BAKU, AZERBAIJAN





# **Our action**

Press conference

### THEMES OF THE DAY

**Press Conference** 

Beyond Material loss by exploring the non-economic impacts of Climate Change through faith-based perspectives

Interrogating a climate just NCQG for Africa and its ideal delivery mechanism

Riding the the tide of Carbon Market: Challenges and opportunities for Africa :

A Global Commons Climate Fund as a Pathway to a Just Transition

Advancing Political Commitments on Climate and Health Financing and the place of the Global South Voice.

Africa Day



On the 3rd day of COP and the 4th day of PACJA engagement, African CSOs coalesced under the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance and held a press conference attended by a media fraternity from different countries. African CSO representatives expressed concerns around climate finance and echoed their messages containing expectations that Africa wait for the COP29 negotiations on climate finance and new collective quantified goals. The ample call revolved around

Climate finance, loss and damage, just transition, adaptation, transparency and accountability, mitigation and recognition of Africa as a continent of special needs and circumstances. <u>Find the press statement here.</u>







Beyond Material loss by exploring the non-economic impacts of Climate Change through faith-based perspectives

In Faith Pavillion, we Contributed to the conversation on perspectives beyond Material loss by exploring the non-economic impacts of Climate Change through faith-based perspectives.

The meeting focused on addressing gaps in methodologies related to non-economic losses and damages, particularly in the context of climate youth finance. Participants, including emphasized need for representatives, the transparency in financial handling and the importance of including diverse local and regional literature in discussions. The dialogue highlighted the necessity for real commitments and actions to support developing countries, ensuring that their voices are heard in the decision-making processes.

Overall, the meeting aimed to foster a more inclusive approach to climate-related issues. Some non-economic losses were shared by participants in which it was highlighted that the emotional and psychological toll of these disruptions, including climate anxiety, and pointed out that the loss of educational time has long-term consequences on academic performance and future opportunities. The discussion underscored the urgent need to address these issues to ensure students' right to education is upheld amidst ongoing climate challenges.



Interrogating a climate just NCQG for Africa and its ideal delivery mechanism

In discussions on climate justice in Africa, Charles Mwangi, Head of Programmes at PACJA, highlighted that only about 10% of climate finance goes to adaptation, which is inadequate given that countries often spend up to 50% of their GDP on adaptation. He called for localizing climate action, noting that just 10% of funding reaches grassroots communities, stressing the need for effective resource utilization and community involvement.

Veronica Jakarasi, Executive Director Institute of Sustainability and Development Finance, Zimbabwe, echoed these concerns, emphasizing the disparity in funding and the necessity for frontline communities to benefit from climate finance. She questioned the allocation of the remaining funds and underscored the importance of local participation in project design.

Memory Kachambwa, Executive Director of FEMNET, stressed the need for genuine financial commitments to support climate action, particularly for women. She advocated for debt cancellation to create transformative financial structures and emphasized the importance of arant-based accessible. finance without collateral. Additionally, she highlighted the necessity for gender-responsive technology and monitoring financial flows with disaggregated gender data, while addressing concerns about illicit financial flows affecting Africa's resources.





#### Riding the the tide of Carbon Market: Challenges and opportunities for Africa :

We engaged in discussions about the opportunities and challenges of the carbon market in Africa.

Panelists from organizations like the African Development Bank and AU NEPAD shared their insights. Dr. Linus Mofor of the African Climate Policy Centre noted that while there are opportunities in Africa's carbon market, the continent must learn from the past to benefit from future developments. He emphasized that the carbon market should not overshadow the importance of climate finance.

Charles Mwangi from PACJA questioned whether lessons from the initial carbon market wave were truly absorbed. He stressed the need for fair pricing, community involvement in investment decisions, and transparency in all processes. Additionally, he highlighted the necessity of protecting human rights and ensuring justice during project verification. Finally, he underscored the importance of technology transfer for building local capacity.



# A Global Commons Climate Fund as a Pathway to a Just Transition

We participated in a session titled "A Global Commons Climate Fund as a Pathway to a Just Transition." This side event aimed to explore the concept of the Global Commons Climate Fund as an innovative financing mechanism for achieving a Just Transition.

Jessica Mwanzia, a panellist from the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA), highlighted how the Global Commons Climate Fund concept aligns with Africa's broader climate justice goals by addressing the need for equitable access to climate financina for African nations. She emphasized that to ensure the fund supports a just transition, critical elements like prioritizing local communities, promoting sustainable practices, and ensuring transparency and accountability are essential. Mwanzia also discussed how PACJA and similar organizations can advocate for the fund's establishment and effective implementation by engaging in policy dialogue, fostering partnerships, and leveraging lessons from existing climate finance mechanisms. She noted that existing mechanisms offer valuable insights into improving governance, enhancing accessibility, and optimizing fund allocation, which could strengthen the proposed Global Commons Climate Fund's impact across Africa.

We held discussions on Advancing Political Commitments on Climate and Health Financing and the place of the Global South Voice. This event organized by Amref Africa and PACJA revolved around analyzing Africa's emerging financial needs in climate and health, specifically through the lens of the 2024 Africa Common Position on Climate and Health. It also focused on examining the financial requirements necessary to address the intersection of climate impacts and health vulnerabilities across the continent. And in discussions panelists identified opportunities and innovative instruments that could improve the tracking of climate finance pledges dedicated to the health sector, ensuring transparency and accountability in meeting Africa's climate-health priorities. In this event, Dr Mithika Mwenda highlighted that the global conversation on climate change has been focusing on other sectors and left behind health. He said that the current indicators show the linkage between climate change and health despite the inattention to health that continues to exist. As far as Health financing in Africa is concerned panellists expressed concerns about the power imbalance between the global north and the global South. It was indicated that the latter is grappling with debts which are even higher than its GDP. In this regard, panellists called for radical thinking and push the change of narrative around health financing mechanisms.

## Advancing Political Commitments on Climate and Health Financing and the place of the Global South Voice.

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Today, Dr. Mithika addressed participants at the Africa Day side event held in the Africa Pavilion in Baku, Azerbaijan. His remarks focused on the urgent call for climate adaptation, demand for fair financing, and global responsibility at COP29. The following are the key points noted from his speech: On Africa's Climate Paradox, Dr Mithika reminded participants that Africa is rich in natural resources and ecosystems crucial to global stability yet disproportionately suffers from climate impacts it did not cause.

On Adaptation as a Necessity, he said that for Africa, climate adaptation is essential for survival and development is not an option. Solutions must be tailored to African realities, leveraging local knowledge and innovations.

On Locally-Led Finance Dr Mithika stressed that Financing must address the needs of those on the frontlines of climate impacts. Funding priorities should reflect the aspirations and realities of local communities across Africa.

On Rejection of Debt Instruments, Dr Mithika African nations should not be forced into debt to combat a crisis they did not create. Climate finance should be needs-based, sourced from public funds in the Global North, and provided as grants. On Accessible, Timely Funding he said that Climate finance must be reliable, accessible, and timely to address the immediate needs of Africa's most vulnerable communities. Fragmented or delayed funding is inadequate for the scale of the crisis.

On Demand for a Practical Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) he said The GGA must move beyond vague targets, accounting for Africa's unique vulnerabilities and tracking progress across food security, health, and livelihoods to build true resilience.

On Strengthened Global Partnerships he opined that Urgent action from governments, civil society, and institutions is needed to support Africa's adaptive capacity. Resources must reach grassroots efforts where adaptation is most critical.

On Global Responsibility he affirmed that Africa's resilience impacts global stability. COP29 must deliver a commitment package that supports Africa's needs, as outlined in the African Position, to ensure a sustainable, resilient future for all.