



INSIDE THE CLIMATE NEGOTIATIONS

Week 2: Where Do Things Stand on Day 8

The COP30 climate conference has now entered its second and most decisive week, and countries are moving into high-level political negotiations. Over the weekend and into today, ministers from around the world have arrived in Belém to take over the talks from technical negotiators. Their presence signals that political decisions and compromises are now urgently needed to resolve difficult issues that could not be finalized at the technical level. The Brazilian Presidency is encouraging a joint spirit of "Mutirão" — meaning coming together to achieve something greater than any one country can do alone. Their hope is to deliver a balanced, fair, and meaningful outcome for the world.

Progress So Far - But Work Not Yet Finished

At the end of the first week:

- 44 issues were officially approved and "gavelled" meaning they made enough progress to move forward.
- 60 issues are still not finished and remain under negotiation.
- Some discussions have been postponed to next year, showing how complicated global climate decisions are.
- Even among the 44 approved items, many are not final they contain unfinished draft wording and will require further political decisions by ministers.

The world is moving forward, but not fast enough for the climate emergency we are facing.

A Clear Example: Adaptation Indicators Still Unresolved

Uma negociação importante envolve o acordo sobre 100 indicadores globais para medir se pessoas e países estão se tornando mais seguros e resilientes diante dos impactos das mudanças climáticas.

No entanto, o texto preliminar foi encaminhado sem acordo, e os próprios negociadores afirmaram que ele:

- Não reflete consenso
- Está incompleto
- Pode ser alterado
- Não possui status final oficial

Isso demonstra que o progresso técnico é lento, e decisões políticas serão cruciais nesta semana.

Main Issues Under Negotiation

The negotiations cover many topics, but the most important ones relate to how the world reduces climate harm, protects people, and shares responsibilities fairly. Here are the key issues in simple terms:

Limiting Temperature Rise to 1.5°C

Countries are trying to agree on stronger plans to reduce pollution fast enough to stop global warming from going beyond 1.5°C, which scientists say is the safest possible limit. Even small increases cause more floods, droughts, storms, and sea-level rise.

Adaptation - Helping Communities Cope with Climate Impacts

Climate change is already affecting lives. Negotiators are trying to decide how to measure progress and ensure countries have what they need — such as early warning systems, stronger homes, better farming practices, water security, and health protection.

Climate Finance – Who Pays and How Much?

Developing countries want clear, reliable, and accessible money to take climate action. This includes funds for building resilience, shifting to clean energy, and recovering from disasters

Loss and Damage - Support After Disasters

This refers to helping countries that are already losing land, livelihoods, homes, and lives due to climate impacts. The debate is about how quickly money can flow, who contributes, and who gets access.

Technology Sharing and Support

To move toward greener economies, developing countries need affordable and fair access to new technologies such as renewable energy, climate-smart agriculture, clean transport, and efficient buildings.

Transparency and Reporting

Countries are negotiating how to track and report what they are actually doing — not just what they promise — to maintain honesty, trust, and accountability.











Just Transition – A Fair Shift to a Green Economy

The world must move away from fossil fuels, but without hurting workers, families, or poor communities. Negotiators are discussing how to ensure no one is left behind, especially those whose jobs or livelihoods may change.

Nature, Forests, Mountains, and Ecosystems

Some countries are pushing for stronger protection of forests, mountains, biodiversity, Indigenous lands, and wildlife, recognizing that nature is not just a victim but a solution in the climate crisis.

What Different Country Groups Are Emphasizing

- Small Island States every fraction of a degree matters; survival is at stake
- African and Least Developed Countries adaptation and finance must be equal to mitigation
- Developed Countries transparency, reporting, and efficiency
- Some Regions want climate ambition without being forced into poverty or unfair costs
- Nature-rich countries forests, land, and mountain ecosystems need stronger attention
- Civil society climate action must also respect human rights, gender equality, Indigenous knowledge, youth voices, and people with disabilities

"Mutirão Decision": A Search for Balance

The Presidency hopes to adopt a final outcome called the "Mutirão decision", which would:

- · Combine all major decisions into one package
- Ensure no issue is left behind
- · Show that collaboration is stronger than disagreement
- Demonstrate that this COP can deliver hope

Ministers are being urged to shift from negotiating words to agreeing on solutions.

Why This Matters to Ordinary People

These decisions are not just political. They influence:

- Whether families will be safe from floods, droughts, storms, and rising seas
- Whether clean energy will be affordable
- Whether farmers can still grow food
- Whether children, youth, and future generations inherit a livable planet
- Whether countries hit by climate disasters receive quick and fair support

Climate agreements decide who gets help, how fast, and how fair the global response will be.











Message Moving Forward

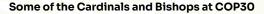
The world is halfway through COP30, but the mission is far from complete. This week will require:

- Courage
- Compromise
- Honesty
- Solidarity
- A deep sense of shared human responsibility

There is still time for a historic and hopeful outcome, but only if countries choose cooperation over competition.

Catholic Church Leaders Show Strong, Strategic Presence at COP30 in Belém







The three General Secretaries of Global South Episcopal Conferences. (SECAM, CELAM, FABC)

The Catholic Church is taking one of its most coordinated and influential roles at a UN climate summit, with an extensive and high-ranking delegation participating in COP30 in the Brazilian Amazon. Church involvement spans diplomatic engagement, policy advocacy, and solidarity with communities most affected by the climate crisis.



High-Level Representation and Preparation

The Catholic Church is represented by eight cardinals, 47 bishops, and around 100 official delegates from global Catholic institutions, religious communities, and social organizations. Their participation follows a national and continental mobilization process known as "Church Towards COP30", led by the Brazilian Catholic Bishops Conference (CNBB) with partner networks, ensuring that Church advocacy reflects real grassroots and pastoral experience—especially from vulnerable regions.

Role in Negotiation Spaces

Inside the Blue Zone, Church representatives are involved in high-level panels, bilateral meetings, and side events focused on climate justice, funding for vulnerable nations, protection of Indigenous lands, and a just energy transition. The Holy See presented its updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), linking climate responsibility with ethics, human dignity and Catholic Social Teaching. A prominent side event, "The Moral Imperative of Climate Finance," positions climate and ecological debt as obligations of justice, not charity.

Global South Leadership

One of the most significant interventions is a joint appeal by bishops from Latin America, Africa, and Asia, calling for:

- climate finance prioritizing the most affected populations,
- operational and accessible loss-and-damage mechanisms,
- legal guarantees for Indigenous rights and territories,
- resistance to false solutions that deepen extraction or displace communities,
- ecological conversion within public and Church institutions.

The appeal gives Catholic advocacy a clear policy orientation grounded in the realities of people living on the climate frontlines.

Papal Encouragement

In a video message to delegates, Pope Leo XIV urged Church leaders to combine prophetic clarity with concrete action, calling the Amazon a global moral compass and insisting that ecological responsibility must lead to measurable commitments.

Civil Society and Public Mobilization

Alongside diplomatic engagement, Catholic movements, youth groups, and social pastorals are active in the People's Summit, contributing testimonies, research, and community-based proposals. Catholic leaders also joined the major climate march held during COP30, walking with Indigenous peoples, youth, women's networks, and environmental movements—a gesture underscoring accompaniment rather than distant advocacy.

The Catholic presence at COP30 stands out for four key reasons:

- 1. Scale and seniority of representation reflect global strategic commitment.
- 2. Policy-oriented proposals move beyond moral appeals to concrete climate governance.
- Alignment with directly affected communities lends credibility and urgency.
- 4. Combined institutional and pastoral action distinguishes the Church's approach.











While the final impact will depend on negotiation outcomes, the Church's presence at COP30 positions it as a relevant moral and social actor shaping climate justice discourse and urging decisions centered on people, rights, and long-term planetary stewardship.

COP30 **President Calls for** 'Mutirão' to **Accelerate** Negotiations in Final Week



As COP30 enters its second and decisive week, COP30 President André Aranha Corrêa do Lago has urged negotiators to move from dialogue to united action, calling for a "mutirão" to finalize the Belém Package. In his message to all delegates, he emphasized that the Presidency is no longer in a preparatory phase but fully operational, encouraging countries to work "side by side, in task-force mode" to deliver outcomes that are swift, fair, and cooperative. The President proposed completing substantial progress by tomorrow evening, with the aim of holding a plenary session by mid-week to adopt key political decisions. Items prioritized under the mutirão approach include adaptation, just transition, mitigation programmes, National Adaptation Plans, Global Stocktake elements, climate finance mechanisms, and loss-and-damage-related funds. Negotiations may continue until November 21 if necessary to ensure inclusivity and no delegation left behind.

He framed COP30 as a moment to rebuild trust, reinforce multilateralism, and honour the 10-year anniversary of the Paris Agreement, urging nations to focus not only on what they gain but what they contribute to global climate action.

The closing message: "We can change by choice, together."









SIDE EVENT

Church Leaders, **Development Bank Demand Climate Debt Reckoning** Ahead of COP30



Senior Catholic cardinals from three continents joined Latin America's largest development bank Monday to demand wealthy nations acknowledge "ecological debt" to the Global South, challenging the loan-based climate finance system ahead of COP30.

The gathering united cardinal presidents from Latin American, African, and Asian episcopal conferences with CAF bank officials to argue that current climate financing traps vulnerable nations in debt while they suffer disproportionate climate impacts despite minimal historical emissions.

"COP 30 represents hope put into action from the Amazon," said Cardinal Pedro Barreto, noting decades of ineffective climate agreements since Rio 1992.

The stark reality: developing countries spent a record \$1.4 trillion on debt service in 2023, slashing health, education, and environmental budgets. Church leaders called this unsustainable, demanding grant-based financing instead.

Cardinal Felipe de Rao from Asia emphasized that "the Global South suffers the most devastating consequences of climate change, despite having contributed the least." Cardinal Leonardo Staner of Manaus added that indigenous peoples living in harmony with nature are systematically excluded from climate decisions.

CAF vice president Cristian Asinelli cited Pope Francis's Laudato Si encyclical as pivotal, pointing to CAF's training programs and projects like Argentina's \$350 million flood prevention system as integrated approaches.





The group proposed five justice pillars: grant-based support, indigenous inclusion in decisions, recognition of traditional knowledge, technology transfer, and supportive legal frameworks.

Critical gaps remain: no mechanisms were established to calculate ecological debt or guarantee indigenous participation at COP30. The alliance committed to developing proposals for G77 and UN forums.

This Church-bank-academic coalition signals mounting pressure on industrialized nations to move beyond loans and acknowledge historical climate responsibility as negotiations approach.



NCCEA Holds Second Coordination Meeting as COP30 **Enters Crucial Phase**

The Network of Catholic Climate and Environmental Actors (NCCEA) held its second coordination meeting as COP30 entered its decisive week of high-level negotiations. The meeting brought together Catholic delegates still present for Week 2, while some members who actively participated during Week 1 had already concluded their engagement and departed. New Catholic actors joining in Week 2 also participated, ensuring consistency and shared purpose in Catholic representation at COP30.

The meeting reviewed the status and progress of the COP30 negotiations, with members sharing insights from the negotiation tracks they have been following, such as finance, adaptation, just transition, and the role of vulnerable communities. Participants also highlighted ongoing collaboration with the Holy See delegation, particularly the work of the subcommittee supporting coordination, messaging, and engagement in strategic negotiation spaces.













A key discussion point focused on the proposal to issue a joint statement from bishops attending COP30, representing both the Global North and Global South, to be released before the conclusion of the conference. This would serve as a follow-up to the earlier message issued by the Episcopal Conferences of the Global South that called for urgent ecological conversion, justice-centered climate action, and stronger protection for vulnerable communities.

In addition, it was agreed that the NCCEA will prepare a comprehensive statement/report within two weeks after COP30, offering reflections, shared learning, priority concerns, and concrete directions for coordinated Catholic climate action beyond COP30. This post-COP30 document is intended not only as a summary, but also as a roadmap for continued faith-based advocacy, networking, and moral leadership in climate justice spaces. Drafting teams were appointed to begin this process.









