

COP30:

POLICY BRIEF

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Introduction

COP30 in Belém, Brazil, represents a historic inflection point—the first COP of the implementation decade, and the first hosted in the Amazon. Coming ten years after the Paris Agreement, this COP is a moment to restore trust, repair injustice, and translate commitments into concrete action. The world cannot afford another cycle of promises deferred; COP30 must mark the shift from rhetoric to reality.

2024 saw the warmest year on record. The recent UNEP's [2025 Emissions Gap Report](#) made it clear: without transformative shifts and urgent action, we are on track for catastrophic 2.3-2.5°C warming this century. The consequences of this inaction are not abstract. Across the world for multiple years in a row, we are witnessing climate breakdown: [poor air quality due to wildfire smoke](#) from coast-to-coast-to-coast across Canada, [heatwaves tripling death tolls in Europe](#), severity of flash floods [increasing](#), and rising numbers of people and communities [displaced](#) in the Global South due to



climate change. These impacts deepen existing inequalities, with those least responsible for the crisis bearing its heaviest burdens.

In Canada, climate action remains mired in contradiction. Even as the federal government reiterates its commitment to climate leadership, its actions send [confusing and inconsistent signals](#)—waffling on its commitment to Canada’s climate targets, trampling on Indigenous rights in the name of [“nation-building.”](#) encouraging the [revival of long-abandoned pipeline projects](#), steeply increasing military funding while [cutting](#) public services, and promoting [false narratives](#) about the “need” for liquified natural gas. These choices undermine Canada’s potential to lead by example and risk further eroding its credibility on the international stage. The world will be watching this year to see if Canada, under Prime Minister Carney, will show policy action that matches his reputation on the issue.

Around the world, rising attacks on human rights have also been front of mind throughout 2025. Escalating climate breakdown is deeply intertwined with shrinking civic space, repression of land defenders and rights-holders, and rising authoritarianism. There can be no peace without justice and there can be no climate justice without human rights and decolonization. This means confronting colonial legacies and demanding accountability for human rights violations—including the genocides in Gaza, Sudan and the DRC. CAN-Rac [reiterates](#) its call on Prime Minister Carney and his government to follow up its recognition of the State of Palestine with real action to uphold the rights of the Palestinian people.

This year marks 10 years since the adoption of the Paris Agreement, and yet its promises remain unfulfilled. Despite the progress on the Paris Rulebook, the first Global Stocktake (GST), and the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance (NCQG), emissions and inequities continue to rise. COP30 must serve as a course correction—from incrementalism toward transformation. In an era of polycrisis and shifting geopolitical landscape, upholding the obligations of the Paris Agreement is paramount to realizing our vision of a more just, equitable, and climate-resilient future for all.

This obligation is echoed by the International Court of Justice which issued a landmark [advisory opinion](#) this summer that nations can be held legally accountable for their greenhouse gas emissions. Championed by Vanuatu and grassroots youth groups like the Pacific Island Students Fighting Climate Change and the World Youth for Climate Justice, this ruling reminds us all that fulfilling the goals of the Paris Agreement is not only a moral obligation for countries like Canada, but a legal obligation under international law.

COP30 is not another checkpoint; it must be the turning point. As one of the wealthiest, highest-emitting countries with the capacity and responsibility to act, Canada must demonstrate true climate leadership grounded in justice, solidarity, and accountability.



Our Vision

CAN-Rac, alongside our members and allies, is attending COP30 guided by the goal of climate justice and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities (CBDR-RC). Our strategy and negotiation platform is rooted in solidarity with communities, workers, and those most vulnerable to the climate crisis, particularly in the Global South.

As we head toward COP30 in Brazil, we are navigating a deeply challenging geopolitical context, marked by injustice, violence, and an escalating climate crisis. Trust in multilateralism is at a low point. Across the world, we see deepening divisions and retreats from international cooperation and the rule-based international order. These are strange and difficult times, which call for our collective response and mobilization. **We resist, we organize, and we build hope.**

COP30 marks the 10th anniversary of the Paris Agreement, with a symbolic mandate to uphold multilateralism, cooperation and climate ambition. As the COP host, Brazil faces the challenge of sustaining the spirit of the Paris Agreement while reimagining climate ambition for a rapidly changing world. The choice of Belém, in the heart of the Amazon rainforest, underscores the importance of protecting the planet's lungs. In the words of the [Brazilian Presidency](#): *"The chosen city will provide the world with a unique platform to discuss climate solutions, firmly rooted in the heart of the Amazon."* Yet, the Brazilian government's [recent approval of a new offshore oil development near the Amazon coast](#) contradicts this vision, weakens the country's international credibility, and directly violates the rights of Amazonian Peoples, who have historically protected the forest, its ecosystems, and the planet's climate.

In this setting, as the world gathers in the Amazon to restore trust and sustain multilateralism, **Canada must show up with ambition, foresight, and integrity**— as an enabling force for a global just transition. This means raising and implementing ambitious climate targets at home, and delivering and scaling up climate finance in line with Canada's fair share. It also requires demonstrating a real commitment to advancing a just transition that uplifts workers, Indigenous Peoples, women, and other marginalized communities—those who bear the heaviest climate burdens and are at the center of climate solutions, both at home and abroad.

CAN-Rac's engagement at COP30 is inspired and guided by this vision: fighting fossil fuel interests, mobilizing with frontline communities, and promoting a vision of global well-being within planetary boundaries. We work to amplify voices advancing a just transition for all, and to sustain international collaboration as the only viable solution to a collective crisis.

Our strategy for COP30 centers around three pillars that uphold this vision:

1. **Policy and advocacy:** shaping ambitious outcomes grounded in equity and science;
2. **Membership mobilization:** uniting civil society to strengthen collective impact; and
3. **Solidarity and resistance:** aligning with movements and communities fighting for justice on the frontlines of climate breakdown.



This year, the Climate Action Network international community is mobilizing around escalating Just Transition as a global priority. COP30 offers an opportunity to deliver on a key outcome: the Belém Action Mechanism for Global Just Transition (BAM). Alongside scaled up, public, and predictable climate finance, the establishment of the BAM would position countries as enablers of a global just transition for all—the cornerstone of a fair and livable future.

Key Priorities

Keep 1.5°C alive, accelerate implementation, and increase ambition and accountability for climate goals

As of September 30, 2025, [only 64 countries have submitted](#) their updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), with many countries missing the September 2025 deadline to submit their updated NDCs. At a time when trust in multilateralism is faltering, it was promising to see Canada submit its 2035 NDC in February 2025, outlining its commitments towards the global climate effort for the next decade. However, Canada's updated NDC showed a [refusal to step up](#) and match the level of ambition as per Canada's fair share of global emission reduction. More recently, Prime Minister Carney and Minister Dabrusin's noncommittal messaging on whether Canada remains steadfast to work towards meeting its 2030 and 2035 climate commitments and their absence at the recent UN Secretary General's Climate Summit [further fuels confusion and doubt](#) about Canada's credibility and its commitment to the Paris Agreement.

Canada appears to be punting real climate action to 2050. Rather than delivering the bold measures needed this decade, the government is hiding behind distant net-zero promises while rolling back or delaying core policies at home. **The Climate Competitiveness Strategy (CCS), announced along with Budget 2025, fell short of signaling strong climate ambition as the Canadian delegation heads to COP30.** While the inclusion of the Youth Climate Corps and commitment to strengthening industrial carbon pricing were welcome, [Budget 2025](#) made no mention of emissions reductions commitments or Canada's next international climate finance contribution, announced plans to water down anti-greenwashing legislation, took another step away from the cap on oil and gas emissions, and cut international assistance. Overall, Budget 2025 and the CCS failed to live up to their promises of “generational ambition,” which would require creating a climate-resilient economy for the future. **This remains a pivotal moment, and Canada's climate leadership will be judged by its actions now, not by far-off promises for 2050. Canada must show whether it stands on the side of climate action, multilateralism, and justice, or whether it's captured by the interests of the oil and gas industry.**

NDCs are more than just an emission reduction target; they should chart the path towards repairing the relationship between people and the planet. NDCs are also tools to build resilience and to mainstream adaptation planning aligned with a country's National Adaptation Strategy. As people in Canada continue experiencing climate-induced losses and damages, Canada's new NDC failed to



offer a vision for how the country can pivot towards a safer, stronger future, and fell back on a continued reliance on an extraction-based economy. **At COP30, Canada must reaffirm its commitments to the Paris Agreement, clarify its emissions reductions targets, and show its plan for bridging gaps in current policies to reach targets.** This is especially necessary in the domestic context of continuous carve-outs to the oil and gas sector and corporate powers, and the resurgence of unreliable, costly fossil fuel projects that are not aligned with the goals of the Paris Agreement.

In 2021, CAN-Rac established [seven benchmarks](#) to enhance and inform a transformative NDC aligned with the 1.5°C target, which we built on in our [2024 recommendations](#) for the new NDC. While Canada has already submitted its updated NDC, a clear pathway to implementation and action must be communicated.

Canada must reaffirm its commitment to the Paris Agreement and raise ambitions by:

- **Advancing Equity**
 - Revising its domestic emissions reduction target to 80% below 2005 levels by 2035 with efforts to fully decarbonize the Canadian economy to achieve net-zero as early as possible and by 2050 at the latest;
 - Enabling a reduction in developing countries' greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to 160% of Canadian 2005 emissions through climate finance;
 - Tripling Canada's bilateral climate finance to \$15.9 billion between 2026-2031 with full balance between mitigation and adaptation and aligned with the Feminist International Assistance Policy.
- **Upholding human rights and Indigenous Peoples' rights**
 - Ensuring a rights-based and feminist implementation of the NDCs, consistent with international human rights obligations and principles;
 - Reaffirming the constitutional mandate and obligation to ensure all climate and nature policies, measures, and investments respect Indigenous Peoples' right to self-determination and self-governance and incorporate UNDRIP as a guiding framework.
- **Decarbonizing rapidly**
 - Implementing and strengthening sector-specific goals and policies for oil and gas, transportation, electricity, and buildings, as well as strengthening the key pillars of governance and carbon pricing.
- **Shifting financial flows**
 - Planning to achieve a complete fossil fuel subsidies reform, ensuring Export Development Canada aligns its portfolio with 1.5°C, and reflecting coherence between



Canada's domestic and international approach in eliminating financial support to the fossil fuel sector.

- Implementing a windfall profits tax on fossil fuel companies in addition to closing all subsidy loopholes. This tax could raise [more than \\$4.2 billion over five years](#) and the revenues of the tax could be deployed as additional support of Canada's climate finance commitments and to drive our transition to a net-zero economy.
- **Promoting resilience, social, and health co-benefits**
 - Prioritizing nature and aligning with the commitments under the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;
 - Increasing resilience, and delivering social, ecological, and health co-benefits through the implementation of the National Adaptation Strategy, and aligning its renewal/update with the Global Goal on Adaptation and the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience;
 - Integrating health into Canada's climate approach with the actions set out in the COP28 UAE Declaration on Climate and Health;
 - Advancing intergenerational justice to increase access to green jobs and engagement for youth.
- **Advancing a Just Transition**
 - Committing to the proper implementation of the Sustainable Jobs Act in a manner that is well-advised, well-guided, and well-supported.
- **Ensuring better whole-of-government approach**
 - Increasing action and engagement with subnational jurisdictions to collectively meet Canada's NDC objectives.
 - Building Canada's capacity to adopt climate action across all sectors and levels of society.

Accelerate a Global Just Transition through the establishment of the Belém Action Mechanism (BAM)

The Brazilian COP30 Presidency's vision to deliver ambitious climate solutions and uphold multilateralism would be best served through a concrete, ambitious, and actionable outcome on Just Transition: the establishment of the [Belém Action Mechanism for Global Just Transition \(BAM\)](#).

The BAM would serve as a dedicated multilateral institution coordinating fragmented global efforts on just transition, aligning policies, finance, and cooperation with the Paris Agreement. It would upscale and strengthen the Just Transition Work Program (JTWP), transforming it from a space for dialogue into one for delivery and implementation.



With the establishment of the JTWP at [COP28 in Dubai](#), countries recognized the necessity of justice and equity in achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement, leaving negotiations on a high note of hope and commitment. This was followed by two years of mandated dialogues under the JTWP, which have served as important fora of exchange and cooperation, but no substitutes for ramping up action on Just Transition. Countries negotiating left COP29 without a decision on Just Transition, and COP30 presents an opportunity for an ambitious outcome on an institutional arrangement: the BAM.

The [BAM would help address core needs](#), including:

- Addressing the lack of a common framework and vocabulary around Just Transition;
- Coordinating and streamlining currently fragmented and siloed action at the global level;
- Bridging insufficient coordination and knowledge-sharing among entities and Parties working on Just Transition;
- Addressing gaps in finance, capacity, and cooperation and providing technical and program support to countries;
- Better integrating Just Transition efforts with climate objectives and climate-aligning Just Transition pathways.

The BAM, and the UNFCCC Process more broadly, should be guided by principles applicable to all dimensions where a Just Transition is needed (energy, food systems, adaptation, industry) and covering:

- Rights and participation (including human and labour rights, Free Prior Informed Consent, social dialogue with workers and engagement of affected people);
- Addressing - not deepening - inequalities (through decent work, skills development, gender and age responsiveness);
- Means of Implementation through international cooperation;
- Legal commitments under the Convention and its Paris Agreement, based on equity, the principle of CBDR-RC, and the fair shares approach.

These principles are currently being negotiated under the JTWP, and the BAM would ensure that they are upheld and respected moving forward. The BAM's design would also provide the necessary institutional backing on three global components: 1) coordination; 2) knowledge sharing; 3) action and support.

In the context of multiple geopolitical tensions, shifting power dynamics, mistrust between nations, disparities in climate responsibility and deepening socio-economic inequalities, Just Transition offers a promising avenue to cross-cutting, integrated and multi-level policy solutions. The establishment of the BAM, as a strong outcome on Just Transition, is an opportunity to connect climate action with justice, signalling that Parties and the COP process are responsive to the concerns of workers and communities, and committed to aligning climate action with social, economic and development goals.



Prime Minister Carney has signalled a commitment to “a just and equitable energy transition” by signing on to the joint letter [“All hands on deck for the just and equitable energy transition”](#) in September. What’s needed next at COP30 is a strong commitment to an actionable negotiated outcome on Just Transition, with BAM presenting such an opportunity.

In addition to the establishment of the BAM, we are also advocating for further concrete and actionable outcomes under the JTWP:

- Agreement on the guiding principles of Just Transition;
- Agreement that the specified principles underpin Just Transition planning efforts as part of NDCs, NAPs, LTS or other planning instruments;
- Making Just Transition financeable by recognising that the design and implementation of Just Transition policies, plans, programmes and practices are supportive of climate ambition and therefore eligible to receive climate finance;
- Institutionalizing participation and co-creation at the national level;
- Commitment to develop comprehensive Just Transition plans and incorporate them into national climate plans.

UTMs and CBAM

The JTWP draft decision forwarded from Bonn to Belém also includes a placeholder on addressing “unilateral trade measures” (UTMs). Given the contentious nature of the issue since at least COP28, particularly around the EU Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), disagreement over UTMs may impact the prospect of a decision under the JTWP. The Brazil Presidency, in recognition of the contentiousness of the issue, has proposed the establishment of an integrated forum on climate change and trade. While the intersection of trade and climate and the full addressing of UTMs may require a high-level conversation at COP30 and beyond, the JTWP room can provide the necessary space to spell out how the current trade architecture impedes the global Just Transition and imposes disproportionate effects on the Global South, and approach the climate and trade tensions through the CBDR-RC lens.

Domestically, if Canada proceeds with a carbon border adjustment mechanism (CBAM), such a policy must build on lessons from the European experience, consider the impact for Canada’s partners in the Global South through its design and a diplomatic strategy, and be developed through social dialogue.

Domestic efforts

Canada must back its negotiating position with serious domestic progress in the implementation of the now-adopted *Sustainable Jobs Act*, by:

- Ensure adequate and predictable resourcing for workers and communities in the transition to a green economy, including earmarking funding to support new programs and further implementation of the forthcoming Sustainable Jobs Action Plan. This is one of the most



important gaps and barriers to Canada's transition being just. A comprehensive plan should include a range of initiatives that support:

- Workforce development supports, including retraining and reskilling for high-quality jobs in the clean economy;
 - Measures that support sustainable job creation in new clean economy industries with labour conditions attached;
 - Support for regions and communities in transition to diversify their economies;
 - Expanded social security for workers impacted by transition and disruption;
 - Efforts to engage and include equity-deserving groups as beneficiaries to economic and employment growth.
- These steps should be matched by funding to ensure that the public service has the resources and ability to actually implement the goals in the Action Plan, informed by ongoing social dialogue with workers and rights holders.

Follow up on the NCQG and deliver an ambitious finance package

At COP29, Parties agreed to the [new collective quantified goal on climate finance](#) (NCQG), replacing the annual USD \$100 billion goal from 2009. The NCQG included a new goal of at least US \$300 billion per year by 2035 for developing countries, with developed countries taking the lead. Additionally, the NCQG calls on all actors to scale up financing from all public and private sources to at least USD \$1.3 trillion per year by 2035. The NCQG left many crucial details, especially around the qualitative aspects of finance, unaddressed, and failed to meet the needs of frontline and developing countries. Parties must address the uncertainties at COP30, including clarifying the amount of public finance that should be provided, the quality of finance, and the balance between mitigation, adaptation, and loss and damage.

During the June negotiations in Bonn at SB62, the tensions between the Global South and North were highlighted by the introduction of an [agenda item proposal](#) on the full implementation of Article 9.1 by the LMDC and G77 + China. At the heart of the proposal is the need to address the NCQG's lack of clarity on the amount of public provision—an obligation under the Paris Agreement and the UNFCCC—developed countries are responsible for. It also highlights the urgent need to ensure the quality of climate finance. Without addressing these areas of vagueness, the full implementation of a NCQG that takes into account the needs and priorities of developing countries' country-driven strategies and plans remains far from reach.

Over the years, Canada has been a constructive voice bridging perspectives between Global North and South, championing gender-transformative climate finance with the Feminist International Assistance Policy, and is one of the few countries committed to allocating a certain percentage of its climate finance to adaptation. Building on this leadership, Canada must step up as one of the first movers in the delivery of the NCQG with an updated climate finance pledge and signal good faith



efforts to clarify and fill gaps in the full implementation of Canada's financial obligations under the Paris Agreement.

Trust between Global South and North was strained in the aftermath of the NCQG. Canada must help to rebuild and deepen trust by:

- Announcing Canada's 2026/2027-2030/2031 climate finance pledge, which should:
 - Work towards meeting Canada's fair share of climate finance by [tripling the current pledge to \\$15.9 billion](#) over the next five years;
 - Ensure 40% is allocated to mitigation, 40% to adaptation, and 20% to loss and damage; and
 - Increase proportion of grants to 60% of total finance provided.

Canada must also work to ensure the following elements are included in the finance package delivered at COP30:

- Following up on the NCQG decision within finance-related processes and initiatives by:
 - Committing to updating reporting and accounting methodologies within the Enhanced Transparency Framework to be aligned with the NCQG, including on additionality, concessionality, grant equivalence, and on reporting finance to support responding to loss and damage separately from adaptation. Efforts to improve transparency must be connected to the Standing Committee on Finance (SCF)'s Biennial NCQG Progress Review and GST-2;
 - Encouraging progress on the SCF's efforts to adopt a commonly agreed definition of climate finance to limit ambiguity and recognize the importance of loss and damage finance. An exclusion list that excludes carbon markets, fossil fuel finance, loans at market rates, and ODA finance to reflect additionality, must also be adopted;
 - Ensuring that the Baku to Belém Roadmap to \$1.3 trillion identifies gaps in the current climate finance architecture, provides a clear pathway to close gaps, and connects UNFCCC processes with external initiatives that address the debt-climate nexus and address existing barriers.
- Advancing work on Article 2.1c to shift financial flows away from fossil fuels and other harmful, large-emitting sectors and increasing finance at scale towards climate-resilient low-carbon development in a just, equitable and human rights-compliant manner. Canada must continue this work by:
 - Continuing to engage constructively with other actors across the financial architecture to help advance full implementation of Article 2.1c with clear timelines and targets;
 - Addressing the harmful role of debt in undermining climate action and raising ambitions for debt restructuring and cancellation.



Put people, lives and livelihoods at the heart of climate action

Adaptation

Adaptation remains the cornerstone of climate justice. The climate crisis is reshaping lives and livelihoods every day—from floods and fires in the Global North to severe droughts and displacement in the Global South. Yet, as the 2024 UNEP Adaptation Gap Report warns, global adaptation efforts remain far behind what is needed. The world has made no progress in closing the gap between adaptation finance flows and the actual costs facing developing countries.

Momentum is now building for COP30 to deliver a transformative outcome. The Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF), representing 74 nations, has called for [“a comprehensive packaged approach to adaptation”](#)—one that includes predictable, affordable, and accessible finance. Similarly, the High Ambition Coalition has urged delivery of an ambitious adaptation package.

At COP30 in Belém, countries must respond to these calls and commit to the full operationalization of the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience (FGCR) adopted at COP28 in Dubai. An ambitious outcome on adaptation includes:

- Adoption of a final list of robust, fit-for-purpose indicators—a critical step for measuring real progress. The list must have a balanced representation of Means of Implementation that track both the provision and receipt of support (finance, technology transfer, and capacity-building). The final indicators should also demonstrate the integration of gender equality and social inclusion considerations to track the implementation of gender-responsive and inclusive adaptation actions.
- Additionally, a new, public grant-based adaptation finance commitment under the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) to meet the needs of developing countries and vulnerable communities.
- Completion of the mandate to review and assess the progress on countries’ National Adaptation Plans (NAP Assessment) that recognizes the adaptation efforts of developing countries, while committing to additional technical and financial support to allow developing countries to overcome the gaps and challenges and achieve the 2030 target on adaptation planning under the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience.

For Canada, this means:

- Championing the adoption of the full GGA indicator framework, including strong and balanced Means of Implementation indicators;
- Engaging constructively to establish a new, predictable public-grant based adaptation finance commitment under the GGA decision at COP30 that responds to the needs of developing countries, [estimated to be over US\\$ 300 billion per year by 2035](#);
- Significantly scale up their provision of finance, capacity building and technology transfer for the formulation of NAPs, and its implementation;
- Embedding Indigenous knowledge, rights, and leadership in national adaptation efforts; and



- Supporting locally-led adaptation initiatives through direct, flexible, and accessible funding channels.

Delivering a robust outcome on adaptation at COP30 would show that the countries including Canada are serious about protecting people, ecosystems, and economies in the face of accelerating climate impacts.

Loss and Damage

The Fund for responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD) was operationalized at COP28 and hailed as a major step forward for supporting people on the front lines of the climate crisis. While some procedural progress has been made in 2024, important decisions that will allow the Fund to actually start supporting people who have experienced climate change-induced harm are yet to be taken. These include how the funds will be allocated, who will be able to access them and how this access can be facilitated and simplified, the triggers for finance release and what financial instruments will be used to provide funding.

To date, the Fund remains severely underfunded in the light of loss and damage needs. It has so far just garnered around USD 680 million in pledges, only a fraction of which is new or additional to existing climate finance commitments.

The International Court of Justice Advisory Opinion 2025 clarified that developed countries have a legal obligation to provide finance, capacity-building, and technology transfer for loss and damage. COP30 must translate this into action. This includes:

- Permanent agenda for loss and damage: Establish a permanent COP/CMA agenda item to maintain political focus on escalating climate impacts and human and economic losses.
- Scaling up and delivering on loss and damage must include new and additional finance dedicated to loss and damage through the FRLD at scale.
- A clear political signal that the Fund's Resource Mobilization Strategy will meet the scale of need—at least US\$400 billion per year—with clarity on pathways to achieve it.

At COP30, Canada must:

- Commit to predictable, grant-based contributions to the FRLD;
- Support participatory, rights-based approaches in the Fund's governance;
- Ensure domestic and international action are aligned to demonstrate leadership and credibility.



Mobilize for the most inclusive COP and prioritize efforts led by local actors, allies in the Global South, and in support of Indigenous sovereignty

Around the world, there has been a decrease in civic space for people to practice their right to freedom of expression and freedom of assembly. Without creating and protecting civic space, the distrust between governments and people widens, and collaborative efforts to address climate change are undermined, leaving out the critical voices of those disproportionately impacted by climate change from decision-making spaces.

This includes the very crucial civic space in which we collectively engage at UNFCCC: COPs. The SB58 and SB60 Arrangements for Intergovernmental Meetings (AIM) conclusions confirmed that Host Country Agreements (HCA) should reflect obligations under international human rights law and enable inclusive and effective participation of Parties and observer organizations to ensure that human rights and fundamental freedoms are promoted and protected at UNFCCC meetings.

This year, in a commendable move and after calls from civil society, UNFCCC published the [Host Country Agreement with Brazil](#). Nevertheless, HCAs continue to fall short on demanding and guaranteeing explicit protections for freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and the right to protest, ensuring that all participants can voice their concerns without fear of retaliation. In [Amnesty International's words](#) “the agreement includes no explicit guarantee by Brazil to respect, protect and fulfil the rights to freedom of expression and of peaceful assembly outside the Blue Zone for people, whether Brazilian nationals or not, who wish to express their views, including on COP30.” This issue becomes even more pressing with [Brazil's track record of violence](#) against people defending environmental and land rights.

Inclusivity and accessibility have been central concerns to this COP. Despite calls to reconsider Belém as the host city for COP30, due to capacity and affordability concerns, Brazil decided to proceed with its original plan. Delegations from least developed countries and small island states, along with [civil society representatives and campaigners worldwide](#) with limited budgets, have complained that the high costs of attendance [will prevent them from attending COP30](#). For an international forum meant to lead global conversations on just transition for all and CBDR-RC-aligned processes, this exclusion by unaffordability defies the spirit of the process and prevents those invested the most in climate justice to attend decision-making rooms that impact them directly.

COP has suffered for years from the undue influence of fossil fuel and other Big Polluters industries whose profit-making depends on activities that harm the planet, [disinform and misinform the public](#), and pose major obstacles to achieving ambitious outcomes. This conflict of interest has been tolerated for years and consistently denounced from [civil society](#) and [UNFCCC rights-based constituencies](#). Ahead of COP30, UNFCCC has presented the option to all observers and climate action participants to (1) disclose their funding sources, and (2) to “declare their participation's alignment with the objective of the Convention and the goals and principles of the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement.” Nevertheless, as currently set, [the demands are presented as optional](#).



In the face of these continued inequities in COP spaces, civil society will be organizing to reclaim the conversation and centre the voices of those most affected by the climate crisis and intersecting injustices. A strong and ambitious civic space will be built and cultivated around the [People's Summit](#) (*Cúpula dos Povos*), which gathers 1100+ organizations mobilizing around social and climate justice ahead of and during COP30. On November 15, activists and civil society will take to the streets in Belém and around the world and march together as part of the Global Day of Action for Climate Justice.

CAN-Rac Team at COP30

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CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK
RÉSEAU ACTION CLIMAT
CANADA

Climate Action Network – Réseau action climat Canada (CAN-Rac) is the farthest-reaching network of organizations taking action on climate and energy issues in what is currently known as Canada. Our membership brings together organizations from coast to coast to coast, including First Nations, unions, local grassroots initiatives, faith groups, and environmental, social justice, development, health, and youth organizations.