

# Non Traditional Security Digest

## Conference of the Parties (COP)-29 Key Outcomes

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मनोहर पर्रिकर रक्षा अध्ययन एवं विश्लेषण संस्थान

## Conference of the Parties (COP) – 29

### Introduction

The Conference of the Parties (COP) serves as the supreme decision-making body of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). This annual gathering brings together representatives from nearly 200 countries to assess progress in addressing climate change and to strengthen international cooperation on mitigation, adaptation, and finance.

COP meetings provide a crucial platform for global stocktakes, where countries evaluate the collective progress made towards achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement. These meetings also facilitate negotiations on key issues such as emissions reduction targets, financial support for developing countries, and the development of robust adaptation strategies.

### Key highlights of COP29

COP29, held in Baku, Azerbaijan, witnessed a renewed focus on several critical aspects of climate action. Firstly, the issue of climate finance remained a central point of contention. Developing countries continued to press for increased financial support from developed countries to help them adapt to the impacts of climate change and transition to low-carbon

economies. India, for instance, emphasized the need for a significant increase in climate finance, highlighting the substantial funding gap for adaptation measures.

Secondly, the discussions at COP29 underscored the urgency of enhancing climate resilience. The UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience, adopted at COP28, emphasized the need for enhanced support and implementation resources from developed countries to help developing countries meet their adaptation targets.

Thirdly, the role of technology and innovation in addressing climate change was a prominent theme. Discussions focused on accelerating the deployment of renewable energy technologies, improving energy efficiency, and developing innovative solutions for carbon capture and storage.

Finally, COP29 saw increased emphasis on the need for greater inclusivity and participation from all stakeholders, including indigenous peoples, local communities, and the private sector. Recognizing the importance of diverse perspectives and expertise, the meeting aimed to foster more inclusive and collaborative approaches to climate action.

Thus, COP29 served as a crucial platform for advancing the global climate agenda.

While significant challenges remain, the discussions and outcomes of the meeting provided valuable insights and guidance for the continued implementation of the Paris Agreement and the collective effort to combat climate change.

### **Aspect of Climate Finance at COP 29**

After days of heated negotiations, rich countries made another promise to provide “at least” \$300 billion annually by 2035 in climate finance for developing countries. They highlighted that the money will come from a variety of sources, including public and private finance as well as bilateral and multilateral deals. These states argue that with a more expansive goal of raising \$1.3 trillion yearly by 2035, this will replace the present \$100 billion annual target that expires in 2025.

The deal was criticized by countries from the global South that had demanded more than \$1 trillion in yearly assistance to meet their pressing climate requirements. The money promise was also criticized for its unclear delivery channels and delayed implementation.

UN Secretary-General António Guterres referred to the deal as a starting point for future development, but he emphasized that urgent action is required to turn promises into real funds. Significant greenhouse gas

reductions and improved resilience measures, such as strong early warning systems, are urgently needed, according to the [World Meteorological Organization \(WMO\)](#).

Citing record-breaking heat and glacier loss in 2024, WMO Secretary-General Celeste Saulo underlined the catastrophic rate of climate change. In order to improve climate adaptation and mitigation policies, the WMO intends to expand programs such as the Early Warnings for All program and improve global observation systems in the future.

### **India’s Intervention at the Plenary Session of the UNFCCC-COP29**

India [expressed disappointment](#) at the shifting of focus from enablement of adequate Climate Finance to emphasis only on mitigation, at the Plenary Session at the COP 29 of the UN Climate Change Summit in Baku, Azerbaijan. India aligned its stance with the statement made by Bolivia on behalf of Like-Minded Developing Countries (LMDCs) and reiterated that the process of the fight against Climate Change has to be guided by the UNFCCC and its Paris Agreement, as the Global South continues to face the intense impacts of Climate Change.

India firmly asserted that any attempts to deflect the focus again from Finance to

repeated emphasis on mitigation cannot be accepted. The [statement read](#);

*“All countries have submitted their NDCs and will be submitting the next round of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) being informed by the various decisions we have taken together in the past as well as on the basis of our national circumstances and in the context of sustainable development goals and poverty eradication. What we decide here on climate finance will certainly influence what we submit next year. The attempt by some parties to further talk about mitigation is primarily a shift in focus from their own responsibilities of providing finance.”*

The statement called for a ‘Balance in the Climate Discourse’, [and added](#),

*“If not so ensured, we may have continuous talk of mitigation that has no meaning, unless supported by enablement that is needed to make climate actions happen on the ground.”*

### **India’s position on ‘New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance’ (NCQG)**

[India highlighted](#) that as grant-based concessional Climate Finance is the most critical enabler to formulate and implement the new NDCs and action will get severely impacted in the absence of adequate means

of implementation. Indian intervention highlighted that;

*“The document needs to be specific on the structure, quantum, quality, timeframe, access, transparency, and review. The goal for mobilisation needs to be USD 1.3 trillion, with USD 600 billion of this coming through grants and grants equivalent resources. Expansion of the contributor base, reflection of conditional elements such as macroeconomic and fiscal measures, suggestion for carbon pricing, focus on private sector actors for scaling up resource flows as investments – is contrary to the mandate for the goal. NCQG is not an investment goal. We must accept that climate actions by Developing countries will have to be country driven, in line with their circumstances and in the manner best suited to country priorities.”*

### **India’s position on the aspect of ‘Mitigation’**

[India strongly protested](#) against changing the scope of the Mitigation Work Programme (MWP) in the draft text. India further cautioned against shifting of temperature goals and asserted that these need to be as per the exact language in the Paris Agreement. India called the introduction to the targets for 2030, 2035 and 2050 in the preamble as purely prescriptive.

[India urged](#) to add to the text certain elements like noting the pre-2020 mitigation gap by Annex-I Parties; noting with strong concern that the emission of Annex-I Parties is increasing from 2020 to 2030 etc. India strongly urged to recall the negative impacts of coercive unilateral measures on climate action specifically mitigation ambition and implementation.

### **India’s position on the aspect of ‘Just Transition’**

India strongly declined to accept any renegotiation of the shared understanding prevalent on ‘Just Transitions’ in the decision from Dubai. [India’s statement read](#);

*“Just transition is interpreted in narrow domestic terms, implying that it is national governments that have to take actions to ensure domestic just transitions. However, we have repeatedly made the point that Just transitions begin globally with Developed countries taking the lead in mitigation and ensuring that they provide the means of implementation to all Developing countries.”*

India’s [further highlighted](#) that;

*“We have also repeatedly made the point that the possibility of our domestic transitions, our right to development, and our over-riding priority to pursue sustainable development, is constrained by*

*repeated and ongoing inaction of Developed countries. The current text completely disregards this point that we have been making about our understanding of just transitions, which is also reflected in the Dubai decision. We absolutely cannot accept these paragraphs. They are prescriptive and completely reinterpret just transitions.”*

### **India’s position on the aspect of ‘Global Stocktake’ (GST)**

On the GST [India stated the following](#):

- i. India does not agree to a follow up of the GST outcomes. As per Paris agreement, GST is supposed to only inform parties to undertake climate action.
- ii. The new chapeau on Enhancing Action, Support and International Cooperation has been drafted without adequate connection or integration with the text, parts of which are under negotiation on the UAE dialogue.
- iii. The last text from the negotiations undertaken by Parties was one that captured the views of all Parties and was a viable basis for further negotiation. The new options under the Section titled Modalities of the UAE dialogue does not capture this at all.

- iv. The new chapeau has no connection with the subject matter of finance which is the main aim of the UAE dialogue.
- Further, the phrase “with developed countries (as per the synthesis report of the Biennial Reports) on track to increasing their emissions by 0.5 per cent from 2020 to 2030” may be added after the phrase “by 2.6 per cent by 2030 compared with the 2019 level”.
  - Though the new chapeau title is general, the text added is completely mitigation centric and completely unbalanced. India does not accept this text.
  - India does not accept the way the options have been formulated in the Timing and Format sections of the UAE dialogue.
  - There is no need to further focus on transformational adaptation. Instead, it is important to focus on other approaches such as incremental adaptation, long term adaptation in the context of national circumstances.
  - The data used for reporting on indicators should be taken from Party submitted reports and not from any third party databases. Therefore, this text may be dropped.
  - Language on Establishment of Baku Road Map as a means of continuing work pertaining to the global goal on adaptation, is essential.

### India’s position on the key aspect of ‘Adaptation’

India shared the [following five essential points](#) for consideration on the draft decision:

- Final outcome should include indicators on means of implementation in order for this work on global goal on adaptation to be meaningful.

### India’s Disappointment over Climate Finance

India, speaking for the Global South, [criticized](#) the \$300 billion aim as being too late and inadequate in light of the current climate crises. "Nothing more than an optical illusion," said Chandni Raina, India's negotiator, who expressed dissatisfaction with the process and the commitment's inclusion of private funding. Several developing countries have criticized the conference's result, claiming that the financial commitments are insufficient to enable successful climate action. The difficulties in attaining fair

climate solutions are further highlighted by the absence of specific measures for switching from fossil fuels to renewable energy. India's position at COP29 draws attention to the persistent inequalities in climate financing talks and emphasizes the necessity of more significant and prompt assistance from industrialized nations to tackle the urgent climate challenge.

### **Nuclear Talks at COP29**

[The International Atomic Energy Agency \(IAEA\)](#) underlined the vital role that nuclear energy plays in addressing climate change during the 29th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP29) in Baku, Azerbaijan. The IAEA demonstrated how nuclear science and technology aid in climate change monitoring, adaptation, and mitigation with its Atoms4Climate pavilion.

The announcement to treble global nuclear energy capacity by 2050 was endorsed by six more governments, increasing the total to 31. This was a noteworthy highlight.

This shared dedication demonstrates how nuclear power is increasingly acknowledged as an essential part of sustainable energy plans meant to lower greenhouse gas emissions. In order to assist evidence-based debates, the IAEA also provided insights from recent publications to facilitate discussions on funding the spread of nuclear energy. The purpose of

these talks was to discuss financial issues and investigate potential investments that are necessary for expanding nuclear infrastructure around the world.

The IAEA also emphasized the significance of nuclear technologies in monitoring and adapting to climate change, including food security, sustainable water management, and the preservation of marine and coastal ecosystems.

### **India called for Free Green Tech and Climate Finance at UN Climate Summit**

India has [strongly criticized](#) unilateral climate actions by developed nations at the 29th UN Climate Change Conference (COP29). At the conference, India argued that these actions hinder climate action in developing countries. Minister of State for Environment Kirti Vardhan emphasized the need for [free access to green technology](#) and climate finance for developing nations to raise their climate ambitions. He stated that unilateral measures by some wealthy nations have made climate action more difficult for the Global South.

India's delegation, led by Environment Secretary Leena Nandan, reiterated this stance at a ministerial roundtable in Baku, highlighting the importance of unrestricted technology transfer, equitable climate finance, and enhanced international

cooperation for effective climate action. India's position underscores the need for a global approach to climate change that prioritizes the needs of developing countries and fosters trust among nations.

### **COP29 Concludes with New Finance Goal, but Challenges Remain**

The UN Climate Change Conference (COP29) [concluded with an agreement](#) to triple climate finance for developing countries to USD 300 billion annually by 2035. This agreement, known as the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance (NCQG), aims to help vulnerable nations protect themselves from climate disasters and benefit from the clean energy transition. Executive Secretary of UN Climate Change, Simon Stiell, acknowledged that the agreement did not fully meet all parties' expectations and that substantial work remains to be done. He emphasized the need for continued efforts to strengthen national climate plans and increase ambition in the fight against climate change.

### **India Leads Global South in Rejecting Inadequate Climate Finance at COP29**

India's decisive rejection of the climate finance outcome at COP29 in Baku [has resonated with other developing nations](#)

and experts, solidifying India's position as a champion for the Global South. The contentious "Baku to Belém Roadmap to 1.3T" faced strong opposition from India's negotiator, Chandni Raina, who highlighted its critical shortcomings. The agreement, which set a \$300 billion mobilization goal for climate finance by 2035, was deemed insufficient and lacking concrete commitments from developed nations.

Raina sharply [criticized](#) the developed countries for their unwillingness to fulfil their responsibilities, emphasizing that the inadequate funding would severely hinder developing nations' ability to adapt to climate change and achieve their climate goals. This sentiment was echoed by representatives from Bolivia and Nigeria, who also expressed disappointment with the outcome.

**Arunabha Ghosh**, CEO of the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW), [described the agreement as](#) a "hollow gesture" and a "fig leaf for inaction." He criticized the outcome for shifting the burden of climate finance onto developing countries, effectively establishing an "I pollute, you pay" principle.

**Manjeev Puri**, former Indian ambassador to the European Union, acknowledged the geopolitical and domestic pressures faced by some developed nations but emphasized



the need for continued efforts to mobilize significantly more resources for climate action.

**Aarti Khosla**, director of Climate Trends, noted some minor progress, such as the allocation of funds for least developed countries and the inclusion of a special assessment on access to finance. However, she emphasized that the devil lies in the details and that the agreement, while reached, left no one entirely satisfied. The Least Developed Countries (LDC) group issued a scathing statement, denouncing the outcome as a "betrayal" and a "glaring symbol of failure." They lamented the lack of ambitious climate finance goals, concrete plans to limit global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius, and adequate support for adaptation and loss and damage.

**Tina Stege**, climate envoy for the Marshall Islands, further condemned the "political opportunism" displayed by some nations, who prioritized their own interests over the well-being of the most vulnerable. The outcome of COP29 underscores the deep divisions and challenges in achieving meaningful climate action. While the negotiations concluded with an agreement, the inadequate financial commitments and the shifting of responsibility onto developing nations have raised serious concerns and cast a shadow over the future of global climate cooperation.

## 2025 UN Climate Change Conference (COP 30)

The 2025 UN Climate Change Conference ([COP 30](#)) will be held in **Brazil from November 10-21, 2025**. The Brazilian Federal Government will be investing approximately BRL 4.7 billion for its preparations. The event, to be held in the state of Pará, will position Brazil as a catalyst for discussions on global and regional environmental issues, including the reduction of greenhouse gases, adaptation to climate change, financing for developing countries, preservation of forests and biodiversity, use of renewable energy and low-carbon solutions, and the social impacts of climate change.

Brazil is home to one of the world's largest tropical rainforests, which are crucial in mitigating climate change's effects. COP30 allows Brazil to showcase its efforts and commitments to environmental conservation and sustainable development, highlighting the importance of protecting the Amazon rainforest for the planet's ecological balance.

## Non-Traditional Security Centre

This digest has been prepared by the Non-Traditional Security Centre, Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, New Delhi.



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Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses

No.1, Development Enclave, Rao Tula Ram Marg,  
Delhi Cantt., New Delhi - 110 010

Tel.: (91-11) 2671-7983 Fax: (91-11) 2615 4191

Website: <http://www.idsa.in>