COP31 · COUNTDOWN

Promises on the Road to Antalya

UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE

COP31 TÜRKİYE ANTALYA

9 – 20 · NOV · 2026

No. 2 **Towards COP31** · Antalya 2026

THE COUNTDOWN

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A CONTEXT GUIDE FOR THE CLARETIAN FAMILY

From Glasgow to Antalya:
Promises Made, Promises to Keep

Proclade Climate Countdown · Issue 2 · COP31, Antalya, Türkiye · 9–20 November 2026

TAGLINE:

Every COP makes a promise.
Antalya must give those promises teeth.

In less than two weeks, nearly 200 nations will gather in Antalya for COP31. They do not start from a blank page. Every recent climate summit left behind a promise and a piece of unfinished work. COP31 is where many of those threads must be tied together, or left to unravel.

This issue walks the road so far in five simple steps. It names what is still unfinished. And it shows who is walking with the poor and with creation towards Antalya: the Catholic climate network NCCEA, the Holy See, the wider Church, and our own Claretian family.

> **“It is not the agreement that is failing, we are failing in our response.”**
>
> — Pope Leo XIV, message to COP30 (Nov 2025)

01 The Road So Far: Five COPs, Five Promises

Each climate summit took one step forward, and left one step for the next. Read the road from top to bottom.

THE ROAD SO FAR · FIVE COPS TO ANTALYA

Each COP made a promise; Antalya must finish the work

2021 · COP26 Glasgow – Scotland

- **Promise:** phase down coal; the Paris rulebook completed
- **Still open:** oil and gas left untouched

2022 · COP27 Sharm el-Sheikh – Egypt

- **Promise:** a fund for Loss and Damage
- **Still open:** who pays, and how much

2023 · COP28 Dubai – United Arab Emirates

- **Promise:** “transition away from fossil fuels” (first Global Stocktake)
- **Still open:** no timeline, no roadmap

2024 · COP29 Baku – Azerbaijan

- **Promise:** new finance goal of USD 300 billion a year by 2035
- **Still open:** far below needs, and too much of it as loans

2025 · COP30 Belém – Brazil

- **Promise:** “Global Mutirão”, tripled adaptation finance, Just Transition
- **Still open:** the fossil fuel roadmap was left outside the formal talks

2026 · COP31 Antalya · 9–20 November

- **Now:** turn promises into commitments
- **To decide:** Just Transition, adaptation, finance, loss and damage, food

02 Unfinished Business: Six Questions Antalya Must Answer

The June climate talks in Bonn (SB64) were meant to prepare the ground for COP31. Instead, several key issues were left open or stalled. They now land on the table in Antalya.

#	THE QUESTION	WHY IT MATTERS FOR PEOPLE
1	**Just Transition** — Will COP31 create a real Just Transition Mechanism, or only a review of past work?	Workers, Indigenous Peoples and mining-affected communities must not pay the price of the shift to clean energy.
2	**Adaptation** — Will the Belém promise to triple adaptation finance survive? In Bonn, talks collapsed because some rich countries refused to even mention it.	For the most vulnerable, adaptation is a lifeline for survival, not a side issue.
3	**Finance** — Is climate finance a debt owed by rich countries (Paris Agreement, Art. 9.1), or just money "mobilised" from anyone willing?	Loans to poor countries deepen debt. 3.3 billion people live in countries that spend more on interest than on health or education.
4	**Fossil fuels** — Will the roadmaps to transition away from coal, oil and gas finally link to the UN process?	Without an end to fossil fuels, every other effort falls short.
5	**Loss and Damage** — Will the Fund be filled? Today it is nowhere near what is needed.	Families who lose homes, land and livelihoods cannot wait.
6	**Food and Agriculture** — The four-year agriculture work programme ends at COP31. Will a real plan follow, or just more talk?	Small farmers, women and Indigenous food producers feed the world and face the climate crisis first.

Also on the agenda: **Climate Education (ACE)**. COP31 completes the mid-term review of how countries educate and empower people on climate, and sets guidance up to 2031.

In one sentence: Belém set the direction; Antalya must decide whether they become commitments or remain words.

03

NCCEA: Catholic Voices Behind the Negotiating Table

The Network of Catholic Climate and Environment Actors (NCCEA) was formed after COP28 in Dubai (2023). It links Catholic organisations, religious congregations and individuals working on climate, environment and biodiversity processes at the UN. Rooted in Catholic Social Teaching and integral ecology, it brings the voice of the poor into policy and supports the Holy See. Proclade International is a member organisation of NCCEA.

After the SB64 talks in Bonn in June 2026, NCCEA prepared its analysis and recommendations for COP31.

Their key messages for COP31, in simple words:

Just Transition

Put human dignity at the centre. This means not only new technology but a deep reform of economies away from overexploitation, extractivism and colonial patterns. Include Indigenous Peoples, Afro-descendants, workers, women and youth.

Finance

Climate finance is an obligation, not charity. Rich countries owe an ecological debt. Adaptation finance given as loans is not acceptable.

Adaptation

Keep the promise to triple adaptation finance alive. It must not be “lost sight of.”

Fossil fuels

Join and strengthen the international process on Transitioning Away from Fossil Fuels (TAFF), and link it to the UN talks.

Loss and Damage

Polluters must pay. Fill the Loss and Damage Fund and make support easy for poor countries to reach.

Food and Agriculture

A time-bound action plan, the right to adequate food, agroecology, and a real say for small farmers, women and Indigenous Peoples.

Climate Education (ACE)

Clear indicators, real funding, and more space for faith and civil society actors.

04 The Church on the Road to Antalya

The Holy See. Since 2022, the Holy See has been a full Party to the Paris Agreement. It submitted its own climate plan (NDC), pledging to cut emissions by 28% by 2035. At COP30 in Belém, its delegation stressed four priorities: strong multilateralism, a just transition, fair finance for the poorest, and the role of women and girls. Pope Leo XIV reminded the world that the climate crisis is not only technical but moral: "If you want to cultivate peace, protect creation."

NDC

28%

by 2035

COP30 · 4 PRIORITIES

- Strong multilateralism
- Just transition
- Fair finance
- Women and girls

The Pacific Church: a "cry" to the world. The Pre-COP opened on 4 October 2026 in Nadi, Fiji, with an ecumenical service organised by the Pacific Conference of Churches. There, Archbishop Peter Loy Chong of Suva presented the Pacific Church leaders' statement to COP31, called TAGI — "cry." Its message: "We are sinking… Resilience is no longer enough."

https://www.arrcc.org.au/pacific_church_leaders_statement_to_cop31

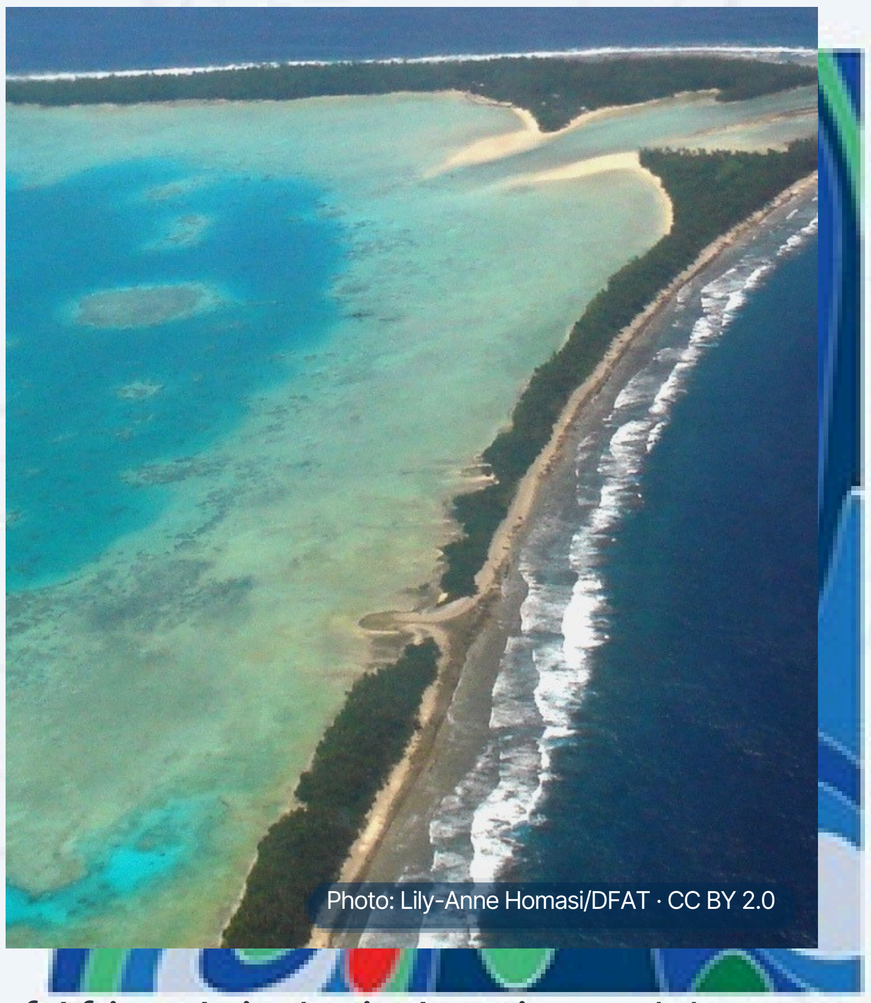


Photo: Lily-Anne Homasi/DFAT · CC BY 2.0

Bishops of the Global South. The bishops' conferences of Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean continue their common voice, following their joint appeal before Belém with a Manifesto of the Churches of the Global South for Our Common Home (March 2026).

One Church, many voices, one cry — Holy See diplomacy, bishops' conferences, Caritas, NCCEA, the Laudato Si' Movement, religious congregations and grassroots communities — carrying one message: the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.

05 The Claretian Focus: Our Part on the Road

Before COP30, Claretian communities around the world took part in a consultation. From it came our **Policy Brief**, with **seven calls** for COP30. For COP31, we group these seven calls into **four focus areas**:

1 Just Transition

the move away from coal, oil and gas towards renewable energy, in a way that is fair to workers and communities.

2 Financial Justice

how climate action is paid for, and who carries the burden of debt.

3 Human Dignity

people, land and food security, especially farmers, Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

4 ACE Empowerment

Action for Climate Empowerment: public awareness, education and participation in climate decisions.

We invite you to join us in our advocacy on these four focus areas. More in Countdown 1.

A Prayer on the Road to Antalya

Creator God,
you gave us the earth as a common home,
yet we burn its future for the profit of a few.
The seas rise over the Pacific islands,
the rains fail the farmer,
and the poor pay a debt they never owed.

As the nations gather in Antalya,
shake them from their comfort and their delays.
Let them hear the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor
as a judgment on promises left unkept.

Do not let them return home with words alone.
Let them choose a transition that leaves no worker, no farmer,
no child of the islands behind.

And convert our own hearts too,
that we may not demand of others
what we refuse to change in ourselves.
Make us prophets of hope for generations yet unborn,
who will ask what we did when the earth cried out.

Through Christ, who makes all things new.
Amen.



Photo: Pudelek (Marcin Szala) · CC BY-SA 3.0

All Souls' Day, 2 November: Remember the Victims of the Climate Crisis

We invite all our communities, parishes and families to pray for those who lost their lives in this year's climate disasters: the floods in Nigeria, Nepal, Thailand and Myanmar, Typhoon Champi in Taiwan and Japan, the hurricanes in Mexico and the United States, and the flash floods across Türkiye and the eastern Mediterranean.

We also remember the **124 land and environmental defenders killed in 2025**, most of them Indigenous Peoples and small farmers. They gave their lives protecting forests, rivers and land: **martyrs for God's creation**.

Please include them in the Prayers of the Faithful at Mass: For all who have died in floods, storms and droughts, and for the defenders of the earth who gave their lives for God's creation: may they rest in the peace of Christ, and may their sacrifice move the leaders gathered in Antalya to act with justice. Lord, hear us.

06 Walk With Us: Three Simple Steps

1

Learn and share.

Forward this countdown to your community, parish, school or youth group.

2

Raise your voice.

Write a short message to your government's climate ministry: "Keep the promises of Belém. Fund adaptation, pay for loss and damage, and end fossil fuels justly."

3

Pray.

Hold the negotiators, and the communities most affected, in your prayers each day of COP31.

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Towards COP31

Antalya, Türkiye

9–20 November 2026

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COP31 TÜRKİYE ANTALYA

NEXT ISSUE

Next: Countdown 1 — our four Claretian focus areas and our advocacy for COP31.

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