United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa

COP31
TÜRKİYE
ANTALYA

COP31 - IMPLEMENTATION SESSION

From Pledges to implementation; delivering on Presidential Initiatives. *Lessons for Africa on the Road to COP32*

10th November 2026; 13.00-14.30.hrs
Africa Pavilion Antalya, Türkiye

LEAD ORGANISERS	UNECA
KEY INSTITUTIONS	Previous COP presidencies and high-level climate champions, LIFE-AR (Brazil, UK, France, Morrocco and the LDC Group)
MODERATOR	**Ms. UnaMay Gordon**
PANELLISTS	▪ Mrs. Alice de Moraes Amorim Vogas - COP30 -Brazil Programmes Director ▪ Amb. Benoît Faraco - COP2, France's special envoy for climate and energy. ▪ Mr. Nigel Topping - UK COP26 High level champion ▪ Hon. Beatrice Anywar Atim - Uganda Minister of State for Environment, LIFE-AR representative ▪ Dr. Hakima El Haite - COP22 Morrocco, High level Climate Champion ▪ Mr. Amer Baig – GCF Chief Investment Officer
CLOSING	1. **Ms Rachel Kyte** UK Special Representative for Climate, United Kingdom 2. Dr. Selam K. Abebe- Chief Strategist COP32

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Successive COP Presidencies have launched high-profile initiatives to accelerate delivery, yet the durability and success of these initiatives once the presidency hands over have been uneven. As Ethiopia prepares to assume the COP32 Presidency, and as COP31 itself has placed a "Climate Implementation Bridge" among its ten priority themes, this session aims to assess the design choices, institutional anchor, dedicated finance, and public accountability and determined whether presidential initiatives have outlived the presidency. The session's findings are intended to feed into preparations for COP32, to ensure there is learning from what works and what does not.

PARTICIPANTS

The session aims to facilitate a frank dialogue with former COP presidencies, non-state actors, climate finance providers and governments to share lessons from the previous initiatives on what worked well and what did not in terms of designing the initiatives, financing and implementation.

OBJECTIVES OF THE EVENT

The event aims to;

1. Assessing evidence and lessons on what enabled and what undermined the delivery of past COP presidency led initiatives, with a focus on institutional anchoring, finance mobilization and accountability mechanisms
2. Translate the lessons into concrete design recommendations that can inform Ethiopia's COP32 Presidency Action Agenda and strengthen Africa's collective negotiating position on means of implementation for COP32.
3. Explore possible partnership mechanisms to support implementation, learning from what works and what does not, to avoid duplication of efforts

ALIGNMENT WITH COP 31 PRIORITIES

This session speaks directly to COP31 Priority Theme 10, "Climate Implementation Bridge," and to the Presidency's crosscutting enabling conditions of finance, technology and capacity building. It also builds on the continuity the Presidency has sought with the Global Climate Action Agenda's 5-Year Vision launched at COP30. It will be an opportunity to position Africa and Least Developed Countries experience within the wider global context and to generate practical lessons to inform the climate action agenda at COP32.

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SESSION FORMAT (90 MINUTES)

TIME	ACTIVITY	SPEAKER	TIMING
13.00 – 13.05	**Arrival/ logistics/registration**		**5 minutes**
13.05 – 13.10	**Introducing the session**	**Dr Cosmas Ochieng** Director, Climate Change, Food Security, and Natural Resources Division UNECA	**5 minutes**
13.10 – 13.20	**High level opening**	**Mr. Claver Gatete** UNECA Executive Secretary	**10 minutes**
13.20 – 14:10	**Interactive panel discussion** Moderator; UnaMay Gordon **Panelists** 1. Mrs. Alice de Moraes Amorim Vogas - COP30 - Brazil Programmes Director 2. Amb. Benoît Faraco - COP2, France's special envoy for climate and energy. 3. Mr. Nigel Topping - UK COP26 High level champion 4. Hon. Beatrice Anywar Atim - Uganda Minister of State for Environment, LIFE-AR representative 5. Dr. Hakima El Haite - COP22 Morrocco, High level Climate Champion 6. Mr. Amer Baig – GCF Chief Investment Officer	**Panelists** Panel discussion with specific questions	**50 minutes**
14.10 – 14.20	**Audience engagement** Take a few questions from the floor	**Moderator; UnaMay Gordon**	**10 minutes**
14.20 – 14.30	**Closing Remarks**	**Ms. Rachel Kyte** UK Special Representative for Climate, United Kingdom Dr. Selam K. Abebe- Chief Strategist COP32	**10 minutes**