

CO-CHAIR SUMMARY OF THE PETERSBERG CLIMATE DIALOGUE 2026 IN BERLIN

The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, together with the designated COP31 Presidency of Türkiye and the designated COP31 Presidency of Negotiations Australia, hosted the 17th Petersberg Climate Dialogue (PCD) 2026 in Berlin on 21–22 April. Carsten Schneider, Federal Minister for the Environment, Climate Action, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, COP31 President-Designate Murat Kurum, Minister of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change, and COP31 President of Negotiations-Designate Chris Bowen, Minister for Climate Change and Energy, brought together ministers and high-level representatives from 31 countries and the EU to discuss the shared way forward on the road to COP31 in Antalya during challenging times for climate and energy security.

Paris Agreement as uniting compass for a secure, resilient and prosperous world in the current energy crises:

- There was strong recognition that no country can achieve the Paris Agreement goals in isolation and the need for cooperation and collaboration. Participants reaffirmed their unwavering commitment to multilateralism and the Paris Agreement as the cornerstone of global climate regime.
- Participants congratulated Brazil, for the successful COP30 in Belém and strengthening multilateralism through the Paris Agreement. Participants are looking forward to COP31 in Antalya and expressed their support for the COP31 designated Presidency Türkiye and the designated COP31 Presidency of Negotiation Australia. Participants also welcomed the Pacific component of the COP with the Pre-COP in Fiji highlighting the situation of Small Island Developing States (SIDS).
- Against the backdrop of the current energy crises and geopolitical tensions, participants stressed that climate action and energy security go hand in hand to secure access, stability, growth and economic competitiveness and just transition.
- Many participants highlighted that the current oil and gas crisis is a decisive moment. It highlights the volatility of fossil energy dependency with many countries being strongly affected for the second time in this decade of strong price hikes and availability issues. Decarbonisation of economies can therefore be a matter of economic stability and energy security. Participants stressed that this shock should serve not as a means to delay but as a moment for further mobilisation for the energy transition that is already irreversibly underway.

Urgency of Climate Action — a world running out of time:

- It was underlined that the alarming state of the world climate requires urgent action on the basis of clear scientific evidence. The World Meteorological Organisation's State of Global Climate Report 2025 confirmed that 2015–2025 were the hottest eleven years on record, with 2025 ranking as the second or third hottest year, at approximately 1.43°C above the pre-industrial average. Science warns that the planet's capacity to buffer global warming may be weakening, making the 1.5°C limit ever more critical.
- Participants affirmed the centrality of keeping 1.5°C within reach based on the best available science from IPCC. The rising costs of inaction are being felt most acutely by the most vulnerable.
- Some participants highlighted historical emissions, national circumstances, and responsibilities.

Accelerated Implementation — a climate and economic imperative and opportunity:

- Participants stressed the importance for COP31 to decisively close the ambition and implementation gaps and deliver action that makes a difference for people and economies, ensuring secure, resilient and sustainable development for all.
- The incoming Presidencies and other participants called on those parties that have not yet done so to submit their 2035 Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). They, and many participants also highlighted the importance of the submission of Biannual transparency reports (BTRs) and the role of National Adaptation

Plans (NAPs). Many participants emphasized the need for 1.5°C aligned NDCs, with some calling for countries with NDCs that has ranges to achieve towards the upper end.

- Many interventions and presentations highlighted that zero- and low-carbon technologies have become widely and affordably available since the adoption of the Paris Agreement, in particular affordable renewable energy with wind and solar energy deployment booming across regions at falling costs, battery storage and electrification of end-use sectors. Countries also referred to the compelling economic opportunities in the energy transition, including the USD 2.3 trillion global investment in clean energy in 2025, an increase of 8 percent from 2024 and double the investment in fossil fuels.
- Participants debated how the COP process can facilitate accelerated implementation. There was broad support for strengthening the link between multilateral decisions and implementation, with a multi-year Action Agenda focussing on the implementation of the Global Stocktake (GST) decision and including ambitious plurilateral initiatives playing a key role — also including through credible approaches to just transition.
- The Action Agenda structured around the GST was highlighted as a major achievement of COP30, with participants calling to continue and sharpen this approach through enhanced transparency, accountability, and measurable implementation progress.
- Many Participants argued for the upcoming mandatory reviews of the Mitigation Work Programme (MWP), Just Transition Work Programme (JTWP), and Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) to better support ambition and implementation of NDCs and national priorities.
- There was broad convergence that accelerating action and implementation — including through the Global Implementation Accelerator (GIA), the Belém Mission 1.5, and continued GST-aligned Action Agenda work — is the decisive task of this decade.
- The COP30 Presidency, the designated COP31 Presidency and the designated COP31 Presidency of Negotiations provided updates on current planning on these processes, noting the Belem Mission to 1.5 work is also undertaken in Partnership with the COP29 Presidency, and will call for inputs from all parties and actors to inform solutions-focused discussions throughout the year.
- Several Participants suggested that COPs should serve as coordination and problem-solving spaces — not direct implementation bodies — while strengthening trust through progress on support, NDCs, and the link between negotiated outcomes and implementation.
- The COP30 Presidency led Roadmaps on Transitioning Away from Fossil Fuels and Halting and Reversing Deforestation and Forest Degradation were emphasised as being among the major results of COP30 with a role to support implementation of GST-1; some participants also highlighted the need to ensure the continuity of these Roadmaps beyond COP31.
- Some participants highlighted the importance of transparency for the multilateral process as well as for tracking implementation. It enables policy planning, tracking of climate actions, building and retaining trust and it enables mutual learnings.
- Several participants highlighted the importance of the ongoing processes in the International Maritime Organisation (IMO).
- There was consensus that there is an intimate link between mitigation and adaptation: effective mitigation action will result in reduced climate change impacts on nature, people, livelihoods and national economies.
- Several participants stressed that adaptation gaps remain critical and underfinanced, particularly for the most vulnerable countries, Small Island States, and Least Developed Countries (LDCs), where climate impacts including storms, floods, and rising sea levels are already threatening livelihoods and infrastructure. COP31 was called upon to deliver tangible progress on adaptation, with concrete proposals including a dedicated approach on water security, early warning systems, and tripling adaptation finance flows.

Women and Green Skills — A Just and Gender-Responsive Transition:

- As an initial political step on gender-responsive green skills, participants at the Women's Lunch called for broad cooperation in the lead-up to COP31 and a more substantive and high-level event engagement in the run-up to COP31 on how to engage all women and men as agents of change for a just transition, as mandated under the Belém Gender Action Plan. They aimed to build momentum towards more substantial voluntary outcomes by COP31 in Antalya.

Electrification – a pathway to energy security:

- Against the backdrop of the ongoing oil and gas crisis and rapid reduction in the cost of renewables, batteries and other transformative technologies, almost all countries highlighted the compelling opportunities and benefits of the energy transition. Effective technologies to decarbonise transport, buildings and industry are readily available that can significantly reduce reliance on fuel imports. Dramatic cost decrease of clean technologies makes the transition a compelling business case, dramatically increasing the possibilities for speed and scale of the transition towards renewable energies.
- Citing examples from their national experiences, several participants affirmed that electrification with renewables is the fastest, most scalable, and cost-effective pathway to decarbonise industry, transport, and buildings. By substituting fossil fuels with electrification, countries can safeguard themselves from volatile fossil market prices, lower energy bills for households and industry, and create jobs and new industrial value chains.
- Participants discussed the most effective levers to accelerate electrification across sectors and to deploy enabling infrastructure: modern grids, flexibility and storage, and investment frameworks helping to reduce cost of capital and to unlock private capital alongside public finance. Concrete policy and regulatory levers for end-use electrification, instruments to scale private investment and actions to expand grids and storage were identified as near-term priorities and the benefits of cooperation and sharing of best practices were highlighted whilst some participants noted differences in national circumstances and starting points.
- Francesco La Camera, IRENA Director-General presented preliminary findings on the World Energy Transition Outlook: investments in renewable energies are at a record high with a record of around 700GW of newly added installed capacity worldwide, most of it solar PV and wind. IRENA further lined out how the electrification of final energy consumption – one of the keys for 1.5° aligned energy scenarios – has a clear economic case.
- Some Participants also highlighted the importance of translating global energy transition commitments into rapid, bankable projects for implementation.

Climate Finance and Investment—Implementing the NCQG and Delivering Adaptation Finance:

- Participants re-affirmed their commitment to the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) and discussed priorities with a view to full delivery by 2035. Public finance remains indispensable, especially for the most vulnerable as well as for adaptation.
- Overall, it was noted that more action is needed on implementing quantitative and qualitative elements of the NCQG, in order to fully deliver on the USD 300 bn. goal agreed at COP29, and in this context countries highlighted the continued value of the Baku-to-Belem-Roadmap, while emphasising the continued need for strong involvement of finance ministers. Participants discussed the need to mobilise the private sector and non-party stakeholders as key to financing investments. Some asked for deregulation and incentives.
- Most participants called for improvement of diverse dimensions of access, especially for SIDS and LDCs.
- Participants issued a call on shareholders to highlight the acute necessity of climate action, esp. on adaptation and leveraging private finance, within Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) and to continue the reform agenda. Participants highlighted the upcoming replenishment processes of climate funds.

- Participants discussed the idea to invite climate funds and MDBs to report back on how they are contributing to implementing the NCQG and further progress on their harmonisation agenda, in order to improve access and efficiency.
- Looking forward to COP 31, the Veredas Dialogue was highlighted as an opportunity for Parties to present national experience on implementing Art 2.1.c Paris Agreement. Some participants highlighted the complementarity between Art 2.1.c and Art 9 Paris Agreement. Some also mentioned the importance of principles of national sovereignty and the broader context of Art 2 Paris Agreement in its implementation.

Highest-Level Messages:

- **Friedrich Merz**, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, underlined Germany's commitment as a reliable partner to the Paris Agreement and Germany's climate goals. He reiterated that an effective and forward-looking climate policy depends on integrating climate, economic, energy and innovation policy as a pathway to global security and prosperity. He underlined that Germany's partnerships are therefore designed not only to provide support, but to strengthen resilience, enable investment and promote long-term economic opportunities in partner countries.
- **Anthony Albanese**, Prime Minister of Australia, spoke to the landmark partnership between Australia and Türkiye, and with the Pacific for COP31. He spoke to the importance of bringing the world to the Pacific for Pre-COP where climate change is an existential threat. He underlined the economic opportunities of clean energy. He spoke to the uptake of solar and storage in Australia, and the development of export industries based on renewable energy that are delivering jobs and economic growth. He emphasised the critical need to work together in our shared endeavour.
- **António Guterres**, UN Secretary-General, underlined that we must respond to the energy crisis without deepening the climate crisis and that we therefore must build the infrastructure that can deliver this transition. He stressed, the need to mobilize finance at scale, keeping climate finance promises, with no backsliding. He also emphasized the need to significantly scaling up adaptation finance.
- **Murat Kurum**, Minister of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change of the Republic of Türkiye and COP31 President-Designate, underlined Türkiye's commitment to advancing climate action through inclusive, implementation-focused international cooperation. He noted that NDCs must be backed by credible, actionable plans to deliver results. He emphasized that recent global crises have shown the need for countries to build resilience, diversify their energy options and deepen cooperation. Looking to COP31 Antalya, Mr. Kurum called for concrete action to keep the 1.5°C goal within reach.
- In his presentation, **Fatih Birol**, Executive Director of the International Energy Agency, argued that the current crisis is larger in magnitude than the three previous major energy crises combined, but that governments are better positioned to respond today thanks to cost-effective modern technologies. Recent data showed that 75% of all power plants installed worldwide last year were renewables, battery installations grew by 40% in a single year. He called on governments to craft industrial energy policies that balance the competitiveness of existing industries with investment in tomorrow's clean energy economy.
- Senior business executives, investors and representatives of clean-tech innovation start-ups presented decarbonisation projects, highlighting the framework conditions necessary to close investment decisions at scale. Participants converged on the view that climate action and industrial competitiveness are mutually reinforcing, provided that enabling policy frameworks and cooperative international approaches are in place.

Berlin, 22 April 2026