



## COP 26 OUTCOMES

### AFRICAN Reflection

The long-awaited COP26 climate summit in Glasgow has come to a close, making important progress in a number of areas but not enough. The world still remains off track to beat back the climate crisis

- ⇒ National Determined Contributions (NDCs) and Ambition
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In photo: Member representatives of CAN Africa. Photo By CAN Africa

The UK hosted the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow on 31st October to 13th November 2021. The COP26 summit brought parties together to accelerate action towards the goals of the Paris Agreement and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. Africa is one of the continents that has been adversely affected by climate change impacts and for that reason was well represented at the World Leaders Summit which took place on 1st and 2nd November 2021.

The first and second reports on the state of the climate in Africa published in 2019 and 2020 respectively indicated that, the climate indicators in Africa show continued warming and high temperatures, accelerating sea-level rise, extreme weather and climate events, such as floods and droughts, and associated devastating impacts. The reports further warn that severe impacts will remain on human health, food and water security as well as social and economic development for this reason Africa had high expectations on this year's COP 26 and especially since there hasn't been a meeting of the convention's parties since the COVID-19 pandemic hit.

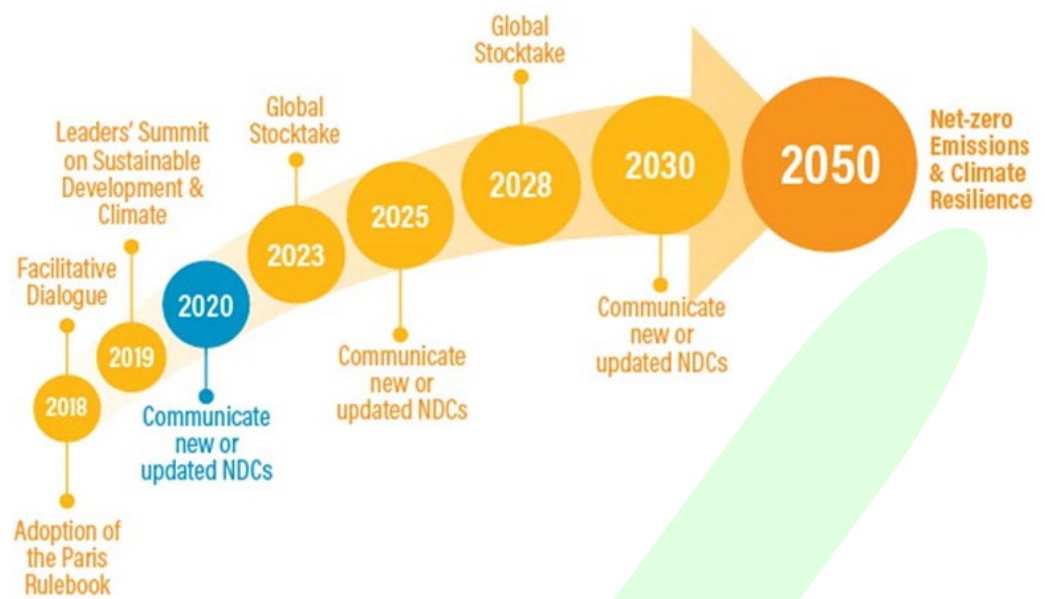
The long-awaited COP26 climate summit in Glasgow has come to a close, making important progress in a number of areas but not enough. The world still remains off track to beat back the climate crisis. Recognizing the urgency of the challenge, ministers from all over the world agreed that countries should come back next year to submit stronger 2030 emissions reduction targets with the aim of closing the gap to limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees C (2.7 degrees). Ministers also agreed that developed countries should urgently deliver more resources to help climate-vulnerable countries adapt to the dangerous and costly consequences of climate change that they are feeling already from dwindling crop yields to devastating storms.

Parties adopted the Glasgow Climate Change Pact- a lengthy and wide-ranging political decision towards a more ambitious climate response. Below is CAN-Africa summary of what was at stake for Africa and what the current state of negotiations and decisions undertaken is.

# National Determined Contributions (NDCs) and Ambition

The impacts of climate on communities in Africa are being felt everywhere with climate events such as droughts, floods, higher than normal temperatures becoming normal occurrences. In 2015 parties convened in Paris and this culminated in the adoption of the Paris Agreement on 12 December. The Agreement included the goal of limiting the average

global temperature increase to below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit it to 1.5°C. It also aimed to increase parties' ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and make financial flows consistent with a pathway towards low GHG emissions and climate-resilient development.



Source: <https://www.wri.org/publication/ndc-enhancement-by-2020>

Under the Paris Agreement, parties are required to communicate at five-year intervals, on their NDCs starting from 2020 December. In the lead up to COP 26 many countries submitted their NDCs and a total of 153 countries had submitted new and updated NDCs by the start of the COP. Out of the 153 countries, 17 African countries had submitted revised NDCs. However, a quick analysis shows that these country pledges to reduce emissions are still putting us on a dangerous trajectory towards warming of 2.5 degrees by the end of this century. This means that countries need to be even more ambitious in the NDCs in order to set us on 1.5 degrees. The

Glasgow decision calls on countries to “revisit and strengthen” their 2030 targets by the end of 2022 to align them with the Paris Agreement’s temperature goals. CAN Africa is in support of this call and asks countries to do so urgently. As the President of Barbados, Dame Sandra Mason, stated at the opening of COP 26, leaders across the world must address the pressing and urgent needs for adaptation including enhancing ambition.

# Climate Finance

Twelve years ago, developed nations committed to mobilize USD 100 billion every year by 2020 up to 2025 to support climate efforts in developing countries. COP 26 noted 'with deep regret' that this commitment was not reached in 2020. It also noted with serious concern the gap in relation to the fulfillment of the goal of developed country parties to mobilize jointly USD 100 billion per year by 2020, including due to challenges in mobilizing finance from private sources.

Developed countries have failed to meet their commitments to developing countries. At the same time countries agreed to develop a new and bigger climate finance goal by 2024

to take effect from 2025. This new climate finance deal is expected to have broader options. An Ad Hoc Work Program was convened to map out the details. For African countries impacted severely by climate change there was skepticism and overall doubt of the new climate finance deal since the current one has not been honored. Financing is needed to help African countries to adapt to impacts of climate change and therefore the COP26 adoption of the Glasgow-Sharm el-Sheikh work programme for the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) was warmly welcomed by CAN Africa.



Source: <https://www.hbs.edu/environment/blog/post/climate-finance-sip>

“Parties still have much ground to cover on climate finance and of more important ensuring that the finance is easily accessed and reaches communities in need in developing countries. COP27 in Africa remain as an important opportunity to make significance advance on climate finance”

*Dr Sixbert Mwanga, CAN Africa secretariat*

# Loss and Damage

CAN Africa also joins the voices of the developing countries calling for the assessment and reviewing the delivery towards the goal of the USD 100 billion goal until 2025. We also welcome the idea of an official UNFCCC synthesis reports on the same.

CAN Africa also calls for scaling up of adaptation finance by developed countries towards achieving the goal to mobilize jointly USD 100 billion per year by 2020. From 2020 to 2025 they must provide at least USD\$100 billion annually, equally split between support for adaptation and mitigation. And fully agrees with the COP decision urging the COP 27 Presidency to organize the high-level to ministerial dialogue on climate finance in 2022 on the progress and fulfillment of the goal of mobilizing jointly USD 100 billion per year by

2020

Adaptation finance still lags behind finance for mitigation, representing roughly 25% of total climate finance in 2019. Securing finance for adaptation is a critical issue for parties most vulnerable to climate change, especially the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs). The “Glasgow climate pact” settled on a call for developed nations to “at least double their collective provision of climate finance for adaptation” from 2019 levels by 2025. Even though this represents a significant improvement on current levels, it is still not enough compared to the amount required for adaptation. For instance UN Environment Programme adaptation gap report places annual adaptation costs for developing countries today at \$70bn, but estimates

that



Climate impacts are already causing loss of lives, livelihoods and property and in some instance permanent damage. A bold attempt by a coalition of climate vulnerable countries including Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to create a separate financing facility for loss and damage was met by resistance by developed countries. The coalition of countries had to as a compromise agree to initiate a new dialogue on possible frameworks for financing loss and damage. While this fall short of the expected outcomes there is opportunity through these dialogues to develop

robust solutions that can lead to financing of loss and damage in the near future. In a quick rejoinder some developed countries such as Scotland, European Union and Belgium committed to finance loss and damage and this was a game changer in terms of dialogue on sharing the responsibility of loss and damage. However, more work still awaits parties in order to ensure availability of financial resources highly needed to address loss and damage in devel-


# PARIS AGREEMENT

The major pending issues on the Paris Agreement were agreed during COP 26, there include Article 6 on International Carbon Markets, Common Timeframes and Transparency.

On International Carbon Markets the contention was on balancing climate ambition while maintaining the environmental and social integrity. At COP 26 negotiators agreed to avoid double counting i.e more than one country take emission reduction action as part of their climate commitment. Delegates also agreed that 5% of proceeds from carbon markets must be dedicated to climate adaptation under traditional market mechanisms. Unfortunately, COP 26 allowed the carry forward of old carbon credits (from 2013) under Clean Development Mechanism of Kyoto Protocol to meet climate commitments under the Paris Agreement. Details of what can be carried forward will be tabled in COP 27.

On common timeframe countries were encouraged to use common timeframes in order to increase ambition. The suggested timeframes were that NDCs submitted in 2025 shall expire in 2035 and in 2030 countries shall submit commitments that will expire in 2040. The five year cycles of reporting and updating of commitments is expected to spur collective ambition and action.

On transparency, all countries agreed to present information about their emissions and financial, technological and capacity-building support through a common and standardized set of formats and tables. This will make reporting more transparent, consistent and comparable and as such countries will be held accountable for what they say they will do.

1. 

Limit the avg. global temperature increase to <math>< 2^{\circ}</math> centigrade + achieve net zero emissions by mid-century

2. 

Enhance resilience and adaptation to climate impacts certain to occur

3. 

Align financial flows in the world with these objectives

Source: <https://energytracker.asia/cop26-is-this-make-or-break-for-the-paris-agreement/>



# Koronivia Joint

# Work on Agriculture

The Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture (KJWA) is a landmark decision (decision 4/CP.23) recognizing the unique potential of agriculture in tackling climate change especially in Africa. The KJWA was established at the 23rd Conference of the Parties (COP) in Fiji in 2017 as a new process to advance discussions on agriculture in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)<sup>3</sup>

Unfortunately, negotiations on KJWA did not progress to conclusion and will continue in June 2022 during the subsidiary body meetings. However, the proposed inclusion of the term 'agroecology' was a major win for the Africa group, the Least Developed Countries and EU.



# Transparency

Before Cop 26, A lot of work remained for Parties to operationalize the enhanced transparency framework. At least the enhanced transparency framework was fully completed, with the tables, outlines and other formats for the reports agreed.



CAN Africa was happy to see the CMA adopt the Common Reporting Tables (CRT) for National Inventory Reports, the Common Tabular Formats for tracking NDC progress, the Common Tabular Formats for reporting on support, the outlines for the Biennial Transparency Report (BTR), National Inventory Document (NID), and Technical Expert Review Report (TERR), and the Training Programme for technical experts participating in the TERR of BTRs an item that has stalled since 2015.

CAN Africa strongly encourages parties to submit their first Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs) under the Paris Agreement in 2024 and also provide support for developing countries to undertake their obligations under the enhanced transparency framework as was included in the finance decisions.

CAN Africa is looking forward to the reporting tools to be developed by the secretariat taking into account the operationalization of the flexibility provisions, and the availing of a test version by June 2023 with a view to the final version of the tools being completed by June 2024, subject to the timely availability of sufficient financial resources so as to have the regular technical trainings to facilitate an interactive exercise with experts.





# What lies ahead in preparation for COP 27



COP 27 will be held in Sharm el-Sheik, Egypt from 7th to 18th November 2022. CAN Africa is not satisfied with COP26 outcomes therefore we view COP 27 as an opportunity for Africa to push agenda that affect our ability to adapt to climate change. CAN Africa hope to lead and partner with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) across Africa to build momentum leading up to the COP27. Some of the immediate steps include conducting a Post COP 26 regional meeting and thereafter to hold series of planning and capacity strengthening workshops for

CSOs across Africa. Besides, we will look to further build momentum, by partnering and coordinating with strategic partners in key moments like the EU-Africa Summit etc. strengthening such dialogues so as to advocate for a better outcome for Africa as a continent. These activities will be held jointly with government representatives in order to lay a stronger foundation for collaboration between governments and CSOs.

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