

Comprehensive Report: Planning and Coordination for the Second African Climate Summit (ACS2)

Meeting Date: July 8, 2025

Event Dates: September 5–10, 2025

Location: ZOOM

Overview

The Second African Climate Summit 2 was announced to take place from September 5 to 10, 2025, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The summit was aimed at addressing climate change challenges on the continent, promoting equitable solutions, and mobilizing climate finance. The preparatory process began as early as April 2025, with coordinated engagement between the **Ethiopian government**, the **African Union**, and **non-state actors**, who were invited to contribute through various functional committees.

The summit planning emphasized **inclusivity**, **green development**, and the **active participation of marginalized and vulnerable populations**, including women, children, indigenous peoples, and persons with disabilities.

Key Themes Discussed

Participants reported a commitment to ensuring that the summit would not only address climate finance and policy but also reflect the lived realities of African communities. Several speakers underscored the importance of cross-sector collaboration and equitable representation in climate decision-making.

Technical issues encountered during one of the virtual planning meetings were noted as challenges, highlighting the need for improved communication infrastructure and earlier information dissemination before future meetings.

Committee Structure and Cluster Coordination

It was reported that the summit's organizational framework was built around **functional committees and thematic clusters**. Each cluster was tasked with preparing action plans aligned with their area of focus, such as:

- Women
- Youth and children
- Indigenous peoples

- Academia and research
- Workers and trade unions
- Volunteers and civic groups

Cluster leaders had reportedly begun drafting terms of reference and preliminary activity plans since April and May. These documents were under ongoing review to ensure alignment with the broader objectives of the summit.

Inclusivity and Participation

The need to map all relevant **state and non-state actors** at national and regional levels was highlighted, with the aim of ensuring that no stakeholders were excluded from the process. Special emphasis was placed on ensuring that the summit platform included grassroots voices, particularly:

- Women from climate-impacted communities
- Youth-led organizations
- Children's representatives
- Marginalized and underrepresented groups

The summit planning team also advocated for a **children's segment** during the event and encouraged the addition of clusters that had not initially been considered, such as workers and labor unions.

Actions Taken and Agreed Next Steps

The following actions and points were reported as key takeaways and decisions:

1. **Cluster Registration and Contact Collection:**
A registration form was launched to gather names, affiliations, contact details, and cluster interests. This was intended to facilitate communication and cluster coordination.
2. **Terms of Reference Development:**
Each cluster had been tasked with finalizing their terms of reference (ToR), to clarify their roles, responsibilities, and expected deliverables.
3. **Action Plan Drafts:**
Several clusters had submitted their action plans, which were being reviewed for consistency and impact.
4. **Youth Mobilization:**
Plans were reportedly underway for a **pre-summit youth mobilization event**, with the goal of galvanizing young people across Africa to engage meaningfully in the summit's agenda.
5. **Platform Engagement:**
The planning committee encouraged those not present during the virtual session to still register their interest via the shared platform link.
6. **Communication and Coordination:**
The need for improved coordination between national focal points and the continental

secretariat was reiterated. It was recommended that meetings be communicated in advance, with clear agendas and technical support.

7. **Cluster Alignment:**

Clusters were encouraged to revisit and align their naming conventions and structures to avoid duplication or overlap.

8. **Documentation and Summit Agenda Shaping:**

All inputs gathered from the various clusters were to be synthesized into a consolidated report to shape the summit's final agenda.

Conclusion

The preparatory discussions for the African Climate Summit 2 reflected a strong commitment to **equity, inclusivity, and grassroots engagement**. Organizers and participants underscored the importance of giving voice to **non-state actors**, particularly those most affected by climate change. The summit planning was structured to ensure that contributions from every constituency, youth, women, children, indigenous peoples, academia, civil society, and labor, were effectively captured and represented in the final summit framework.

The meeting concluded with a shared understanding that the successful delivery of the summit would depend on **coordinated action, inclusive representation, and timely follow-through** on all preparatory steps.