The outcomes will inform the SCF's ongoing work and wider intergovernmental climate finance discussions, with a summary report to be included in the SCF annual report to COP 30 and CMA 7.

Meanwhile, the COP 29 and COP 30 Presidencies are finalizing the Baku to Belém Roadmap to 1.3T, expected to be released the week of 27 October. The Roadmap will be an important reference framework to help all actors work together to enable the scaling up of climate finance for developing countries to at least USD 1.3 trillion annually by 2035.

Article 6

At its 17th meeting, the Article 6.4 Supervisory Body [adopted a new standard](#) on “[suppressed demand](#),” enabling development-focused climate projects to receive fairer crediting. It also decided how to handle emissions from non-renewable biomass and leakage, strengthening the environmental integrity of the Paris Agreement Crediting Mechanism (PACM) and supporting more inclusive climate action.

In Q3, implementation of Article 6 advanced through multiple initiatives. At the second Climate Week, around 150 participants joined sessions on mobilizing finance for NDCs and implementing Article 6, organized with support from three RCCs. Two webinars engaged more than 600 participants on PACM integrity standards and the draft reversal standard, which looks at how to manage risks when emission reductions are reversed. Updated guidance materials were also released, including a revised Host Party manual and new explainers.

Online training was delivered to 155 experts to support the Article 6 Technical Expert Review. In parallel, 10 Article 6.8 webinars engaged 157 participants, strengthening understanding and capacity. Based on country requests, the secretariat and RCCs provided tailored training and bilateral outreach, covering both technical and procedural aspects. RCCs also facilitated hands-on peer learning and helped countries frame their national carbon market strategies for effective implementation.

At COP 30, discussions will continue to advance Article 6 implementation. Parties will consider annual reports for Articles 6.2, 6.4 and 6.8, while the second Article 6.2 [Ambition Dialogue](#) and other mandated events will provide further space for exchange and progress.

Just transition

The [fourth dialogue](#) under the UAE Just Transition Work Programme (UAE JTWP) was held in September in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, as part of this year's [second Climate Week](#).

The dialogue allowed Parties, observers and other non-Party stakeholders to exchange perspectives and gain a deeper understanding of just energy transition pathways and holistic approaches including socioeconomic, workforce, social protection and other dimensions, based on nationally defined development priorities.



Their discussions on opportunities, best practices, solutions, challenges and barriers will be reflected in an informal summary report, and then in an annual summary report on the two dialogues that took place this year, providing a substantive contribution towards a concrete outcome on the Just Transition Work Programme in Belém at COP 30.

The [third dialogue](#) under the UAE JTWP that took place earlier in year in Panama City, Panama, as part of the first Climate Week focused on approaches to enhancing adaptation and climate resilience in the context of just transitions.

Gender

In September, a hybrid [technical workshop to advance the design of gender action plan activities](#) took place during the Second Climate Week. Building on discussions at [SB62](#) and the co-facilitators' [informal note](#), more than 100 in-person and 60 virtual participants worked in groups to refine the proposed deliverables for GAP activities. An informal summary report will be published soon on the workshop [webpage](#).

The secretariat also convened a [joint capacity-building on gender mainstreaming and social inclusion](#) targeted at national gender and climate change focal points, together with the NDC Partnership and several multilateral climate funds, namely the Adaptation Fund, the Climate Investment Funds, and the Green Climate Fund.

Following the extension of the [enhanced Lima work programme on gender](#) (LWPG) for 10 years at COP 29, it's anticipated Parties will adopt a new gender action plan (GAP) at COP 30 in Belém.

Climate Week

Held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in September, the [second Climate Week](#) (CW2) brought together Party delegates and non-Party stakeholders to help translate pledges and aspirations into actionable pathways and real-world outcomes. The week provided space for mandated events and other sessions – from NDC clinics to discussions on carbon markets – helping to bridge negotiations processes with real-economy implementation.

Discussions included a focus on advancing adaptation; improving access to climate finance and capacity-building; implementation of NDCs; operationalizing just transition policies; accelerating mitigation ambition and implementation; and strengthening climate action in forestry, agriculture, and urban systems.

A highlight of CW2 was the [Implementation Forum](#), which showcased over 40 initiatives or solutions through “implementation labs,” roundtables and workshops, with a view to how these solutions could be scaled up and replicated in other markets and geographies. Focus areas for solutions included energy access, agriculture, sustainable cities and forests, and included engagement of real economy and subnational government actors.



Non-Party stakeholder engagement

To strengthen transparency, the secretariat introduced new measures asking observers and Global Climate Action badge holders at COPs to indicate their funding sources and whether their participation aligns with the objective of the UNFCCC, and the goals and principles of the Kyoto Protocol, and Paris Agreement. This information, including cases where disclosure is declined, will be reflected in the official List of Participants.

The secretariat received a record number of applications for COP 30 side events (1,419) and exhibits (356). Of these, 332 side events and 100 exhibits were selected, and announced on 29 September. This is around the same number as at COP 29.

The secretariat also conducted multi-stakeholder consultations on improving the advocacy action process, focusing on the [Observers' Guide to Advocacy Actions](#), which will be updated to reflect constituency feedback. The [Observer Handbook for COP 30](#) has been finalized and translated into six UN languages and Portuguese.

The secretariat published a [synthesis report](#) on 22 September that summarizes 67 inputs from Parties and stakeholders in response to the [letter](#) from the Climate High-Level Champions on shaping the next five years of the Global Climate Action Agenda.

Pre-COP – Brasilia, 13-14 October

As a critical milestone on the road to Belém, the pre-COP will take place in Brasilia on 13-14 October. It will provide a platform to build trust and advance convergence on priority issues and key deliverables for COP 30. It will be followed by high-level Presidency consultations on 15 October, offering further space to hear Parties' expectations for COP 30 outcomes, and by a meeting with Heads of Delegation on 16 October to focus on key negotiation agenda items at COP 30.

Pre-COP is organized under the responsibility of the incoming Presidency, with the secretariat's support and participation. The event will bring together ministers and heads of delegation, along with representatives from observer organizations, including NGOs and civil society.

COP 30 – Participation, support for eligible Parties

The onsite confirmation process for observer organizations at COP 30 (IGOs and NGOs) was launched in September. Nearly 2,400 organizations submitted more than 39,000 nominations to participate at COP 30. At the initial stage, more than 7,000 quotas were allocated out of the available 9,500, and work is ongoing to allocate the remaining onsite quotas. All admitted organizations have also been granted virtual quotas, enabling them to participate in sessions online.

Registration for COP 30 is up and running. Registration to date indicates that this will be another busy COP. As of 8 October, a total of 12,135 participants has been registered, including 5,162 participants from 166 Parties, 2,514 media and 3,555 observer organization representatives.



At the request of the Bureau and the Government of Brazil, the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) approved an increase in the daily subsistence allowance (DSA) for Belém from USD 144 to USD 197 per night. As with previous COPs, the Trust Fund for Participation provides DSA and flights for two delegates from 144 eligible countries, with an additional delegate supported for SIDS and LDCs. To date, 137 of the 144 eligible Parties (around 95%) have responded to the offer for funding.

COP 30 – Improving findability of documents

To make documents easier to find, the secretariat has introduced improvements to its website, including an AI-powered search tool. AskUNFCCC, an AI/Co-Pilot proof-of-concept, was first trialled at the June Climate Meetings to help participants quickly locate documents and logistics information. Building on this pilot, an enhanced version will be launched in time for COP 30. The tool is designed only to help delegates and other participants locate key documents and does not have capacity to analyse or interpret documents.

COP 30 – Host Country Agreement

Following the official notification from the Government of Brazil that all internal procedures have been completed, the Host Country Agreement (HCA) for COP 30 entered into force on 12 September 2025. At the direction of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at SB 62 in June 2025, in order to ensure transparency, the secretariat has published the HCA on the [UNFCCC website](#).

COP 30 – Code of Conduct

The [Code of Conduct](#) helps ensure the respectful, safe and productive spaces needed to underpin successful COPs and Subsidiary Bodies meetings which deliver strong and concrete outcomes, at a time when climate impacts hit every nation harder each year. The Code applies equally to all participants, without exception, and all participants are encouraged to familiarise themselves with it. Any COP participants are able to report incidents confidentially either to SpeakUp@unfccc.int or directly to any badged UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) officer.

Stay up to date

The updates above are just a sample of all the work taking place in the intergovernmental process on climate change in Q3. We will continue to update Parties on the vital work and progress in many other areas in future Quarterly Updates, and as always, we value your feedback.

LinkedIn

[UN Climate Change](#)

Executive Secretary [Simon Stiell](#)

X

UN Climate Change: [English](#), [Russian](#), [Spanish](#)

Executive Secretary [Simon Stiell](#)

Other channels

UN Climate Change [TikTok](#), [YouTube](#)

Instagram

UN Climate Change: [English](#), [Russian](#), [Spanish](#)

UN Climate Change Website

[English](#), [Russian](#), [Spanish](#)