



Meeting Report: African Climate Summit 2025 – Strategic Collaboration Meeting with GCSAYN

Date of Meeting: July 1, 2025

Location: Virtual

Participants: Mr. Yonas (Host Government, Ethiopia), Mr. Divine Ntiokam (Executive Director, GCSAYN), Mr. Takele, Ms. Dorcas, Mr. Basit

1. Background

The meeting was convened to advance collaboration efforts ahead of the **African Climate Summit (ACS)** scheduled for **8–10 September 2025** in **Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**. The summit, which follows a preparatory engagement held in May, aims to elevate Africa’s unified voice on climate action while promoting inclusive, solution-oriented participation from civil society, youth, and development actors.

2. Government of Ethiopia Update

Mr. Yonas, representing the host government, provided the following updates:

- Multiple **technical and thematic committees** have been formed by the **Prime Minister’s Office** and the **Organizing Committee**.
- **14 active clusters** are in place, covering key sectors such as agriculture, finance, women-led movements, disability inclusion, displaced persons, and UN collaboration.
- A **participatory and inclusive planning framework** has been adopted to avoid bias and ensure local ownership.
- Seven working groups are being formed to support detailed documentation and implementation.
- The government intends to ensure **global relevance** while maintaining strong **African leadership**.

He also noted that his organization was nominated to chair the program, reflecting confidence in his leadership during prior engagements such as the 2023 African Climate Summit.

3. GCSAYN Presentation and Contributions

Mr. Divine Ntiokam, Executive Director of the **Global Climate Smart Agriculture Youth Network (GCSAYN)**, shared the following key points:

- Highlighted GCSAYN's robust experience in managing international events, citing collaboration with organizations like **FAO**, and emphasized the organization's **global presence** through **76 Centers of Excellence**.
- Stressed the **transformative role of agriculture** in Africa's development and called for an action-driven, youth-led approach.
- Introduced the **GCSAYN Ambassadors for Change Program**, and referenced past efforts to **translate SDGs into local languages** to promote inclusion.
- Emphasized GCSAYN's readiness to **activate local partnerships** upon government approval and expressed enthusiasm for deeper collaboration with Ethiopia.
- Requested the inclusion of **GCSAYN's logo** on promotional materials and committed to submitting a **concept note** by U.S. evening time.
- Highlighted the need for this summit to reflect **African-led priorities**, with practical outcomes for the continent.

Mr. Divine also reiterated that his presence and efforts abroad are rooted in a mission to impact Africa positively. He shared that GCSAYN had postponed its own discussion group to fully engage in this coordination meeting.

4. Additional Contributions

Other speakers, including **Mr. Takele, Ms. Dorcas, and Mr. Basit**, reaffirmed their commitment to support GCSAYN's participation in the Summit and emphasized readiness to contribute to planning and implementation.

New action points and insights included:

- Involving **primary schools, technical institutes, and universities** globally.
- Establishing **demo farms and physical offices** at Centers of Excellence.
- Empowering youth to **declare their future aspirations** and contribute to policy framing.
- Creating a **youth position paper** that reflects shared goals and demands.
- Encouraging collaboration with faith-based organizations and **interface councils**.
- Integrating **climate change adaptation** with **disaster risk reduction** within civil society networks.
- Prioritizing **action-oriented** engagement over advocacy alone.
- Mobilizing GCSAYN's full network toward upcoming global summits and discussions.

5. Host Government Proposals

Mr. Yonas expressed satisfaction with the discussion and extended two cluster leadership opportunities to GCSAYN:

1. **Youth Movement Cluster**
2. **Media Cluster**

He confirmed that state actors have endorsed GCSAYN's involvement and requested a formal **concept note** to guide engagement.

6. Closing Remarks

- Mr. Divine welcomed the proposal and promised prompt submission of the concept note.
- He reiterated that his work is passion-driven and focused on measurable impact.
- Mr. Yonas acknowledged GCSAYN's strong organizational structure and youth leadership and looked forward to future engagements.

7. Summary of Action Points

Action	Responsible Party	Deadline
Submit concept note for Youth & Media Clusters	GCSAYN	Within 24 hours
Include GCSAYN logo in summit materials	Host Government	As agreed
Mobilize Centers of Excellence for summit participation	GCSAYN Secretariat	Ongoing
Prepare a youth position paper for ACS 2025	GCSAYN Youth Team	August 2025
Launch thematic discussion groups	GCSAYN	July 2025
Develop physical demo farms and local engagement offices	GCSAYN Centers	Q3–Q4 2025

Conclusion

The meeting concluded with a shared commitment to inclusivity, meaningful youth involvement, and a focus on **Africa-driven solutions** for climate action. All parties expressed strong alignment and enthusiasm for a successful **African Climate Summit 2025**.