

YHA SB64 POSITION STATEMENT AHEAD OF WEEK 2 IN BONN

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As Parties enter the second week of the Sixty-Fourth Sessions of the Subsidiary Bodies (SB64) in Bonn, Yanayi Haki Afriqya (YHA) welcomes the renewed focus on implementation emerging from the first week of negotiations. However, implementation cannot be discussed in isolation from equity, climate justice, and the means of implementation required by developing countries. For Africa, implementation must translate into tangible support for adaptation, loss and damage response, climate-resilient development, and a just transition that leaves no community behind.

Africa continues to experience disproportionate climate impacts despite contributing the least to historical greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore, decisions emerging from SB64 and leading toward COP31 must prioritize the needs, realities, and aspirations of African countries and vulnerable communities.

ADAPTATION MUST BECOME A POLITICAL PRIORITY

YHA is concerned that adaptation risks being overshadowed by other negotiating priorities despite being the foremost climate concern for many African countries. Adaptation planning is no longer the primary challenge; the greatest barrier is the lack of adequate, accessible, and predictable finance to implement adaptation measures on the ground.

We call for:

1. The operationalization of the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) with clear pathways for implementation.
2. Fulfilment of commitments to significantly increase adaptation finance and ensure resources reach frontline communities.
3. Greater support for National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), locally led adaptation initiatives, and resilience-building measures.
4. Recognition that adaptation finance must be grant-based, country-driven, and accessible to vulnerable countries and communities.

Africa requires adaptation outcomes that protect livelihoods, food systems, ecosystems, water resources, and public health while strengthening resilience against increasingly severe climate impacts.

LOSS AND DAMAGE: FROM RECOGNITION TO DELIVERY

The first week of SB64 highlighted growing recognition that the debate on Loss and Damage is no longer about whether support is needed, but how quickly and effectively it can be delivered.

YHA urges Parties to:

1. Accelerate capitalization and operationalization of the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage.
2. Ensure simplified access procedures for vulnerable countries and communities.
3. Provide predictable, grant-based public finance for addressing climate-induced losses and damages.
4. Maintain dedicated political attention to Loss and Damage within the UNFCCC architecture, including the Warsaw International Mechanism and the Santiago Network.

Communities across Africa are already experiencing irreversible losses resulting from floods, droughts, displacement, biodiversity loss, and ecosystem degradation. Justice demands that international support match the scale of these realities.

Climate Finance

Climate finance remains the defining issue for successful implementation. Ambitious commitments cannot be realized without corresponding financial support.

YHA calls for:

1. Full implementation of climate finance commitments under the Paris Agreement.
2. Increased public finance contributions from developed countries in line with their responsibilities and capabilities.
3. Improved access to finance for African countries through simplified procedures and reduced bureaucratic barriers.
4. Greater investment in adaptation, resilience, and loss and damage alongside mitigation.
5. Reforms that address high borrowing costs and fiscal constraints faced by developing countries.

Climate finance must be viewed not as charity but as a matter of climate justice, solidarity, and international responsibility.



Global Stocktake and Raising Ambition

The Global Stocktake remains a critical mechanism for assessing collective progress and guiding future climate ambition.

YHA calls for:

- 1.Strong alignment between GST outcomes and future NDC implementation.
- 2.Recognition of adaptation, loss and damage, and means of implementation as central pillars of climate action.
- 3.Use of GST findings to strengthen accountability and accelerate support for developing countries.
- 4.Integration of the best available science alongside local and Indigenous knowledge systems.

The second Global Stocktake must not merely evaluate progress but drive action capable of closing implementation gaps and protecting the 1.5°C goal.

Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE): The Heart of Climate Action

- 1.YHA reaffirms that Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) must move from the margins to the centre of climate implementation.
- 2.Education, public awareness, participation, access to information, and capacity building are essential for delivering effective climate action. Through initiatives such as Capacity Building and Skills Sharing for Climate Activists Program (CBSSCAP), the Climate Change Integration for Educators (CCiE) Program, communities are demonstrating how climate literacy can empower local action and strengthen resilience.
- 3.We call for:
- 4.An ambitious renewed ACE Action Plan.
- 5.Increased investment in climate education and youth engagement.
- 6.Stronger support for educators, community leaders, and civil society organizations.
- 7.Meaningful participation of youth, women, and frontline communities in climate decision-making processes.
- 8.Climate solutions become sustainable when people are informed, empowered, and actively involved.

Indigenous Peoples, Food Systems and Community Leadership

African Indigenous Peoples and local communities hold invaluable knowledge for adaptation, conservation, and resilience-building. Their rights, participation, and leadership must be respected across all climate processes.

YHA further emphasizes the importance of:

- 1.Protecting Indigenous rights and ensuring Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC).
- 2.Strengthening food security and climate-resilient agricultural systems.
- 3.Scaling support for community-led adaptation and ecosystem restoration.
- 4.Advancing gender-responsive and socially inclusive climate action.

Conclusion

As negotiations move into Week 2, YHA urges Parties to focus on outcomes that deliver real benefits for people and communities on the frontlines of the climate crisis. Implementation must be accompanied by finance, equity, accountability, and justice.

Africa does not need more promises. Africa needs delivery.

The success of SB64 and the pathway toward COP31 will ultimately be measured not by the number of meetings held or texts produced, but by whether vulnerable communities receive the support, resources, and opportunities necessary to build a resilient and climate-just future.

YHA stands in solidarity with African countries, civil society, youth, women, Indigenous Peoples, and frontline communities in calling for ambitious, equitable, and people-centred climate action.