



FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC  
REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA

## **AFRICAN LEADERS ADDIS ABABA DECLARATION ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND CALL TO ACTION**

### **A. PREAMBLE**

We, Heads of State and Government of Member States of the African Union, guided by the principles of Agenda 2063 and sustainable development goals, gathered for the second Africa Climate Summit (ACS2) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 8 to 10 September 2025, in the presence of other global leaders, intergovernmental organizations, Regional Economic Communities, United Nations agencies, private sector, civil society organizations, Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities, farmers' organizations, children, youth, women and academia, hereby:

1. *Recall* the decisions of the Assembly (AU/Dec.723(XXXII), AU/Dec.764 (XXXIII) and AU/Dec.926(XXXVIII) requesting the African Union Commission to organize an African Summit on climate and endorsing the offer by the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to host the second Summit under the theme, *Accelerating Global Climate Solutions and Financing for Africa's Resilient and Green Development*;
2. *Commend* the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, under the leadership of H.E. Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed for his visionary leadership in hosting the second Africa Climate Summit (ACS2), and for his dedication to environmental stewardship that is exemplified by the Green Legacy Initiative, a home grown response that has mobilized millions across Ethiopia to plant billions of trees, restore degraded landscapes, and inspire a continental movement towards ecological renewal;
3. *Note* that the second Africa Climate Summit builds upon the inaugural one held in Nairobi, Kenya from 4-6 September 2023 that adopted the African Leaders Nairobi Declaration on Climate Change and call to action;
4. *Recognize* the commitments made in the inaugural *African Leaders Nairobi Declaration on Climate Change and Call to Action* which underscored Africa's

- urgent demand for global climate justice, equitable financing, and accelerated action to reduce emissions;
5. *Reaffirm* that climate change is a risk multiplier that exacerbates pressures on natural resources, having implications for peace and stability;
  6. *Underscore* the importance of finalizing and operationalizing the Common African Position on Climate Change, Peace and Security (CAP-CPS) as a decisive step and advocacy tool towards a unified and strategic continental response to these interlinked challenges;
  7. *Emphasize* that Africa is not merely a victim of climate change but a resource-endowed and proactive force in developing innovative, sustainable, and inclusive solutions that reflect the continent's unique strengths and aspirations; thereby repositioning Africa to strive to be a global hub for low-carbon manufacturing and green intra-Africa trade, leveraging frameworks like the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) to enable sustainable and inclusive economic development across the continent, and exert efforts to pursue a 'green first' pathway to economic development;
  8. *Acknowledge* that African countries, despite their low contribution to global greenhouse gas emissions, are the worst affected by the impacts of climate change and the least able to meet the costs of adaptation, resilience, sustainable development and mitigation, and *reaffirm* the importance of accelerating mitigation action by Parties, with developed countries taking the lead to limit the increase in global temperature to well below 2 degree celcius above pre industrial levels and striving to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degree celcius based on the principle of equity, common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capacities;
  9. *Recognize* the important role of forests in Africa, particularly the Congo Basin rainforest, in regulating global climate change;
  10. *Acknowledge* the work of the three Climate Commissions for the Congo Basin, the Sahel Region and the Island States – an initiative launched during COP22 and hosted by the Kingdom of Morocco in Marrakech, *further* acknowledge the contributions of other African climate led initiatives such the Africa Adaptation Initiative (AAI), the Africa Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI), the Initiative for the Adaptation of African Agriculture to Climate Change (AAA), the Accelerated Partnership for Renewables in Africa (APRA), and the Africa Green

Industrialisation Initiative (AGII); and *welcome* the Clean Cooking Initiative launched by the United Republic of Tanzania and Mission 300 and further acknowledge collaborative initiatives at sub-regional and local levels aimed at adaptation and mitigation initiatives;

11. *Commend* the Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC), under the leadership of H.E. President Dr. William Ruto of Kenya, for providing a unified approach and the political leadership required for a new African vision that pursues climate solutions and financing for Africa's resilient and green development;
12. *Reaffirm* our commitment to ensure an effective multilateral approach to combating climate change through the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Paris Agreement, and reiterate our determination to implement them in accordance with the principles and provisions of the Convention, while emphasizing the achievement of sustainable development, the right to development, and the eradication of poverty on the continent;
13. *Recall* Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.883(XXXVII), which requests the AUC to initiate the due process for the establishment of the African Climate Change Fund;
14. *Deeply concerned* that Africa is warming faster than the rest of the world and that, if unchecked, climate change will continue to impact the growth of African economies negatively as corroborated by the sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC's AR6); *confirm* that interventions that "prioritize equity, climate justice, social justice and inclusion, "lead to more sustainable outcomes; and recognize that African countries, despite contributing the least to global greenhouse gas emissions, face significant challenges in funding adaptation and mitigation efforts;
15. *Recognize* the indispensable role of robust, actionable, and Africa-relevant climate science in informing evidence-based policy, guiding effective investments, and measuring progress towards our climate and development goals. We emphasize that closing the data gap and enhancing scientific capacity across the continent is fundamental to designing interventions that are both effective and equitable;

16. Acknowledge the ongoing work of the IPCC's Seventh Assessment Cycle (AR7), which aims to further refine climate sciences, assess impacts, and guide equitable and effective climate solutions for vulnerable regions like Africa;
17. *Recognizing* the foundational contribution of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report in informing climate action, including its contribution to the establishment of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Paris agreement, and its input into the first global stocktake;
18. *Emphasise* the urgent need to embed climate resilience within Africa, peace and security strategies, strengthen early warning and rapid response mechanisms, and ensure coherence between climate, security, trade, investments and development agendas; and *underscore* that climate shocks disrupt cross-border trade, supply chains, and infrastructure, while constrained investment flows limit Africa's ability to adapt and industrialize;
19. *Reaffirming* our unwavering commitment to the full implementation of the UNFCCC and its Paris Agreement and to strengthening the objectives of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, through ambitious and balanced actions on mitigation, adaptation, and should be enabled to implement its climate actions through provision of means of implementation by developed countries and guided by the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities as provided for in the Paris Agreement. On the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Paris Agreement, we celebrate its enduring relevance and underscore the urgency of ensuring its full, effective, and accelerated implementation;
20. *Mindful* that African countries, despite their low contribution to global greenhouse gas emissions, are the least able to meet the costs of adaptation and mitigation;
21. *Demand* stronger international commitments and partnerships to close the finance gap, of overall climate finance flows prioritized and made directly accessible to the most vulnerable countries, including Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS);
22. *Emphasize* the importance of regional collaboration in research, innovation, and knowledge exchange, robust monitoring frameworks and strengthened partnerships between African nations, which will accelerate climate-resilient development;

23. *Reaffirm* the importance of African unity in the climate negotiation process, particularly in the lead-up to COP30 in Belém, Brazil, to strengthen Africa's role in shaping global decisions, especially in line with the outcomes of COP29 in Baku, notably the decision on the new collective quantified goal on climate finance.

## **B. UNLOCKING SCALABLE CLIMATE FINANCE**

24. *Reaffirm* that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda and that its full implementation is critical for the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets, and *take note* of the fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, that addresses the current and emerging financing challenges to address gaps in debt architecture, reform of international financial architecture, and process for international tax Convention.
25. *Emphasize* the vital role of multilateralism derived from the United Nations charter and principles, we underscore the necessity of international corporation to address global challenges like climate change within the framework of sustainable development, the right to development, and poverty eradication.
26. *Acknowledge* provision of climate financial support by developed countries to developing countries as a legal obligation and not charity, as anchored in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Paris Agreement.
27. *Further Acknowledge* that Africa needs over US\$3 trillion to meet its climate goals by 2030, but has received only US\$30 billion between 2021 and 2022, *demand* stronger international commitments and partnerships to close the finance gap and support adaptation, resilience, and sustainable development, and *call* for urgent reforms in climate financing mechanisms to ensure fairness, adequacy, accessibility, and affordability, with a strong emphasis on grants rather than loans to avoid worsening Africa's debt, and on the timely and equitable disbursement of resources.
28. *Welcome* the Baku to Belem roadmap to US\$1.3 Trillion as a step towards closing the finance gap emphasizing the importance of scaled up, grant based and concessional finance for Africa's adaptation and loss damage needs, stress the delivery must avoid debt creating instruments to be anchored in the reform of the international financial architecture and call upon developed countries to take the lead in ensuring effective delivery of the goal.

29. *Reaffirm* the importance of African financing with African ownership through our continental financial institutions, and *call* upon Member States to expedite the completion of ratification procedures for the founding instruments of these institutions, in order to enhance their capacity to mobilize resources and support climate action financing in Africa, in service of the continent's priorities in development and sustainability.
30. *Recognize* Africa's growing ambition needs of nearly US\$53 billion to US\$106 billion per annum, and deeply concerned with the provision of adaptation finance using debt instruments, about 53% of all adaptation finance flows to Africa, with 69% being in concessional terms, while the rest is successional between 2021 and 2022.
31. *Stress* the need for developed countries to honor their financial commitments, by ensuring the provision of adequate, predictable, and accessible climate finance under the Convention and its Paris Agreement, and highlight the necessity of providing resources in the form of grants, including restructuring and debt reduction, and concessional funding to African countries, particularly for adaptation, loss and damage, and implementation measures. We further stress the need to improve the quality of climate finance for African countries.
32. *Note with concern* that the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) target of mobilizing at least US\$300 billion per year until 2035, falls far short of the needs of implementing current NDCs in Africa, estimated at US\$2.8 trillion until 2030, and *urge* for its speedy delivery, as well as Loss and Damage Fund operationalization, but are *deeply concerned* with low levels of ambition and the continued limited contributions to the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the Adaptation Fund and other UNFCCC Financial mechanism operating entities.
33. *Concerned* that Africa's growing adaptation needs of nearly US\$84 billion per annum, with current flows falling short at just US\$14 billion in 2021 and 2022, thereby widening the adaptation finance gap.
34. *Stress* that the delivery of adaptation finance must avoid debt-creating instruments and be anchored in the reform of the international financial architecture, and *call* upon developed countries to take the lead in ensuring effective delivery of the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA).
35. *Urge* for accelerated reform of international financial architecture to respond to Africa's climate finance needs and improve African representation and voice in

governance, facilitate access to concessionary finance, and enable mobilization of African private capital for green industrialization, energy transitions and climate finance for adaptation, resilience and sustainable development.

36. *Call* for the accelerated reform of Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) to ensure they are fit-for-purpose in the age of climate change and that they increase their concessional finance, lower the cost of borrowing for developing countries, and, in particular, African countries, and reform their governance structures to improve African representation. We *urge* MDBs to scale up their investments in climate-resilient and green projects.
37. *Welcome* the operationalization of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, emphasizing the need to expand high-integrity carbon markets, ensure a mandatory fair price floor to guarantee value for host countries, sustain environmental and social integrity, and establish robust benefit-sharing mechanisms that prioritize local communities and ensure transparency.
38. *Underscore* the importance of establishing transparent mechanisms that guarantee benefits for local communities and prevent exploitation by external actors.
39. *Acknowledge* the Africa Action Plan on Carbon Markets (AAPCM), which aims to support AU member states, Regional Economic Communities, and African Climate Commissions to strengthen capacities and establish robust regulatory frameworks for carbon markets to ensure environmental integrity, transparency, and equitable benefit-sharing for African communities, and *urge* Member States to strengthen their national capacities and establish robust regulatory frameworks for carbon markets to ensure environmental integrity, transparency, and equitable benefit-sharing for African communities.
40. *Welcome* the landmark establishment of the Africa Climate Innovation Compact (ACIC) and the African Climate Facility (ACF), under the initiative of H.E. Abiy Ahmed, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, committing to mobilize US\$50 billion annually in catalytic finance to champion climate solutions that accelerate innovation and scale local climate solutions across the continent.
41. *Call* for avoidance of unilateral measures pronounced during COP 28 and emphasize the need for a just and fair global transition based on national context and that address the unique needs that avoid penalising developing countries, and

that trade policies must be shaped through multilateralism to reflect common but differentiated responsibilities, enabling fair participation in the green economy.

42. *Concerned* that unilateral, punitive, and discriminatory protectionist measures, which are not in line with international law, under the pretext of environmental concerns such as the European Union's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism and deforestation regulation, impose restrictive measures on agricultural exports, undermining climate and development goals, and similar mechanisms by developed countries, could lead to immediate decline in Africa's exports to the EU by up to 6% leading to a substantial and immediate 1.12% annual reduction in the Continent's GDP, with expected higher impacts on the long terms undermining climate and development goals, *call* for a just and fair global transition based on national context that avoids penalizing developing countries, and that trade policies must be shaped through multilateralism to reflect common but differentiated responsibilities.

### **C. ENERGY ACCESS, RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ENERGY TRANSITION**

43. *Call* for a just and equitable global transition that fully respects the principles of the 1992 Rio Declaration, including the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, and that is firmly grounded in national contexts.
44. *Reaffirm* that Africa's exceptional potential in renewable energy makes the continent not only a key actor but a global leader in the just energy transition. With the collective ambition of reaching 300 GW of renewable energy capacity by 2030, Africa seeks to combine a transition towards green industrialization, job creation, universal access to energy, and environmental protection.
45. *Affirm* that Africa's vast renewable energy potential is in constant evolution due to new technologies, and position the continent as a global leader in clean energy, and the continent-wide ambition to scale renewable energy capacity to 300 GW by 2030 and that these efforts demonstrate Africa's resolve to pursue green industrialization, create jobs, and ensure universal energy access while minimizing environmental impact.
46. *Underscore* the centrality of energy access to at least 300 million out of the 600 million Africans without energy by 2030 under the Mission 300 agenda and Clean Cooking solution to 900 million African people as Africa's priority in the Just transitions, and *stress* that this transition must not be confined to the energy sector

alone, but to also encompass critical sectors such as agriculture and water, thereby securing balanced social and economic development.

47. *Note with concern* that despite accounting for an estimated 40% of the world's renewable energy resources, Africa still has more than 600 million people without access to electricity and 900 million lacking access to clean cooking which underlines the urgency of a just, inclusive, and equitable energy transition, and *stress* that this transition must not be confined to the energy sector alone, but also encompass critical sectors such as agriculture and water, thereby securing balanced social and economic development.
48. *Reiterate* our calls to the developed countries to provide the necessary support and reforms to raise Africa's share of global renewable energy financing to at least 20% by 2030, up from the current 2%, thereby ensuring a fair, sustainable, and beneficial global energy transition for all.
49. *Recognize* the role of transitional energy sources in ensuring a just transition that safeguards the energy security of developing countries.
50. *Reiterate* the prioritization of public and private-led investment in backbone energy infrastructure to support a just transition, as well as the critical importance of concessional financial support by MDB's, and the need for developed countries to fulfil their commitments as agreed in all UNFCCC outcomes, and that public authorities and regional institutions must lead in expanding grid infrastructure, regional interconnectors, and community mini-grids to ensure universal access, inclusive development, and long-term sustainability and develop policies and incentives to catalyze private investment in decentralized renewable energy systems and community mini-grids to achieve last-mile universal energy access.
51. *Further call* upon governments and all relevant stakeholders to prioritize the development of sustainable and climate-resilient infrastructure that maximizes the benefits of sustainable and low-carbon fuels, energy efficiency, Artificial Intelligence (AI), and other digital technologies.

#### **D. JUST TRANSITION PATHWAYS**

52. *Welcome* the establishment of the UAE Just transition work programme at COP27, and *emphasize* that Just transition pathways should be considered in the implementation of all pillars of climate action under the Paris Agreement, as outlined in its Article 2, and must be in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, ensuring climate action balances out the social,

economic, and environmental aspects in a balanced and integrated manner, reflecting principles of equity and Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC), considering varying national circumstances including the special needs and circumstances of Africa.

53. *Acknowledge* that Just transitions addresses development from a comprehensive lens that goes beyond the energy sector in the pursuit of achieving low-emission and more resilient economic and social development in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication.
54. *Call* to better promote adaptation in the context of just transition approaches and understanding how adaptation to climate change and broader resilience to all manner of shocks contribute towards just transitions of societies, realizing that just transitions are premised on the ability of all to minimize and manage climate-related impacts.
55. *Affirm* that means of implementation are crucial for achieving the goals set by multilateral agreements, including the UNFCCC and its Paris Agreement, as well as decision 1/CMA.4, which identifies the important connections between means of implementation and achieving just transition pathways. Without sufficient finance, technology development and transfer, capacity building for developing countries through meaningful international cooperation, just transitions will not be feasible or equitable.
56. *Reiterate* that International cooperation is key to achieving just transitions, and unilateral trade restrictive measures are, on the contrary, a major impediment to just transitions, particularly for developing countries.
57. *Acknowledge* the importance of the operationalization of the Just Transitions Pathways work programme, aiming to support the effective implementation of the UNFCCC and its Paris agreement, while *recognizing* that just transition pathways are inherently cross-cutting and should advance Africa's priorities by fostering sustainable development, enhancing climate resilience, and ensuring co-benefits from mitigation actions in the spirit of equity and solidarity.

## **E. GREEN TRANSITION OF MINERAL RESOURCES**

58. *Recognize* the urgent need to ensure reliable, responsible, diversified, resilient, fair, sustainable, and just supply chains of green minerals that are key for the development of zero and low emission energy technologies, energy security, and

resilience of energy supply chains, to guarantee value addition and economic diversification in resource-rich countries, while fully preserving sovereign rights over their mineral resources.

59. *Welcome* the launch of Africa's Green Minerals Strategy, as a vehicle for harnessing Africa's vast mineral wealth for climate-resilient development.
60. *Underscore* the urgency of building integrated value chains, promoting local beneficiation, and ensuring that Africa's mineral resources fuel inclusive growth, and a just energy transition, and the importance of the Africa Green Industrialization Initiative (AGII) launched at COP28 and *commend* the Initiatives efforts in fostering strategic partnerships with African Development Finance institutions and other partners, mobilizing commitments to advance investments in green industrial clusters and positioning Africa as a global hub for green manufacturing and industrial transformation.
61. *Affirm* that green transition must be inclusive, equitable, and rooted in Africa's long-term development priorities, and that the exploitation of mineral resources must be guided by transparent governance, environmental stewardship, and national development priorities.

## **F. FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

62. *Recognize* the fundamental priority of maintaining food security and eradicating hunger, as well as the particular vulnerability of agricultural and food production systems in Africa to the adverse impact of climate change, and *emphasize* that strengthening the resilience of agricultural and food production systems requires sustainable and predictable access to adequate means of implementation, including financing, development, technology transfer and capacity building for African Union Member states.
63. *Welcome* the implementation of the Kampala Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) Declaration on Building Resilient and Sustainable Agrifood Systems in Africa as well as its associated Strategy and Action Plan (2026-2035), and *call* upon developed countries and global funds to provide direct grant-based support to national funds that channel finance to smallholder farmers, particularly women, for access to climate-resilient seeds, irrigation, and insurance.

64. *Promote* Africa-wide platforms for sharing best practices, innovative solutions, and research on adaptation, including digital agriculture, climate data systems, and the design of resilient infrastructure.
65. *Welcome* the outcome of the UN Food Systems Summit and stock-take hosted from 27-29 July 2025 in Addis Ababa and commit to support efforts to mobilize finances, innovations, and global solidarity to build a food-secure and climate-resilient future.
66. *Welcome* the Food and Agriculture for Sustainable Transformation (FAST) Partnership, launched at COP27 and the Sharm El-Sheikh Joint Work on Implementation of Climate Action on Agriculture and Food Security (SSJW).
67. *Acknowledge* that investment in research, innovation, and resilient food systems will ensure that climate-smart innovations are not only developed but also tailored to local contexts and rapidly adopted at scale, empowering smallholder farmers with the tools, knowledge, and support systems needed to adapt to shifting climate conditions, safeguarding their livelihoods, and building their resilience.
68. *Promote* diversified and nutritious food production that meets the dietary needs of our populations while preserving biodiversity and strengthening local food and agricultural value chains, reducing post-harvest losses, and improving food storage and distribution infrastructure, which are essential to achieving food sovereignty and ending hunger across the continent.
69. *Recognize* the critical role of traditional knowledge systems, sustainable land and water use in agricultural resilience, and *reaffirm* our commitment to enhance policies that protect watersheds, restore degraded lands, promote efficient irrigation systems, integrated land-use planning, and community-led conservation efforts to ensure long-term sustainability.
70. *Emphasize* the importance of regional collaboration in research, innovation, and knowledge exchange, and strengthen partnerships between African nations to accelerate the development and scaling of climate-resilient crops, digital agriculture, and sustainable value chains.

## G. NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

71. *Emphasize* that the continent is most vulnerable to climate shocks yet rich in biodiversity and *affirm* our determination to advance nature-based solutions (NbS) that are rooted in African realities.
72. *Encourage* those African countries who prefer to include Nature-based solutions in their NDCs and NAPs to make that determination as appropriate.
73. *Advocate* for the creation of a continental Nature-based solutions knowledge platform to track progress, share best practices, and promote research and innovation in ecosystem-based adaptation and mitigation strategies.
74. *Reaffirm* the critical role of land restoration and the value of related initiatives, including the Great Green Wall and the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR100).
75. *Commend* Member States of the African Union, for initiatives and sustained efforts aimed at ecosystem and landscape restoration and livelihood resilience, such as the Ethiopian Green Legacy Initiative, that are aligned with the African Union Great Green Wall Initiative, and the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative, as well as Central Africa forest initiative, and *commit* to support mobilization of financial resources including through collective proposals to access mitigation and adaptation finance from the Green Climate Fund.
76. *Commend* the Africa Gold Standard, led by AUDA-NEPAD, for setting a precedent for carbon projects that prioritize community rights, equitable benefit sharing, and alignment with Africa's unique socio-economic and environmental context.
77. *Commit* to inclusive approaches that empower communities, particularly women, youth, and indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities (PWDs), and the elderly, to design, implement, and benefit from nature-based solutions, ensuring that local stewardship remains at the heart of Africa's climate response.
78. *Recognizing* the irreplaceable role of Africa's ecosystems in regulating climate, preserving biodiversity, and supporting livelihoods and that nature-based solutions are central to our climate strategy, *call* for increased investment in ecosystem restoration and protection, guided by equity, science, fair carbon pricing and traditional and indigenous knowledge, with special attention given to fragile

ecosystems such as coastal zones, Mediterranean forests, oases and wetlands which face immediate threats from climate change.

79. *Further recognize* the importance of ocean governance for its vital role in marine ecosystems in climate mitigation, adaptation, and sustainable development.
80. *Recognize* the vital importance of Africa's oceans and coastal areas as sources of food, energy, biodiversity, employment, and climate resilience, and reaffirm our commitment to protecting and sustainably managing marine and coastal ecosystems, combating pollution, overexploitation, and the impacts of sea-level rise, while promoting the blue economy as a strategic driver for Africa's sustainable development.

## **H. TECHNOLOGY-BASED SOLUTIONS**

81. *Underscore* the need to foster inclusive digital ecosystems, support African tech entrepreneurs, and ensure that climate technologies are accessible, affordable, and tailored to local needs, and that technology must serve the people, not replace nature, but reinforce it.
82. *Urge* global partners to support Africa's dual approach—investing in both natural capital and technological advancement while emphasizing that climate finance must prioritize integrated solutions that deliver co-benefits for people and the planet, and to prioritize the development and transfer of locally adaptable, low-cost technologies for early warning systems, climate-resilient agriculture, water management, and coastal protection, supported by capacity-building to operate and maintain them locally.
83. *Recall* that transition efforts must go beyond the energy sector, integrating just transition, technology development and transfer dimensions into food systems, water management, health services, and other critical development sectors and call upon partners to provide concrete technical and financial support to sustain these key sectors.

## I. ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE

84. *Emphasize* that adaptation to climate change and building resilience to disasters are Africa's foremost priorities.
85. *Emphasize* that adaptation to climate change and building resilience to disasters, access to clean water and sanitation, food and nutrition resilience, climate-resilient cities and infrastructure, climate-resilient health systems and access to reliable energy are among Africa's priorities.
86. *Reaffirm* the commitment to the African Union's "*Africa Urban Resilience Programme*" (AURP), emphasizing innovative urban climate finance, empowerment of local governments, promotion of green infrastructure, and inclusive upgrading of informal settlements to build resilient and sustainable African cities.
87. *Recognize* the urgent need to address the continent's vulnerability to climate shocks by *implementing* bold Africa-led strategies to build resilience across agriculture, water, food and energy security, early warning systems and infrastructure, while safeguarding critical biodiversity and ecosystems such as the Congo Basin Rainforest.
88. *Recognize* the critical role of protecting, conserving, and restoring water systems and water-related ecosystems in delivering climate adaptation benefits and co-benefits, while ensuring social and environmental safeguards.
89. *Emphasize* the importance of scalable, locally rooted solutions that blend indigenous and traditional knowledge with modern innovation, such as climate-smart agriculture, early warning systems, renewable energy, and e-mobility, and *urge* global partners to support Africa's ingenuity through adequate financing and technology transfer, including through concessional financing mechanisms and the establishment of sustainable scientific and technological partnerships.
90. *Affirm* that adaptation and resilience must be country-driven and people-centered, recognizing the critical role of the youth, women, children, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, persons with disabilities, and other vulnerable groups in shaping climate responses that promote inclusive governance, equitable access to resources, and capacity-building to ensure that adaptation efforts are sustainable and just.

91. *Promote* inclusive climate governance that engages women, youth, children, vulnerable communities, and local innovators by centering African voices and priorities, and institutionalizing climate risk into national planning and fostering regional collaboration.
92. *Recognize* that the implementation and financing of national adaptation plans are key instruments for building resilience to climate change.
93. *Cognizant* of the importance of cooperation in developing regional climate risk assessments and transboundary early warning systems to address cascading risks such as droughts and flash floods, and flood insecurity, *call* for their integration into African-led frameworks and indicators for resilience building.
94. *Call* for addressing water challenges by 2030 through enhancing sustainable and efficient use and management of water resources, water-related ecosystems, soil and land resources, improving environmental management, environmental quality regulations, pollution control, water quality monitoring and analysis, and early warning and monitoring systems, and help ensuring recycling, treating, and reusing of wastewater, control on runoffs and other relevant measures.
95. *Emphasize* that adaptation must be fully integrated into national development strategies, with climate risk institutionalized in planning, budgeting, and infrastructure investment, to avoid maladaptation and ensure resilience gains are sustainable and *call* for strengthened international support to advance the formulation, implementation, and financing of national adaptation plans, recognizing them as key instruments for building resilience to climate change.

## **J. LOSS AND DAMAGE**

96. *Acknowledge* the outcome of COP27, held in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, the African COP, that, among others, launched the Sharm El Sheikh work programme on implementation of Agriculture and Climate Action (SSJW); and *recall* the historic breakthrough which led to the landmark decision to establish a new funding arrangement dedicated to responding to Loss and Damage.
97. *Underscore* the importance of regionally disseminated, translated, and user-friendly tools to enable informed and context-specific responses; and stresses the need to enhance the global knowledge base on non-economic losses and support

developing countries in better assessing and costing their loss and damage needs as a shared priority.

98. *Take note* of the progress made at UNFCCC COP29 in operationalizing the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD), and the subsequent Barbados Implementation Modalities (BIMs), enabling it to distribute money by 2025, and strengthening the Warsaw International Mechanism (WIM) for loss and damage.
99. *Take note* of the urgent need for the operationalization of the Santiago Network for Loss and Damage Fund to ensure simplified, direct access especially for LDCs and SIDs, to address economic and non-economic losses, with a specific window for slow-onset events and climate-induced mobility including the provision of adequate support for technical assistance to developing countries.
100. *Urge* the operationalization of the Loss and Damage Fund to ensure simplified, direct access for LDCs and SIDs to address economic and non-economic losses, with a specific window for slow-onset events and climate-induced mobility.
101. *Enhanced* coordination, coherence, and complementarity between the Warsaw International Mechanism Executive Committee, the Santiago Network, and the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage, including their respective secretariats, with a view to strengthening access, outreach, and support to countries on the frontlines of climate impacts.

## **K. CLIMATE- INDUCED MOBILITY, PEACE AND SECURITY**

102. *Acknowledge* the wide-ranging risks of climate change, as a threat multiplier, to the peace and security landscape in the continent including on food and water insecurity, loss of livelihoods, failure of management of natural resources, the scarcity of water resources, climate-induced displacements, and possibly aggravating existing vulnerabilities, tensions and conflicts, and in this regard, *stress* the need for the AU to continue mobilizing a united African front at the global level, in order to more effectively mitigate the negative effects of climate change at both, national regional and continental levels, and for a Continental framework for proactively responding to the security threats posed by climate change related phenomena.
103. *Encourage* all Member States and the Regional Economic Communities and Regional Mechanisms (RECs/RMs) to further enhance their climate change

resilience and mitigation capacities, develop credible climate early warning systems, as well as integrated responses to climate-related security risks.

104. *Further Encourage* Member States to enhance collaboration and cooperation in managing transboundary marine resources, pastoral lands, forests, wildlife, transboundary rivers and lakes.
105. *Reaffirm* our shared commitment to addressing the urgent and interconnected challenges posed by climate change, forced mobility, and the fragility of peace and security across the continent, and *recognize* the disproportionate impact of climate-induced displacement and conflicts exacerbated by climate change.
106. *Recognize* that climate change exacerbates human mobility and that well-managed mobility offers pathways for climate-affected populations to access new livelihoods, facilitates remittances that support community adaptation, and enables skills development and exchange essential for just transitions and green jobs; and *call* for more holistic responses to the impacts of climate change, including sea-level rise and desertification, under relevant international frameworks, and the critical importance of cross-border cooperation and coordination, enhancing data collection, sharing and analysis.
107. *Emphasize* the need to ensure that climate change responses are conflict-sensitive and security-sensitive and that they mainstream peacebuilding efforts, as well as the need for holistic approaches that address the interlinkages between climate change and human mobility in conflict-affected settings, with a view to informing the design and implementation of policies and interventions that tackle climate-induced displacements in Africa.
108. *Underline* the importance of prioritizing the impact of climate change on water and food security in Africa, while tackling the climate, peace and security nexus, given their critical importance for the African Continent.
109. *Acknowledge* that climate-induced mobility is not merely a humanitarian issue but a structural challenge that demands coordinated policy responses, inclusive planning, and resilient infrastructure and *call* for the integration of climate mobility, into national and regional development frameworks.
110. *Affirm* that climate resilience is inseparable from peacebuilding and conflict prevention and *urge* governments, development partners and civil society, to

invest in climate-sensitive peace strategies, early warning systems, and inclusive dialogue mechanisms that address the root causes of instability.

## **L. CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH**

111. *Reaffirm* our collective commitment to advancing Africa-led climate solutions that prioritize human health, environmental sustainability, and equitable development, as guided by the African Union's Agenda 2063 and the principles of multilateralism, *recognize* the urgent need to address the intertwined crises of climate change and public health across the continent, and *call* for dedicated financial mechanisms for climate-related health and the resilience of African health systems in particular, we highlight the growing threats of heatwaves and water scarcity, which severely affect public health, and call for early-warning systems linked to health services.
112. *Reaffirm* our commitment to advancing climate-resilient health systems across the continent and *recognize* the Belém Health Action Plan as a pivotal global framework that aligns with Africa's aspirations for equitable, sustainable, and climate-smart healthcare.

## **M. CALL TO ACTION**

We call to action the following:

113. To advance transition towards green and resilient development by investing in renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, urban resilience, land restoration, disaster risk reduction, disaster management, and technology and nature-based solutions.
114. To support the accelerated implementation of relevant AU frameworks including the Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy and Action Plan, Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction, Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology, Weather, Water and Climate and the Africa Ocean Governance Strategy.
115. Developed countries to scale up quality and accessible climate finance, particularly adaptation finance, delivered primarily in the form of grants and grant-equivalent terms in the context of implementing NCQG and the target of US\$1.3 trillion per year by 2035, as well as finance under Article 9.1, Access procedures must be simplified and responsive to Africa's specific circumstances, including those of vulnerable African countries.

116. Developed countries to enable climate action in developing countries through the provision of adequate, new, predictable, and additional financing from international climate funds, public and private sectors, loss and damage mechanisms, and innovative financing instruments to support both emergency responses and long-term climate solutions, with particular attention to technology transfer and capacity building.
117. A just and equitable global transition that fully respects the principles of the 1992 Rio Declaration, including the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, and that is firmly grounded in national contexts.
118. Developed countries to scale up equitable, accessible and transparent adaptation finance in grant and grant-equivalent terms including through tripling the Glasgow doubling pact by 2030 from 2025 levels and in the context of implementing the NCQG and Baku to Belém Roadmap to US\$1.3trillion per year by 2035.
119. The New Collective Quantified Goal must go beyond being framed solely as an “investment goal”. It should be both quantified and qualified in accordance with Articles 9.1, 9.3, and 9.4 of the Paris Agreement, ensuring adequate, predictable, and accessible support.
120. Developed countries to honour their commitments and align financing with Africa’s priorities, and endeavour to mobilize domestic resources and foster public-private partnerships, particularly in the implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), as well as the United Arab Emirates Framework for Global Climate Resilience, as established, under the Global Goal on Adaptation.
121. Urgent progress on coordinated debt pauses and cancellation, borrower solidarity, and rules-based debt resolution, which are essential tools for climate-resilient development and just transition.
122. Simplified climate finance access procedures that are responsive to Africa’s specific circumstances for African countries, including Least Developed Countries, and Small Island Developing States.
123. Developed countries to fulfill their commitments to close the finance gap and support adaptation, resilience, and sustainable development and urgent reform in

climate financing mechanisms to ensure fairness, adequacy, accessibility, and affordability; with a strong emphasis on grants rather than loans to avoid worsening Africa's debt, and on the timely and equitable disbursement of resources.

124. Global partners to scale up climate finance dedicated to nature, stressing that investment in Africa's natural capital delivers multiple co-benefits for people, biodiversity, and prosperity, while fostering collaborative research, education, innovation, capacity building, and knowledge exchange across borders and sectors.
125. Increased investment in ecosystem restoration and protection, guided by equity, relevant science, and traditional and indigenous knowledge.
126. Just and fair carbon trade mechanisms based on local context shaped through multilateralism to reflect Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities, and commit to take the necessary action and forge cooperation to prevent the imposition of unilateral measures, including carbon taxes that undermine continental agendas for regional integration, connectivity such as in aviation and shipping development, and climate action;
127. AUC and Member States to develop climate-health strategies that strengthen public health systems, promote climate-resilient infrastructure, and ensure access to clean air, water, and energy for all.
128. African unity in the climate negotiation process, particularly in the lead-up to COP30 in Belém, Brazil and beyond, to strengthen Africa's role in shaping global decisions.
129. Strengthened and sustained support to scale up the implementation of the African-led climate initiatives, including the three Climate Commissions launched at COP22 and others, in line with Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.855 (XXXVI) of February 2023.
130. Strengthened and sustained support to scale up the implementation of the African-led climate initiatives, such as the African Union Great Green Wall Initiative, the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative, the Ethiopian Green Legacy Initiative, among others.
131. International support towards the implementation of Africa's key regional and continental energy access and transition initiatives to drive inclusive, climate-

resilient and low carbon economic transformation including the Africa Single Electricity Market (AfSEM), the Continental Power Systems Masterplan (CMP), the Africa Energy Efficiency Strategy (AfEES), Mission 300, the Africa Clean Cooking Programme, the Accelerated Partnership for Renewables in Africa (APRA), and the Africa Renewable Energy Initiative.

132. Global partners to support Africa's investment in technological advancement while emphasizing that climate finance must prioritize technology that supports both adaptation and mitigation.
133. *The establishment of technology incubators and hubs, that enhance knowledge on the use of artificial intelligence to support children and youth to enhance their innovations for climate change solutions.*
134. Strengthened and sustained support to scale up the implementation of the African-led climate initiatives.
135. Effective implementation of the Sharm El Sheikh work programme on implementation of Agriculture and Climate Action (SSJW), ensuring that its outcomes are rooted in the priorities of developing and African countries and that it addresses the specific challenges faced by smallholder farmers.
136. The African Union Commission to explore and support the establishment of a coalition of critical mineral-producing countries of Africa to promote strategic and sustainable regional cooperation, support value addition and beneficiation.

## **N. ASPIRATIONS AND COMMITMENTS**

We therefore aspire and commit as follows:

137. Support the creation of African-led financial instruments such as AfDB green bonds and regional climate resilient innovation hubs that will support the Africa Climate Change Fund.
138. Prioritize adaptation as Africa's main climate challenge, with particular focus on water and food security, fragile ecosystems, and community resilience, and mobilize dedicated financial and technical support accordingly.
139. The urgent need to develop and operationalize new, innovative climate finance mechanisms tailored to the continent's realities, including blended finance

mechanisms, green and blue bonds, debt-for-climate project swaps, and strategic public-private partnerships, to diversify financing sources and mobilize essential resources for our sustainable development priorities.

140. Advocate for reforms in the global financial architecture that make climate finance more accessible and equitable and to support innovative financial instruments tailored to Africa's needs.
141. Harmonize national and regional strategies to avoid fragmentation and promote synergy across sectors, enhance policy coherence, and avoid overlap in initiatives on energy, agriculture, and carbon markets.
142. Strengthen regulatory and institutional capacity to fully benefit from cooperative approaches under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, and implement the Africa Action Plan on Carbon Markets, while protecting national and community rights, ensuring transparency, respecting national sovereignty, and aligning transactions with national priorities.
143. The acceleration of the consultation on the development of the Common African Position on climate change, peace, and security, which must be data-driven and informed by contributions of Member States and African Union institutions, with a view towards its consideration and adoption via the relevant AU Policy Organs.
144. Integrate the human mobility, climate, peace, and security nexus into national and regional climate strategies, recognizing migrants as key agents of change in building a climate-resilient, prosperous, and peaceful Africa.
145. Advance green and resilient development by investing in renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, urban resilience, land restoration, disaster risk reduction and technology and nature-based solutions.
146. Support farmers, especially smallholders, youth and women, with access to climate information, investments, early warning systems, and innovative technologies that empower them to adapt and thrive in a changing climate and to recognize the oasis system as a distinctive African model of sustainable agriculture that must be protected and supported with dedicated adaptation financing.
147. Full implementation of the Kampala CAADP Declaration and to anchor agricultural adaptation financing in national budgets, ensuring sustained, domestic investment in food security and climate resilience—beyond reliance on external climate funds.

148. Operationalize the Africa Climate Innovation Compact (ACIC) and the African Climate Facility (ACF), to champion African climate solutions.
149. The implementation of just transition pathways at the national and international levels, supported by international cooperation and the delivery of necessary means of implementation, in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication.
150. Coordinate national climate, energy, and development strategies to ensure coherence, avoid policy fragmentation, and enable effective implementation of just transitions with a continental mechanism for coordination and monitoring to ensure policy coherence”.
151. Developed countries to scale up national and collective efforts towards the provision and mobilization of public resources in a grant-based or concessional manner to African and other developing countries in mitigation, adaptation and loss and damage;
152. Implement the Africa Green Minerals Strategy with the aim of minimizing the ecological footprint of mining activities through the adoption of cleaner technologies, rehabilitation of degraded lands, and strict enforcement of environmental regulations that uphold the rights of local communities, ensure fair labour practices, and promote gender equity in the mining sector.
153. Forge Pan-African solidarity for climate action and sustainable development.
154. Ensure Africa’s voice is central in global climate negotiations and push for fair recognition of Africa’s contributions.
155. Reaffirm the need for the AU Commission to fast track the development of the Common African Position on the nexus between climate change, peace and security.

## **O. RESOLUTION**

156. In recognition of the need for deeper strategic planning, more impactful implementation, and stronger regional coordination, we propose that the Africa Climate Summit be convened every three years rather than biennially and be

hosted by on a rotational basis within the five African Union regions with follow-up actions by the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) and AMCEN under the guidance of CAHOSCC, with the support of the AU Commission and the ACS Secretariat to ensure the effective implementation of commitments undertaken.

157. Thank the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia for successfully hosting the Second African Climate Summit, and the warm hospitality accorded to all delegations at the Summit.

**ADOPTED by African Heads of State and Government and High-Level Representatives of the African Union on 10th September 2025 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.**

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<sup>1</sup> “*Interpretative Declarations entered by Ethiopia and South Africa on paragraphs 5, 6, 18, 102, 103, 105, 107, 108, 110, 155, and on the title of Section K, expressing their understanding of the lack of a nexus between climate change and peace and security, and noting that there is no common African position recognising such a nexus, and that the issue of peace and security falls beyond the mandate of the Summit; Interpretative Declaration entered by Ethiopia on paragraphs 87, 104, 138, and 144, respectively, clarifying that the text in relation to climate resilience is accepted only with reference to enhanced adaptation across sectors; that cooperation on the management of transboundary rivers is understood to mean equitable and reasonable utilisation; that the reference to water and food security is not accepted; and reiterating that there is no consensus on the nexus between climate change and peace and security*”.