

JANUARY-MARCH 2023

Vol 1

# THE PAN-AFRICAN CLIMATE JUSTICE ALLIANCE QUARTERLY ROUND-UP



● EQUITY ● JUSTICE ● PEOPLE ● PLANET



Pan African Climate Justice Alliance:

We are a premier coalition of more than 1000 organizations from 51 African countries that brings together a diverse membership drawn from Grassroots, Community-based organizations, Faith-based Organizations, Non-Governmental organizations, Trusts, Foundations, Indigenous Communities, Farmers, and Pastoralist Groups with a shared vision to advance a people-centered, right-based, just and inclusive approach to address climate and environmental challenges facing humanity and the planet.

Vision: A global environment free from the threat of climate change with sustainable development, equity, and justice for all.

Mission: To develop and promote pro-poor development and equity-based positions relevant to Africa in the international climate change dialogues, interventions, and related processes



Dear Reader,

We find ourselves in yet another year of climate action. Despite the challenges we have encountered in the previous years, we have remained agile, dynamic, and innovative in our approaches toward achieving climate justice. We aim to continue doing so until we see the Africa we want.

In spite of the implications of the outcomes of COP27 to the continent, we must remain vigilant and focused on the tasks ahead of us to ensure we are not silent. In silence, we continue raising our voices and fighting for what is right.

The year started with a severe jab when the oil tycoon was appointed as the president of COP28; We vehemently rejected his appointment on solid grounds that he was not suitable to objectively lead this year's COP.

So what do our next steps entail? We must continue to consolidate our voices, amplify them, align our priorities for the year, and ensure that we hold those accountable to task in COP28.

We must participate in and inform the operationalization of the loss and damage fund as agreed upon in the Sharm El Sheikh Cover decision at COP27. We must stay alert not to be duped by climate imperialists to relinquish our due rights and processes.

Friends, it is probably high time to introspect deeply on whether climate commitments by developed countries are another super highway for grabbing resources and opportunities from the communities of Africa. Could it be another wave of economic colonization through the just transition narrative? We must remain in control of our development paradigm as a continent. We will only achieve this by ensuring we speak in one voice and advance a common agenda.

As you peruse through this newsletter, you will be able to see how we at the Pan-African Climate Justice Alliance are shaping African narratives to reflect Africa's reality and capture the essence of why we advance a Pan-African cause.

Enjoy your reading,

PACJA COMMUNICATIONS



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# " WE REJECT THE APPOINTMENT OF AL JABER AS COP28 PRESIDENT "

We have learned with consternation and are profoundly appalled that a fossil fuel Executive will lead 2023 climate change negotiations. On Tuesday, 10 Jan 2023, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) appointed Sultan Al-Jaber, Head of Oil giant Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC), the President-designate of the 28th Edition of the United Nations Framework on Climate Change (COP28), scheduled to take place in December 2023 in Dubai. As COP28 President, al-Jaber will be at the center of crucial deal-making and exert enormous influence on the COP outcome. Ominously, never again have we ever witnessed a quasi-government Executive being appointed to lead such a necessary multilateral process, and this, infamous as it may sound, marks the lowest moment for the UNFCCC, which is exceedingly veering off from its mandate to an international Expo where Corporates with dubious environmental-climate integrity greenwash their fossil-fuel credentials. Though in the past civil society has expressed deep worries about the capture of the global dialogue on climate change by vicious fossil companies whose ill-intentions are to derail the transition to low-carbon, climate-resilient development pathways, it has never been so blatantly open that they would one day occupy the steering wheel. Moreover, al-Jabar's appointment comes when the state-owned Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC), for which he is a CEO, seeks to develop oil resources by increasing upstream crude production through concession Agreements for new exploration and production.

*The Full Statement: <https://bit.ly/3HCH2LT>*





PACJA held its General Congress where  
"The New Continental Executive Board of PACJA elected"

During a two-day general congress held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from February 13 to 14, 2023 the Continental Executive board was elected. The CEB consists of:

- Dr. Najwa Bourawi from Tunisia chairperson of the PACJA continental Executive board for the next three years
- Yonas Gebru from Ethiopia was elected as the Deputy Chairperson
- Augustine Njamnshi was elected chairperson of Technical and Political Affairs
- Ahmed Sekou Diallo was elected Chairperson of the Recruitment and credentials committee
- Grace Ampomaa Afrifa joined the board with the role of Chairperson of Ethics and Arbitration
- Prof. Muawia Hamid Shaddad- Chairperson of the Advisory Council
- Tracy Sonny from Botswana-Treasurer and Finance and Admin committee

Read more: <https://bit.ly/3YJswYl>

Multistakeholder COP28 Consultation and Advocacy Strategy Development

The Pan African Climate Justice Alliance held a Multistakeholder Consultation on COP28 that took place on 15 and 16 February 2023 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on the sidelines of the 36th Summit of Heads of States and Governments of the African Union.

The purpose of these consultations was to draw lessons from COP27, develop key messages in the evolving geopolitical context of global climate dialogues, and devise strategies to secure COP 28 outcomes that are ambitious and at par with Africa's urgent needs and aspirations.

Read and download the communique from this meeting: <https://bit.ly/3IKdKSW>





### PACJA Launches the 3rd Cohort of the Nairobi Summer School on Climate Justice

The call for applications was announced in a ceremony at Kenyatta University on 17th March 2023.

“I hope the applicants to be selected for the 3rd cohort will bring the dynamism that is required in addressing the global challenge of climate change we are facing,” said Prof Wanjohi The Vice Chancellor of Kenyatta University.

Follow this link for more information: <https://bit.ly/4OforMj>

### The Pan-African Parliament Committee Meeting in Midland South Africa

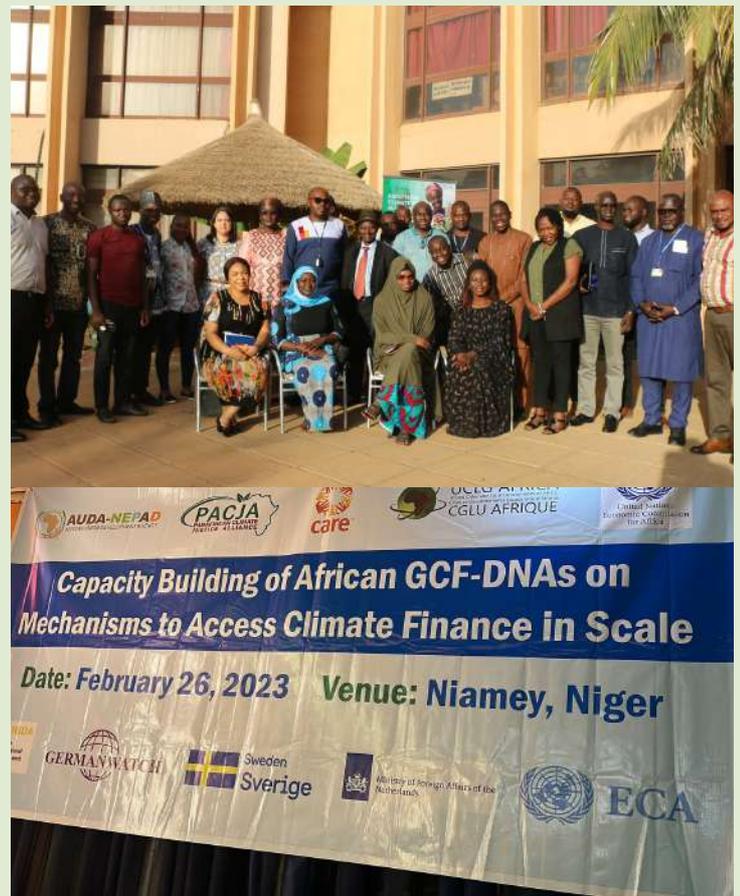
Pan African Climate Justice Alliance joined The Pan-African Parliament (PAP) Committee on Rural Economy, Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment to discuss outcomes of COP27. The meeting was held as part of the ongoing engagements with PAP on strategy for COP28.

The PAP carried the hopes and aspirations of African citizens to the 27th annual Conference of the Parties to the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change - better known as COP27 - held in the resort city of Sharm el-Sheikh in Egypt in November 2022. COP27, commonly called “the African COP,” allowed Africa to spotlight its unique needs, circumstances, and opportunities.



## AFRICAN REGIONAL FORUM for SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (ARFSD9) PACJA NIGER SIDE-EVENTS

African government leaders, Private sectors, Development partners, and Civil society organizations convened in Niamey, Niger, for the ninth session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFD-9). Participants discussed various issues about the development of the continent. On the other hand, the convening was an opportunity for African Civil society groups from across the continent to review the performance of The Green Climate Fund-funded projects in Africa. PACJA, alongside its partners, convened these meetings. On 25th February 2023, on the sidelines of ARFD-9, after extensive discussions and experience sharing, what emerged common were challenges and recommendations. A communique was developed capturing critical issues and key recommendations as GCF embarks on its second replenishment period. and is attached for you to look over.



[IPCC AR6 Synthesis Report, yet another slap on global climate governance, rich and developed countries.](#)

In a press release, The Pan African Climate Justice Alliance analyzed the just-released IPCC AR6 Report. The Alliance felt strongly that this report was another joke on international governance and the global North. The release of IPCC reports coincided with severe drought affecting the Horn of Africa countries and with Cyclone Freddy causing massive havoc in southern African countries with severe and devastating impacts in Malawi and Mozambique. The report also estimates that Africa has incurred annual losses of \$7 billion due to climate change between 2010 and 2019, which could rise to \$50 billion by 2040 under a high-emissions scenario. In addition, climate change could reduce gross domestic product (GDP) growth in Africa by 2-4% per year by 2040, and by 10-25% by 2100, compared to a no-climate-change scenario



## CYCLONE FREDDY

Cyclone Freddy struck in early February along the coast of Australia. He later hit Madagascar as it made its way to Southern Mozambique and, finally, Malawi, which was hit badly. The effects continue to be felt by the people of Malawi. A post by Julius Ngoma, National Co-ordinator of PACJA in Malawi, summarises the ramifications of Cyclone Freddy: the death toll remains at 511, there are 533 missing persons and thousands are displaced. As UNFCCC drags its feet in operationalizing a facility to deal with loss and damage, tax measures have been introduced by Malawian Government to support survivors with food, clothes, and shelter in 577 camps. The storm has displaced at least 88,000 people in Malawi, mostly from the Chikwawa, Nsanje, and Mulanje districts, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. In Mozambique, nearly 50,000 people were displaced.



Photo Courtesy of (Reuters)

Locals of Mrauchira village walks past a home which was damage by a mudslide in the aftermath of Cyclone Freddy in Blantyre, Malawi



## PACJA AT THE UN WATER CONFERENCE HELD IN NEW YORK, USA

The Pan African Climate Justice Alliance, led by Dr. Mithika Mwenda, the Executive Director, and Charles Mwangi, the Head of Programs and Research, took part in a series of meetings at the UN Water Conference held on 22nd-24th March 2023. In a high-level side event under the theme: "Water in a hungry world," PACJA urged the international community to understand the nexus between conflicts and the water crisis. The call was made at the event organized in collaboration with Global Water and Partnership and the Environmental Defense Fund, among other organizations. Speaking to participants, the Executive Director of the PACJA, Dr. Mithika Mwenda, elaborated on the need to understand the nexus between water and climate change. He indicated that the conflict being experienced in the Horn of Africa is because of the water crisis emanating from climate change. "We must approach water issues at the local level to ensure reliability, equity, and access to water, especially to the rural poor," said Dr. Mithika Mwenda.



Against the background of the outcomes of COP27 and informed by the ever evolving context, PACJA and its membership retreated into consultations in Addis Ababa over February 15th and 16th with a view to introspect on effectiveness of its advocacy approaches in COP28 and to develop a common frame towards influencing the outcomes of COP27.

The consultations reflected on some of the wins in COP27 notably: i. Loss and damage finance arrangements pending agreement on operation and modalities and ii. the special mention of Africa in the Finance section of the cover decisions of both COP27 and CMA partly acknowledges the special needs and circumstances of Africa from a finance perspective. However the convening acknowledged the losses for the continent in El-Sharma i. no direct discussion on African special needs and circumstances ii. lowering of ambition on mitigation (notably transitioning from fossil fuels) and iii. no clear ambition on raising adaptation finance.

While the contextual issues informing COP28 landscape incrementally build from the COP27 context of deteriorating climate crisis, a complex geopolitics, false narratives and the growing prominence of private sectors, it seems the chicken have come home to roost. We now have a oil mogul at the helm of COP28, advancing interests of oil lobbies and casting the most darkest shade in the history of the UNFCCC multilateralism.



**A photo of panelists of the high-level agenda-setting session during the multi-stakeholder consultations on Strategy for COP28**

However, this dark shadow of what COP28 in Dubai is likely to be does not deter our resolve to be bold in ambition, priorities and the changes we aim to pursue. The alliance, in its Advocacy Strategy and Plan for COP28 shall pursue three priorities in advancing progressive outcomes, notably:

1. African interests and priorities reflected in COP28 decision
2. Enhancing the effectiveness of Africa's engagement in negotiations, to secure more wins for Africa
3. Greater ambition and accountability by the global north in reducing emissions and funding adaptation and L&D

PACJA has in this context defined African interests to encompass: African-informed, African driven just transition in all negotiation spaces, doubling funding for climate response, funding facility for loss and damage being made operational and the advancement of Africa as a region with special needs and circumstance.

In pursuing the priorities highlighted above, the alliance shall capitalize on a number of strategy thrusts as presented by our context and largely on: framing an African narrative on Just transition, by sector and by territory; tapping on opportunities presented by COP27 decisions of significant importance to COP28, notably the Global Goal on Adaptation, New Quantified and collective Goal, COP28 as dead line for agreeing on financial arrangement for loss and damage. Expansion of decisions that affect different sectors on COP processes such as water, agriculture, Health, Energy and the entire global stock take processes are other noble spaces we shall exploit. The alliance sees a latitude in building greater nexus between climate change and biodiversity loss, plastic waste, security of land tenure and so is the implementation of the Africa Union Climate Change Strategy on Climate Change 2022 – 2032.

# Focus on National Platforms

## Nigeria – CSDevnet

The Climate and Sustainable Development Network (CSDevNet) has announced the appointment of Prof. Ibitoru Aduabobo Hart as one of its Board Members.

Prof. Ibrahim Choji, who announced at the recently concluded Annual General Meeting of the Network in Abuja, expressed optimism that Prof Hart's rich experience in research and sustainable development issues will help propel the Network to greater heights.

Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) under the Climate and Sustainable Development Network (CSDevNet) have deliberated on the outcome of the COP27th climate change conference to implement climate issues across the country effectively.

The Network called on government at all levels and relevant stakeholders to intensify efforts to ensure that issues deliberated at the COP27 conference in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, in 2022, on climate change challenges were vigorously implemented.

The organizations said this at a Post COP 27 Multi-Stakeholders National Consultative Dialogue, organized by the CSDevNet, on Wednesday in Abuja.

<https://csdevnet.org/>



## EGYPT – YLE

The YLE Foundation launched the first phase of the "Capacity Building of Civil Society Organizations in the field of climate change" program, under the title "Awareness... the first phase of change" which will last for 5 days. The program is implemented in partnership with and with the support of CRISP and the Pan-African Alliance for Climate Justice (PACJA) and funding from the German Ministry of Environment from 2023-2025.

<https://bit.ly/3HICcRI>

# Focus on National Platforms

## CÔTE D'IVOIRE

PACJA Cote d'Ivoire National Platform organized a radio program during the International Women's celebrations. The Radio program provided an opportunity to discuss with the audience the role of women and the nexus issues on population growth, environment, and climate change. The discussions were held at the Institute of Sciences and Technologies of Communication (ISTC. FM) radio.

Mr. Anicet Durand Oboue, the National Coordinator of PACJA Cote d'Ivoire, took that opportunity to highlight the fact that there is a need to strengthen children's education, especially young girls. Also, Ministries were tasked to consider the climate issue when drawing up their development plan. Participants and the audience requested government institutions to consider the gender aspect, which is very sensitive to the climate.



## RWANDA (RCCDN)



The Rwanda Climate and Development Network Co-ordinator Faustin Vuningoma represented Rwanda Civil Society in a meeting with the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund Ms. Kristalina Georgieva during her trip to Kigali on January 26th. The MD commended Rwanda for being the first country in Africa to access the IMF Resilience and sustainability Facility (RSF) which is \$319 Million. <https://rccdnetwork.org/>

In a statement, she said, "I was impressed by the dynamism and creativity of Rwandan youth advocating for climate action and environmental conservation, and entrepreneurs using their ingenuity to bring climate-friendly solutions for a greener tomorrow." <http://bit.ly/3XFfzPj>

# International Women's Day Commemoration

## UNEP Southern Africa Sub-Regional, Southern Africa Youth Movement (SAYM) and African Women Energy Entrepreneurs Framework (AWEEF)

WEBINAR: "Centrality of Women in Unlocking Value-chains in Catalytic Sectors: Mining, Just Energy Transition, and Agriculture"

Through webinar discussions, participants exchanged the central role of a woman in development. It was a platform for participants to discuss, distill and synthesize innovative mechanisms and technologies to ensure equity is embraced in the social, economic, and environmental dimensions of Mining, Just Energy Transition, and Agriculture. In this webinar, Dr. Mithika Mwenda, the Executive Director PACJA, reiterated that the most affected by climate change today are women, girls, and marginalized communities and MUST be involved in the design and implementation of climate response actions to ensure the equal sharing of benefits. He added that Women possess unique knowledge and experience, particularly locally. Hence their inclusion in decision-making processes is critical to effective climate action.

## CONTINENTAL SECRETARIAT ALL FEMALE STAFF EXHIBITION



In many parts of the world, International Women's Day (IWD) is when women are recognized for their achievements – whether in the workplace, at home, or in society. It's also a day to celebrate feminine strength and unity and to call for greater gender equality.

This year the secretariat staff organized an art exhibition where they showcased their talent and their understanding of the ongoing climate crisis. In addition, they could interact with the women from a nearby community on the challenges they continue to face as women and how to build their resilience and adaptive capacities to the effects of climate change.

In conclusion, Ann reaffirmed the importance of leaders taking action to embed women's economic empowerment in their development plans consistently. She stated that this is essential to create a more inclusive and sustainable world for all.



# UPCOMING EVENTS



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3RD-5TH APRIL

## LOSS AND DAMAGE SYMPOSIUM

Theme: Consolidating Evidence and African voices for advancing a Pan-African Loss and Damage Agenda at all levels  
The symposium will provide a platform for African stakeholders and other global citizens to dialogue on and express their analysis on how to move Loss and Damage forward in the sphere of international solidarity.



16TH-17TH MAY

## PAN AFRICAN PARLIAMENT (PAP)

Strengthening the strategic leadership of Pan African parliament on climate justice. Midland, South Africa



JUNE

## GCF ENGAGEMENT STRENGTHENING FORUM IN RWANDA

Enhance CSOs and GCF-AFDAP's capacity to track climate funds and their engagement in GCF Board meetings.



5th-15th June 2023

## Bonn Climate Change Conference



3RD-14TH JULY

## NAIROBI SUMMER SCHOOL ON CLIMATE JUSTICE

*THEME: Connecting ideas, shaping narratives for just and equitable climate action.*

The Nairobi Summer School on Climate Justice invites eligible applicants from diverse fields to apply for a two (2)-week-long NSSCJ that will take place from July 3 to 14 July 2023 at Kenyatta University, Nairobi, Kenya. Application deadline is Friday, April 21, 2023.

Apply here: <https://bit.ly/42irrtf>



*Staff and Designated National Platforms Retreat held on 10th-12th February in Addis Ababa*



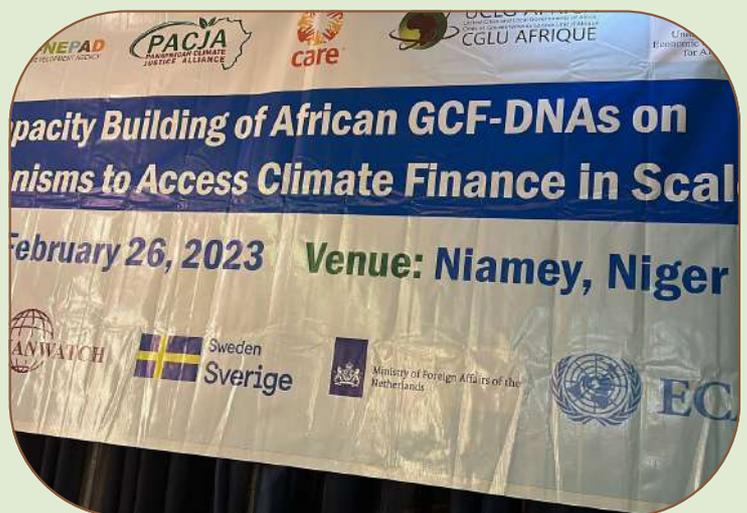
*PACJA Togo Platform conducted a Sensitization Meeting with women in the Central Region of Togo during the International Women's Day on the 8th of March 2023.*



*A Solidaire International team in Action commemorating International Women's Day on the 8th of March in Senegal.*



*PACJA and its partners launch CLIMATE SECURITY Africa (Clim-Sec Africa), a Climate Security Initiative, on the Sidelines of The African Regional Forum for Sustainable Development on 27th February in Niamey, Niger*





*Consultative Workshop on Climate Insecurity Hotspots in the Horn of Africa held on the 28th of February in Niamey, Niger.*



*World Wetlands Day Commemoration in Nandi County, Kenya, on 2nd of February 2023.*



*African Civil Society Issue Statement to the 36th African Union Summit IN ADDIS ABABA on the 16th February 2023*



*PACJA's Press Conference on Rejection of COP28 President AL JABER.  
13th January 2023  
Nairobi, KENYA*



*REDD+ Capacity Building Workshop held on 12th February 2023.*

## Statement on the rejection of Al Jaber as COP28 President



### **Civil Society Respond to the Appointment Of Oil Chief As COP28 President - PACJA - ...**

The Pan African Climate Justice Alliance held a press conference on the 13th of January 2023 to address the outrageous appointment of Sultan al-Jaber, hea...

## African Civil Society Statement to the 36th African Union Summit.



### **African Civil Society Statement to the 36th African Union Summit - PACJA - Panafrican...**

Addis Ababa, 15 and 16 February 2023 Communique - Multistakeholder COP28 Consultation and Advocacy Strategy Development At the invitation of the Pan-...

## COP28 Advocacy Strategy and Action Plan



### **COP28 Advocacy Strategy and Action Plan - PACJA - Panafrican Climate Justice Alliance**

Downloads: 1. English 2.French Pan African Climate Justice Alliance and its strategic partners have been implementing the road to Cop27 and Beyond...

## African Civil Society Communique on the Green Climate Fund's Second Replenishment (GCF-2)



### **African Civil Society Communique on the Gree...**

Niamey, Niger: February 26, 20...

[pacia.org](http://pacia.org)



**PACJA Staff and DNP Retreat During a Session on Sharing Knowledge, Best Practices and Lessons on Implementing Programs**



**Pan African Climate Justice Alliance Continental Governing Council (CGC) as inaugurated on the 14th February 2023**



**Executive Director Mithika Mwenda engaging in a bilateral meeting with Tom Grasso of Environmental Defense Fund(EDF) at their office in New York on the sidelines of the UN water Conference that took place in March**



**Delegates listen keenly at the proceedings of General Congress of Pan African Climate Justice Alliance in February in Addis Ababa Ethiopia**



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PAN AFRICAN CLIMATE JUSTICE ALLIANCE (PACJA)  
Continental Secretariate: House No, J13,  
P.o. Box 51005 - 00200 +254-20-8075808  
Kabarnet Road Off Ngong Road, Nairobi, Kenya  
[info@pacja.org](mailto:info@pacja.org)  
[www.pacja.org](http://www.pacja.org)