

**16 February 2026**

10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (CET)

Room XI, Palais des Nations – Geneva

## COP30 Debrief on relevant outcomes and opportunities in 2026

### Background

The 30th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP30), held in Belém, Brazil, in November 2025, delivered progress in several areas of critical importance for developing countries. Key outcomes included the establishment of annual dialogues on trade and climate; a commitment to triple adaptation finance, alongside new work programmes on climate finance and on aligning financial flows with low-greenhouse-gas and climate-resilient development pathways; and agreement to establish a new Just Transition Mechanism to strengthen international cooperation. These outcomes set the stage for further advances at COP31 in Antalya, Türkiye, in 2026, as well as across related intergovernmental processes throughout the year.

The Geneva Consensus adopted at the sixteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD 16) underscores UNCTAD's role in contributing to the implementation of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement. It calls on UNCTAD to support developing countries in identifying trade and investment policies that contribute to the implementation of nationally determined contributions (NDCs) and the environmental objectives of the 2030 Agenda; to advance analytical work on the impacts of trade-related environmental measures on developing countries' economies, trade and investment flows, and on existing frameworks that facilitate access to technologies for sustainable development; and to assist developing countries in leveraging climate finance to achieve climate objectives, address economic vulnerabilities, and build sustainable and shock-resilient productive capacities in the face of climate change and extreme weather events. This mandate uniquely positions UNCTAD to support member States in operationalising COP30 outcomes while advancing both climate and development objectives.

Against this background, the event will examine key takeaways from COP30 and explore how these outcomes can be built upon in 2026 and beyond, with particular attention to UNCTAD's role as the focal point within the United Nations system for the integrated





treatment of trade, development, and related issues in finance, technology, investment, and sustainable development. It will also provide the first opportunity to consider how the UNCTAD 16 climate-related mandate can be operationalised in the context of ongoing multilateral climate discussions.

## Objective

The objective of this event is to brief member States, international organizations, and UNCTAD staff on the key outcomes of COP30 that are most relevant to UNCTAD's mandate. This includes direct mandates entrusted to UNCTAD for the first time. The debriefing will also be an opportunity to explore priority areas for UNCTAD's future work, including preparations for major events in 2026.

## Format

The event will consist of three thematic panels, and opening and closing sessions. The thematic sessions will focus on relevant outcomes at COP30, namely on trade and investment, climate finance, and international cooperation for just transitions. The closing session will reflect on 2026's key events and COP31. The event will be held in person in the Palais des Nations, Geneva and an online connection will be established for virtual speakers.

### Panel 1: trade and investment

The first panel will explore trade-related discussions under the UNFCCC, with particular attention to the role of trade issues at COP30 and the implications of the newly established annual dialogues on trade and climate. It will examine how these dialogues can help bridge trade and climate policy objectives, the contribution UNCTAD can make to ensuring that trade and investment support climate and development goals in line with the principles of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement, and the role of partnerships in mobilising investment for climate adaptation and mitigation.

### Panel 2: climate finance

The second panel will focus on the main outcomes related to climate finance, with particular attention to the new workstreams established to strengthen implementation and scale up climate finance. It will examine how the needs and priorities of both developed and developing countries were reflected in the final negotiated outcomes, identify key opportunities for developing countries arising from these decisions, and consider how implementation of climate finance-related commitments can be further strengthened.

### Panel 3: international cooperation for just transitions

The third panel will examine a range of outcomes emerging across different UNFCCC workstreams which, taken together, have the potential to accelerate countries' capacity to deliver just transitions. These include the agreement to establish an institutional mechanism on just transition, a technology implementation programme, and a work programme to examine the cross-border impacts of climate-related measures. The panel will consider the next steps for advancing these outcomes, the role of trade and investment in supporting their implementation, and how they can best respond to the needs and priorities of developing countries. It will also explore how synergies across related intergovernmental processes can be leveraged to enhance coherence in the pursuit of just transitions.

### Closing and looking ahead



The closing session will be forward-looking, including discussion on how UNCTAD through our integrated treatment of trade, development, and interrelated issues in finance, technology, investment, and sustainable development can support implementation at the national and international levels; boost climate finance and investment; and strengthen international cooperation for just transitions. Interventions should connect the COP30 outcomes to the road towards COP31.

## Contacts

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