



## UN Climate Summit Chair's Summary *September 2025*

1. The UN Climate Summit 2025 was convened by Secretary-General António Guterres and President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva of Brazil on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2025 on the margins of the 80<sup>th</sup> session of the UN General Assembly. The Summit aimed to galvanize political momentum on addressing the climate crisis ahead of COP 30. Leaders were invited to announce their new Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and outline the actions they are taking over the next decade to keep the goals of the Paris Agreement within reach.
2. Against a backdrop of worsening climate impacts and geopolitical uncertainty and division, close to 100 countries, including 36 Heads of State and Government, stood together to show that the resolve and determination to fight the climate crisis is alive and strong. In doing so they demonstrated their enduring commitment to strengthening multilateralism, international cooperation and to the Paris Agreement as the cornerstone of global climate action.
3. Following announcements made at the Summit, 125 Parties to the UNFCCC representing 79% of global emissions and two thirds of the global population have now submitted or announced their new NDC targets. There was a clear collective response to the first Global Stocktake of the Paris Agreement, with many countries bringing forward economy-wide targets covering all sectors and greenhouse gases for the first time. Countries also brought forward new targets for increasing renewable energy and energy efficiency, reducing fossil fuel consumption and methane emissions from the energy sector, and protecting forests, as well as measures to strengthen adaptation and resilience.
4. Leaders agreed that in the ten years since the adoption of the Paris Agreement, a new low-carbon and climate-resilient economy has emerged driving economic growth, creating millions of decent jobs, improving public health outcomes, and making energy more accessible and affordable for all. Renewables are now the cheapest and fastest growing source of new electricity worldwide. However, leaders also acknowledged that the energy transition was still not happening fast enough to keep the world on track to keep 1.5-degrees Celsius within reach, and that it remains highly concentrated in a few countries. There was a strong emphasis on the need for a just transition and to significantly increase the flow of finance to developing countries to enable countries to reach their highest possible ambition and adapt to the impacts of the climate crisis.

5. Whilst representing a step forward both in terms of emissions reductions and quality, Leaders acknowledged that the new NDCs will not be sufficient to place the world on the pathway to limit global warming to 1.5-degrees Celsius by the end of this century. In this regard, leaders expressed strong support for the gaps in NDC ambition and implementation to be addressed at COP 30 in Belem, as well as the gaps on adaptation and finance to enable developing countries to deliver and even exceed their targets.
6. Many leaders highlighted the Baku to Belem roadmap to \$1.3 trillion annually in climate finance by 2035 as a critical input to COP 30. They also called for the Roadmap to address issues such as the accessibility, affordability of climate finance, scaling up of adaptation finance and debt. Some developed countries reaffirmed their commitment to continue leading on the provision of climate finance, and a joint statement on behalf of the MDBs outlined the efforts of the banks to help address the significant climate finance gap and attract new public and private investment for climate and nature projects in developing countries. Many leaders stressed that the global trading system should serve to support climate action and ambition and a just transition.
7. Leaders agreed that a decade of delivery, implementation and acceleration must begin in Belem at COP 30.
8. In the days leading up to the Summit the United Nations, Brazil and other partners convened a series of Solution Dialogues that brought together governments, international institutions, civil society, business, and finance leaders.
9. These Dialogues clearly demonstrated that the technologies and tools needed to decarbonize energy, transport, and industry, protect forests, and strengthen resilience are already available. The challenge now is to accelerate their deployment at scale.

## **Science and urgency**

10. The meeting was opened by **Professor Johan Rockström** of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research and **Professor Katharine Hayhoe** of Texas Tech University who provided an assessment of the latest climate science. They emphasized that while the pathway to keep 1.5-degrees Celsius in reach by the end of the century is still open, the options to get there are rapidly shrinking, and urgent action is needed to unlock exponential deployment and adoption of solutions worldwide. Leaders were reminded that the solutions to solving the climate crisis exist and need to be accelerated, and that the choices they make now and over the next decade will determine whether the Paris Agreement's temperature goal can still be kept within reach.

11. In his remarks, the **Secretary-General** emphasized that although the world is still not on track to achieve the Paris Agreement's goals, progress is accelerating and leaders should seize the significant opportunities and momentum in the energy transition to respond to the urgency of action. He urged leaders to be bold in bringing forward targets that take the world closer to the 1.5-degree Celsius goal. He further emphasized that solutions exist to address the gaps that exist across mitigation, adaptation and finance, and the importance of leaders outlining a credible response plan in Belem to guide collective action over the next decade to keep the goals of the Paris Agreement within reach.
12. **President Lula** highlighted that the energy transition opens the way to a productive and technological transformation that is comparable to the Industrial Revolution. NDCs are the roadmap that will guide each country in this change. They are not mere numbers or percentages. They are an opportunity to rethink models and reorient policies and investments towards a new economic paradigm. He framed COP 30 as the COP of truth, where leaders will be tested on their trust in science. While strongly appealing to countries' commitment to NDCs, he invited the international community to collectively make the Amazon the stage of a decisive moment in the history of multilateralism.

### **Nationally Determined Contributions**

13. In response to the strong call for NDCs submission and ambition, leaders recognized the urgency of action, and the importance of the Paris Agreement and limiting the long-term global temperature increase to 1.5-degrees Celsius. In announcing their new NDC targets, many leaders emphasized their personal commitment to delivery of their plans and that they had focused on increasing the quality of their NDCs as an important step in accelerating implementation.
14. At the Summit, Leaders and ministers representing 46 Parties made new announcements on their 2035 NDC targets. A further 29 Parties spoke about their plans to implement the targets in their already submitted new NDCs. All other leaders and participants emphasized that they are close to completing their domestic processes, with 54 Parties committing to bring their NDCs forward by COP 30. By the conclusion of the Summit, 125 Parties had either submitted or made announcements related to their new NDCs, covering 79% of global greenhouse gas emissions and 67% of the global population.
15. There is a clear and overwhelming effort across the majority of Parties to improve the quality of their NDCs and respond to the first Global Stocktake.<sup>1</sup> Of the 125 submitted/announced NDCs, 62 featured absolute emissions reductions targets, 73 reflected economy-wide

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<sup>1</sup> These estimates represent the aggregated outcomes of new NDC submissions and Summit announcements. Note that the actual targets and details included in the formal NDC submissions by Parties may deviate from the UNGA80 Summit announcements, and will likely include more details on sub-sectoral mitigation targets as well as adaptation- and finance-related references.

emissions reductions targets, and 52 covered all greenhouse gases — many for the first time. 86 announcements and submissions outlined targets and measures for renewable energy, 72 committed energy efficiency targets, and 64 included references to reduce fossil fuel demand. 65 Parties also referenced efforts to halt and reverse deforestation, with 37 setting quantified targets, whilst 21 Parties included targets and measures to reduce methane emissions from the energy sector.

## Adaptation

16. Many leaders further emphasized adaptation as a crucial component of their NDC. 83 of the new NDC submissions/announcements incorporate adaptation components, with 50 including new or enhanced priorities. Leaders further emphasized that adaptation needs to be given political priority at COP 30 and other relevant international fora, and that further support is required to develop and implement country led frameworks including those outlined in NDCs.

## Support

17. A significant majority of developing country Parties further highlighted the urgent need for support to implement their 2035 NDC targets, with 80% of the new NDC submissions/announcements including finance references. Whilst many NDCs contain elements that Parties commit to achieving through domestic resource mobilization, further international support is required to ensure implementation and the highest possible level of ambition. Many leaders called for this issue to be addressed at COP 30 in Belem, including through delivery of a robust roadmap to mobilize \$1.3 trillion for developing countries by 2035, addressing issues such as accessibility, affordability and debt. Many leaders further recognized their new NDCs as a vehicle to attract greater investments for climate action and sustainable development.
18. As part of the closing ceremony, participants at the Summit heard remarks from **President Goldfajn of the Inter-American Development Bank** who spoke on behalf of the Multilateral Development Banks to outline the efforts of the banks to help address the significant climate finance gap. **Kantuta Konde, a representative of the Secretary-General's Youth Advisory Group** called on leaders to have courage in tackling the climate crisis to give young people hope for the future.
19. In closing, **Dr. Ani Toni, COP 30 Chief Executive** recalled the partnership between President Lula and the Secretary-General around NDCs, highlighting that the Summit and the ten [preceding] High-Level Solutions Dialogues provided a renewed impulse around strengthening multilateralism, connecting the climate regime to people, and accelerating the implementation of the Paris Agreement. New NDCs submitted are key demonstrations of

commitment to the multilateral climate regime and to international cooperation with a view to COP 30.

20. **The Deputy Secretary-General** recognized that the engagement of leaders and the announcements of new NDCs represented a positive step towards COP 30. Leaders from across the world had stood together to show that even at a moment of division and uncertainty, the resolve and determination to fight the climate crisis remained strong. She emphasized that while progress had been made, the science was clear that much greater ambition was required to achieve the emissions reductions required to limit temperature rise to 1.5-degrees Celsius. She reiterated the importance of all Parties and actors arriving at COP 30 with a credible plan to close the gaps in mitigation, adaptation and finance and create the enabling conditions for a decade of accelerated implementation. This response plan must also address the structural financial and policy enablers that would allow developing countries to not only meet but exceed the ambition level of their NDCs.
21. The Summit outcome provides concrete recommendations to the incoming COP 30 Presidency, to drive progress on finance, adaptation, energy and deforestation. A summary of the Solutions Dialogues is attached as an annex.

## **Participants**

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, European Union, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyz Republic, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia, Mongolia, Mozambique, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Uruguay, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, São Tomé & Príncipe, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Türkiye, Tuvalu, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe