COP31 results in brief – the small step COP.

An analysis by INFORSE, 23/11 2026

The COP31 in Antalya, Turkey, November 9-22, 2026 made a number of decisions for the way forward on some issues, but it did not set a way forward for reducing the global emissions to sustainable levels and in ended in a conflict on the way forward with disputes in a cover decision, leaving the world more divided.

The main decisions were:

- The Climate Technology Center and Network (CTCN) will continue with UNEP as the host, a mandate until 2031 and twice the budget than today (if fundraising is successful).
- The Just Transition Mechanism will be under the Paris Agreement meeting (CMA), but it was not possible to agree the structure or governance of the new mechanism, so COP31 called for inputs in this by 15/3 2027 and further negotiations on this at the SB climate negotiations in June 2027.
- The Just Transition Work Programme will continue for three years, 2027-2029, with workshops on just transition topics and annual ministerial meetings.
- A procedural decision on the coming Global Stocktake (of emission reductions, adaptation, financing), but without reference to the need to keep global temperature increase within 1.5'C.
- Work program on finance (based on Paris Agreement art. 9.1) was adopted
- Reports on the developments and guidance for mechanisms of emissions trading to fulfil national climate plans, including NDCs were approved.
- Continued dialogues on non-market cooperation among countries on climate action was agreed, including calls for input and a workshop at COP32.
- Work of the Standing Committee of Finance will continue with developing overviews of climate finance flow and with a Forum in 2027 on financing for climate innovations.
- Reports from and guidance for Green Climate Fund, Loss and Damage Fund, and Adaptation Fund were adopted.
- Continued dialogues on making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development.
- Work on the Paris Agreement compliance committee will continue.
- Ethiopia was welcomed as the coming host of COP32 in November 2027.

The COP31 also adopted a number of other reports and appointed officials for future work.

The main issues not agreed were:

- Cover decision that Turkey had set high expectations to. EU and many other countries, including Panama and small island states did not agree to the missing references to phasing down fossil fuels (as previously agreed), a proposal of a new and high target for Carbon Capture, Storage and

Utilisation (CCUS), weak text on needed reductions. Russia defended the CCUS target and the continued use of fossil fuels warning that too fast reduction of production will harm the global economy and energy access. Russia also highlighted its proposal for LPG for cooking energy in developing countries to replace wood and argued that EU climate finance was insufficient. Nepal, Fiji and others regretted that the cover decision was not agreed as it included proposals for ocean and climate climate action and dialogues on this.

- Mitigation Work programme (MWP) that Russia and the Arab Group rejected even though China proposed to delete a par.32 that Russia did not like. Russia maintained a more general rejection of the MWP.
- The Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) programme was rejected by Russia and the African countries. This was in particular regretted by the Latin American group of countries (AILAC) as the program was agreed at COP30 in Belem and now its operationalisation was rejected.
- The report from the Forum for Response Measures (to address problems caused by action to mitigate and adapt to climate change) was rejected by EU, UK, Canada and Brazil with the argument that the work does not consider the best available science in the form of IPCCC WG3.
- Work on long term climate finance was rejected by the African countries, apparently linked with a dispute with EU.
- Guidance to the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) was rejected by Ukraine.
- Some other decisions were also contested, including the election of an official from Belarus for the UNFCCC bureau as representative of Eastern Europe. This was not supported by some EU countries.

Most of the issues not agreed will be discussed again at continued climate negotiations in Bonn in june.

Outside the official negotiations were a large number of partnerships and other initiatives gathering different groups of countries. Some of the most important were:

- The Transition Away from Fossil Fuel (TAFF) initiative started by Colombia and Netherlands at COP30 and now continuing under leadership of Fiji (and Ireland). At the COP 27 countries either published national TAFF plans or committed to do it until the next TAFF conference in 2027 while twice as many has signed the call for TAFF.
- The roadmap to transition away from fossil fuel by the COP30 presidency, Brazil, was published just before COP31 and a number of events were linked to this during COP31
- The presidency had proposed a number of voluntary initiatives, where the most prominent one was the electrification commitment to have 35% of final energy from electricity by 2035. This was signed by 80 countries before and during COP31.
- The very active nuclear organisations continued the initiative to triple nuclear power capacity by 2050 and organised many other events.
- BOGA, the Beyond Oil and Gas alliance of 12 countries and several states as California promoted the turn down of fossil fuel use in a number of ways during COP31

INFORSE at COP31

From INFORSE we were a small delegation of three persons supported by a Turkish volunteer from Antalya. Among our activities were:

- Exhibition during the entire COP31
- Side-event highlighting climate action by members
- Speaking at side-event about the problems of nuclear power and other false solutions
- Speaking at side-event on sufficiency
- Following negotiations with Climate Action Network and others

Links to more information:

The negotiation documents are public, both those agreed and those rejected:
https://docs.unfccc.int/event/COP-31 (you cannot see if a document is agreed on this page)

Here is the TAFF website: https://transitionawayconference.com/

The Brazil Roadmap to transition away from fossil fuel and related COP31 events:
https://cop30.br/en/2026-priorities/transitioning-away-from-fossil-fuels-roadmap

Here is the website with Turkish "Global Implementation Targets" including the electrification pledge:
https://cop31.tr/ (scroll down to see the proposed targets)

Here is the BOGA website: https://beyondoilandgasalliance.org/

Here is the INFORSE website on COP31 participation: https://inforse.org/cop31.php

Information collected by Gunnar Boye Olesen, INFORSE, contact via https://inforse.org/