



PRESS RELEASE

Demonstrate Good Faith, deliver on the NCQG: A call to developed Countries Parties

Baku, Azerbaijan, November 20, 2024: African stakeholders from diverse backgrounds, including Civil Society, women, youth, indigenous people, Faiths, parliamentarians, farmers, and youth, express profound disappointment at the lack of substantive progress in COP29 negotiations. With just three days to the conclusion of the talks, key discussions remain stalled, leaving African nations and other developing countries frustrated by what appears to be a lack of ambition and commitment from developed nations.

Significantly, discussions around the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on climate finance — a critical component in replacing the \$100 billion annual pledge that expires in 2025 remain contentious. Current estimates suggest annual financial needs could exceed \$1.3 trillion by 2030, with proposals from the Global South, such as Pakistan, calling for a minimum of \$2 trillion annually. Yet, consensus on the structure and timeline of the NCQG remains elusive.

We underscore our unwavering commitment and contribution to addressing the urgent climate challenges faced by Africa and the global community. We take this opportunity to remind parties to UNFCCC of their commitment to deliver ambitious, credible, and transformative COP29 outcomes.

Given the current state of negotiations, we are skeptical of the possibilities of a transformative outcome, fully aware of the fact that leaders from developed countries have consistently remained deceitful in the negotiation process, exploring all avenues to weaken the spirit and letter of the Paris Agreement.

Progress on almost every issue has remained formless, a disappointing venture for representatives of Africa and the global south who arrived in Baku with a clear sense of the urgency of the problems at hand and decisions required to secure urgent closure.

As representatives of African voices, we continue to demand public and grants-based climate finance, with financial provisions from developed countries to developing countries and financing mechanisms accessible to communities most in need. Anything short of this is an unacceptable outcome!

Developed countries have demonstrated, through previous responses to pandemics, that resources are available, and all that is lacking is political will and a commitment to action.

The demand for USD 1.3 trillion is the basic minimum of the publicly-financed climate finance we are seeking. The private sector can make its financial contribution over and above this commitment to address the humongous challenge of adaptation. The push for privately-mobilised climate finance, in the form of loans that ultimately diminish the fiscal space for African countries to deliver adaptation alongside essential services must be resisted in all negotiation rooms

We reiterate that negotiations on finance, particularly on the NCQG, which is pivotal in building Africa's and indeed the world's resilience to climate change, are not on track!

We have equally noted slow progress in securing progressive decisions on the Global Goal on Adaptation and its means of implementation. Yet, implementing strong adaptation measures remains at the heart of addressing historical and current climate injustice

In our call for meaningful progress on the Global Goal on Adaptation during this negotiation cycle, we emphasize that a Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) cannot exist without means of implementation, which include technology transfer, capacity building, and climate finance.

It is essential that the financing aspect of the goal remains at the forefront of GGA negotiations to ensure that our objectives are coherent, consistent, and actionable. The GGA must not be seen as merely an academic exercise or a scientific exploration; rather, it must have a clear bottom-line that drives real change.

Even then, securing the goal is just the beginning! we call on the parties to the UNFCCC at COP29 to ensure that more public, grant-based funding for climate adaptation is made available, so it aligns better with the priorities of developed nations. All developed countries should follow in the footsteps of Sweden (whose effort we greatly applaud), tailoring their efforts to their own capabilities.

As the voice of African people and communities, we insist that substantial progress must be made in Baku in securing the GGA.

But we are clear! We do not hear ambition, hope and inspiration from processes in the negotiation rooms. These rooms have become centres of frustrations and lamentations by negotiators from developing countries, particularly Africa

For specificity, we demand that COP29 decision should recognize the needs and vulnerabilities of communities, societies and nations making financing for the GGA more responsive to evolving needs and vulnerabilities

This week, negotiations transitioned to the political phase, spearheaded by the ministers. History shows that this stage often leads to complications and unfair compromises, as politicians tend to compromise on core principles and make various deals. As a result, national interests can dilute the unified stance put forth by the AGN.

We urge developed countries to refrain from enticing African leaders through bribes or manipulative incentives aimed at the political elite. Additionally, we caution against the unfair and deceitful exploitation of the Paris Agreement to trade on their technologies and undermine the capacity-building process.

Our slogan — One Africa, One Voice, One Position — must resonate. The political leaders involved in this week's negotiations need to come together and build upon the groundwork laid by our negotiators under the guidance of the AGN.

The Global Stock Take must continue illuminating the discussions in the negotiation rooms advancing for inclusive and sustainable societies and economies through climate action.

We are concerned that the special needs and circumstances that underpin the context of Africa as a continent is yet to secure space in negotiations. This cardinal guiding principle should guide the negotiations across all the streams.

As we approach the homestretch of COP29, we remain steadfast in advocating for a people-centred, just, and equitable global response to the climate crisis. We continue to urge all parties to expeditiously close on important negotiation items that ensure climate finance flows to frontline communities. We cannot afford to continue dancing on raw graves!

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Note to editors: At the onset of the COP29, PACJA issued a statement on Africa's Demands for a Just and Urgent Response to the Climate Crisis, guided by our Position for COP29 that calls for securing ambitious needs based New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on Climate Finance. Our entry statement raised fundamental concerns on the NCQG, prioritization of adaptation, securing just transition, loss and damage and heightening accountability and transparency in climate action. Both statements are available in our website www.pacja.org for further reference.

About PACJA

The Pan African Climate Justice Alliance is a consortium of more than 2000 organisations from 54 African countries that brings together a diverse membership drawn from Grassroots, Community-based organizations, Faith-based Organizations, Non-Governmental organizations, Trusts, Foundations, Indigenous Communities, Farmers and Pastoralist Groups with a shared vision to advance a people-centred, right-based, just and inclusive approach to address climate and environmental challenges facing humanity and the planet.

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