

Nov. 18

UNFCCC COP 29 – Baku, Azerbaijan

Well, it's final, there will be no cover text for COP 29. The Azerbaijan presidency announced during the plenary on Monday that they will not be coming up with a cover decision stating that their goals and priorities can be achieved through the agenda items.

The Azerbaijani Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Majnun Mammadov, did however announce that the "Baku Harmoniya Initiative" will be launched to serve as a platform for farmers to receive necessary tools and resources for adaptation.

With the key agenda items for COP 29 still up the air, one would wonder if this Initiative will be all that the Baku presidency will be remembered for. As the negotiations move on to the political phase, the presidency's mettle and dedication to ambitious outcomes will be tested.

COP 29 President Mukhtar Babayev also provided guidance for the week, stating that the NCQG will focus on the goal's structure, quantum, and contributor base. Mitigation will focus on the structure and placement of outcomes and adaptation will focus on the global goal on adaptation while Article 6.2 and 6.4 will focus on registries. Draft decisions on finance are expected by the end of Tuesday while all other draft decisions are expected by the end of Wednesday - harsh deadlines that will either inspire more urgency or provoke stagnation.