

DAY 6 – Nov. 16
UNFCCC COP 29 – Baku, Azerbaijan

Mid-COP Stocktake

The closing session of the SBI and SBSTA started hours after it was originally scheduled and way later into the night despite the early warning that the venue will be strictly closed as of 10:00 PM on Saturday. Still, despite multiple delays, many left disappointed and worried at the state of the negotiations at the halfway mark.

Some issues have been conceded or cannot be taken up on week 2 due to rules of procedure, and have been forwarded either to SBI 62 (June 2025) or COP 30 (November 2025).

- *Linkages Between the Technology Mechanism and the Finance Mechanism*
- *Second Review of the Standing Committee on Finance*
- *SBSTA 14b (Emissions from Fuel Used for International Aviation and Maritime Transport)*
- *Report of the Adaptation Committee*
- *Review of the Progress, Effectiveness, and Performance of the Adaptation Committee*
- *Mitigation Ambition and Implementation Work Programme*
- *Matters relating to the Clean Development Mechanism*
- *2024 Review of the Warsaw Mechanism for Loss and Damage:*
- *Joint Annual Report of the Executive Committee and the Santiago Network*
- *Compilations and Synthesis of Biennial Reports*
- *Report on National GHG Inventory Data*
- *Reporting from Non-Annex I Parties: Information Contained in National Communications*
- *Provision of Financial and Technical Support for Developing Country Reporting Under the Convention*
- *Provision of Financial and Technical Support to Developing Countries for Reporting Under the Paris Agreement*

Several big-ticket issues such as the NCQG, Arts. 6.2, 6.4, and 6.8, NDC Features) Global Goal on Adaptation, Just Transition Work Programme, Elements of the GST, and National Adaptation Plans will continue discussions into Week 2 bringing along with them draft texts that have multiple issues in contention and are far from consensus. Some Parties have started accusing other Parties and groups of holding agenda items hostage and actively slowing down progress. The success of these agenda items, the NCQG in particular, will be critical to declare COP 29 a success.

One thing suspiciously missing in the agenda thus far is a cover text. Traditionally, the host country establishes a self-named outcome that established new programmes or new declarations as part of a host country's legacy. In the past few years for example, we've had the United Arab Emirates Just Transition Programme, the Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan, and the Glasgow Climate Pact. There has been no trace of such a draft text in Week 1, and introducing such a text in Week 2 might take away time from the other issues and cause distrust with the Azerbaijan presidency.

Hopefully our negotiators were able to rest up this Sunday in preparation for a long and arduous week ahead. I bid Baku goodbye for now and will be following Week 2 virtually. Əlvida və təşəkkür edirəm, Baku!