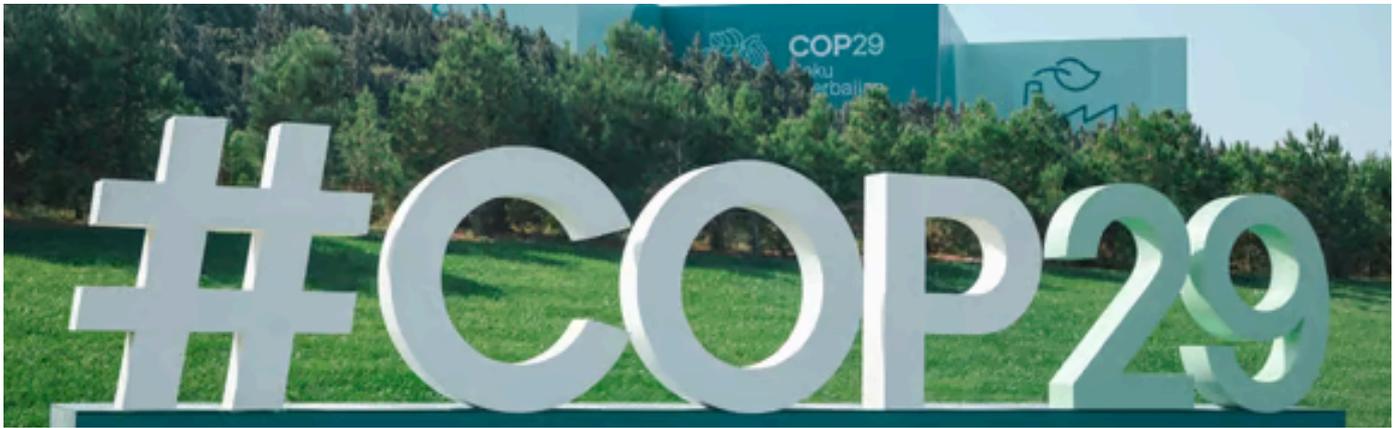


# MEMENTO OF THE DAY

## 9



## Our action



**Strengthening Africa Climate Resilience: advancing adaptation strategies and securing Climate Justice**



The meeting focused on the urgent need for African parliamentarians to advocate for climate justice and effective adaptation strategies in response to the impacts of climate change, emphasizing the importance of securing adequate funding and oversight for local initiatives. Speakers highlighted the inequities faced by Africa, despite its minimal contribution to global emissions, and called for a collective effort to influence global climate negotiations and ensure that commitments are met. There was a strong emphasis on taking actionable steps and fostering collaboration among parliamentarians to address climate challenges effectively.

The following are key messages delivered in the session

### **Natural Resource Extraction and Public Finance**

Discussion on the extraction of natural resources like lithium and copper, emphasizing that these are sold for minimal returns due to the need for foreign currency to pay existing debts. There is a call to argue against using public finance to leverage more loans.

## Public Funds and Climate Change

Speakers highlighted the argument that there are insufficient public funds for climate change, countering it by pointing out the \$2.4 trillion spent annually on militarization. The speaker argues that raising \$1.3 trillion for public finance is feasible and that the money exists but requires advocacy to be released.

## Investment Goals and Climate Finance

The conversation shifted to the idea of multi-layered investment goals in climate finance, questioning the effectiveness of resolving public policy issues through private investment. The speaker views this as a distraction from addressing the core issues.

## Loss and Damage as a Financial Pillar

African negotiators are advocating for loss and damage to be recognized as a third pillar of climate finance, alongside mitigation and adaptation. Concerns were raised about the trend of pushing markets to cover loss and damage, which could lead to inadequate solutions.

## Climate Justice and Debt Justice

The need for advanced propositions to address both climate debt and existing debt was emphasized. Innovative financing solutions like debt swaps and blue bonds were discussed, with caution advised regarding their long-term implications on national resources.

## Labor Migration from Climate Vulnerable areas: Adaptation, Just transition and exploitation

Labor migration from climate-vulnerable areas requires a balanced approach that ensures a just transition while protecting migrants from exploitation. As communities face increasing displacement due to climate impacts, policies must facilitate safe and dignified labor migration pathways, emphasizing social and economic inclusion. PACJA engaged with other stakeholders in Just Transition pavilions to discuss on the issue.

during these discussions the following issues were emerged in relation to to theme of discussions: To effectively address the links between climate change and migration, it is essential to establish clear,

## Role of African Parliamentarians

The importance of African parliamentarians in securing climate justice and overseeing adaptation initiatives was stressed. They are urged to prioritize vulnerable communities and ensure that national policies align with climate justice principles.

## Oversight and Funding for Local Initiatives

Parliamentarians are tasked with providing oversight to ensure that adaptation initiatives receive adequate funding and are free from corruption. The need for monitoring the implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) was highlighted.

## Inclusive Participation

Advocacy for inclusive participation in climate initiatives was discussed, emphasizing the need to include marginalized groups such as women, youth, and disabled individuals in climate action plans.

## Call for Action and Collaboration

A strong call for action was made, urging parliamentarians to move beyond discussions and take concrete steps towards enacting climate laws and policies. The need for organized efforts among parliamentarians across Africa was emphasized.

## Conclusion and Future Engagement

The event concluded with a call for strengthening collaborative engagement among parliamentarians and civil society to influence climate negotiations and ensure that Africa's unique vulnerabilities are addressed in global climate commitments.

pathways and rights for individuals seeking refuge in other countries, ensuring their protection and dignity.

- Destination countries must prioritize social inclusion, supported by robust policy frameworks that address immigration in the context of climate change.
- Governments should implement enabling policies to facilitate climate-related migration while safeguarding the rights of migrants. This includes ensuring favorable working conditions, equitable salaries, and inclusive practices for all workers.
- Addressing these issues urgently is critical to mitigating the compounded effects of climate change and migration.

## Priceless Contribution and fair share: How Africa's contribution through Transitional Minerals in the Global Decarbonization agenda should count climate negotiations



This event hosted in DRC Pavillion discussed deeply the role Africa can play in the transition of minerals while the world is striving to reduce carbon emissions. It touched on the misses of African governments when they are negotiating mining projects with investing companies. Participants raised challenges and called governments and CSOs to play a vital role in ensuring the transition is based on human rights and mutual benefits approaches. The following are the key points noted during discussions:

### 1. Inevitability of Transition

- The transition to a green economy is no longer a choice but a necessity. The shift away from fossil fuels is evident globally, exemplified by Norway's advancements.
- Africa must also embrace this transition despite challenges, ensuring it aligns with its unique needs and circumstances.

### 2. Challenges of Green Transition in Africa

- **Energy Access Disparities:** it was highlighted that over 630 million Africans lack access to energy, highlighting the need for equitable solutions during the transition.
- **Exploitation of Resources:** it was noted that African resources, including critical minerals, are often exported to fuel other countries' transitions, leaving the continent vulnerable and under-resourced.

- **Environmental and Social Risks:** The green transition must integrate considerations for human rights, health, safety, and fair labour practices.

### 3. Resource Governance and Value Addition

- Africa's wealth in critical minerals must benefit its people through robust governance and local value addition.
- The Africa Mining Vision and Africa Mineral Development Center must be operationalized to prevent exploitation and ensure local beneficiation.
- Policies like the Continental Free Trade Area and Agenda 2063 should incorporate clear linkages between mineral resources, climate action, and green transition.

### 4. Addressing Land Grabbing

- The global rush for land and natural resources threatens African sovereignty. Securing land ownership is critical to claiming rights over the resources beneath.
- Urgent action is required to prevent land grabs and protect communities.

### 5. Revisiting Bilateral Investment Treaties

- Existing treaties often include unfair clauses (e.g., investor protections, dispute resolution mechanisms favouring foreign parties) that disadvantage African nations.
- Governments must renegotiate or terminate these treaties to safeguard local interests and sovereignty.

## Priceless Contribution and fair share: How Africa's contribution through Transitional Minerals in the Global Decarbonization agenda should count climate negotiations



This event hosted in DRC Pavillion discussed deeply the role Africa can play in the transition of minerals while the world is striving to reduce carbon emissions. It touched on the misses of African governments when they are negotiating mining projects with investing companies. Participants raised challenges and called governments and CSOs to play a vital role in ensuring the transition is based on human rights and mutual benefits approaches. The following are the key points noted during discussions:

### 1. Inevitability of Transition

- The transition to a green economy is no longer a choice but a necessity. The shift away from fossil fuels is evident globally, exemplified by Norway's advancements.
- Africa must also embrace this transition despite challenges, ensuring it aligns with its unique needs and circumstances.

### 2. Challenges of Green Transition in Africa

- **Energy Access Disparities:** it was highlighted that over 630 million Africans lack access to energy, highlighting the need for equitable solutions during the transition.
- **Exploitation of Resources:** it was noted that African resources, including critical minerals, are often exported to fuel other countries' transitions, leaving the continent vulnerable and under-resourced.

- **Environmental and Social Risks:** The green transition must integrate considerations for human rights, health, safety, and fair labour practices.

### 3. Resource Governance and Value Addition

- Africa's wealth in critical minerals must benefit its people through robust governance and local value addition.
- The Africa Mining Vision and Africa Mineral Development Center must be operationalized to prevent exploitation and ensure local beneficiation.
- Policies like the Continental Free Trade Area and Agenda 2063 should incorporate clear linkages between mineral resources, climate action, and green transition.

### 4. Addressing Land Grabbing

- The global rush for land and natural resources threatens African sovereignty. Securing land ownership is critical to claiming rights over the resources beneath.
- Urgent action is required to prevent land grabs and protect communities.

### 5. Revisiting Bilateral Investment Treaties

- Existing treaties often include unfair clauses (e.g., investor protections, dispute resolution mechanisms favouring foreign parties) that disadvantage African nations.
- Governments must renegotiate or terminate these treaties to safeguard local interests and sovereignty.

## Synergies between CBD and UNFCCC: Accelerating the inclusion and financing of ecosystem and conservation and protection in NDCs V.3.0

This discussion explored the interconnections between the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) within the broader framework of global environmental governance. The conversation took place in the context of international climate negotiations currently ongoing in Baku, Azerbaijan, where key stakeholders—governments, civil society, and experts—are assessing progress, identifying challenges, and proposing solutions to address biodiversity loss and climate change.

The main objective of the event was to emphasize the robust inclusion of biodiversity conservation in NDC 3.0 while exploring practical approaches to achieve this. Specifically, it aims to identify priority actions and strategies for effectively mainstreaming biodiversity conservation in the next version of NDCs, foster a collective understanding of the financing landscape for biodiversity conservation in Africa by examining progress, emerging challenges, and potential solutions, and map out priority actions to ensure that biodiversity conservation remains people-centred in both the planning and execution phases.

### Emerging messages from the events

- Synergies Between CBD and UNFCCC:** There is insufficient recognition of the synergies between the two conventions, despite 190 countries signing both. Biodiversity loss and climate change are interconnected, making collaboration essential.
- Parallel Discussions with Overlaps:** Both conventions address similar issues like mitigation, adaptation, targets, and financial mobilization. However, discussions often occur in silos.
- Framework Linkages:** National Determined Contributions (NDCs) and biodiversity frameworks share similarities in timelines and goals, showing potential for alignment.
- Current Challenges:** Questions arise about the effectiveness of NDC implementation and whether promised financial resources have been delivered.
- Funding Landscape:** Financing for biodiversity is largely grant-based (98%), while climate funding relies more on loans. African nations, including DRC, Kenya, Madagascar, and Tanzania, are major recipients. However, conservation receives less priority within biodiversity funding.
- Challenges in Financing:** External funding for conservation has stagnated since 2020, partly due to COVID-19, and many donor promises remain unfulfilled.
- Inequities in Responsibility:** Africa bears an unjust burden of combating climate change caused by the extractive practices of developed nations and private sectors.
- Biodiversity and Climate Change as Business Models:** Concerns arise over biodiversity being treated as a profit-making scheme, detracting from conservation efforts.
- Need for Better Integration:** The lack of communication between CBD and UNFCCC undermines their shared objectives. The CBD has committed to strengthening ties with UNFCCC to address overlapping challenges.
- Disparities in Responsibility and Funding:** Developed countries push for more policies in developing nations while failing to provide sufficient funding or support.
- Controversies in Proposed Solutions:** Nature-based and ecosystem-based solutions often reflect the interests of external actors rather than those most affected, such as marginalized groups and youth.
- Decolonization and Language Concerns:** Africa needs to resist imposed technologies and ensure the process respects local contexts. The framing and language used in international agreements also need clarity and inclusivity.
- Ivory Coast's Reforestation Efforts:** The country is working on restoring lost forests through carbon markets, paying citizens for reforestation and national park protection.
- National Synergies:** COP 15 highlighted the need to integrate the Desertification Convention with UNFCCC at national levels, recognizing their interlinkages.