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Agenda item 3

**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

Resolution adopted by the Human Rights Council on 6 July 2026

62/14. Human rights and climate change

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,

Reaffirming that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

Recalling the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its commitment to leave no one behind, including, inter alia, its Goal 13 on taking urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts,

Recalling also the Pact for the Future and its annex the Declaration on Future Generations, which underscore the responsibility of present generations to safeguard the needs and interests of future generations,

Reaffirming the Sevilla Commitment of the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, which sets a renewed global framework for financing for development, building on the 2015 Addis Ababa Action Agenda,

Recalling all previous Human Rights Council resolutions on human rights and climate change, and taking note of the panel discussions and reports mandated by those resolutions,

Reaffirming the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement adopted under the Convention,¹ and the objective and principles thereof,

Recalling that the Paris Agreement² acknowledges that climate change is a common concern of humankind and that Parties should, when taking action to address climate change,

¹ See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

² Adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; see FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.



respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights, the right to health, the rights of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, migrants, children, persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations and the right to development, as well as gender equality, the empowerment of women and intergenerational equity,

Acknowledging the need to respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on the right to life, the right to food, the right to water and sanitation, the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, the rights of children, older persons, youth, peasants, and people living in developing States, least developed countries and small island developing States, and in conditions of water scarcity, desertification, land degradation and drought, as well as the empowerment of girls,

Stressing the importance of holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and of pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, while recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change,

Recalling paragraph 7 of decision 1/CMA.7, in which the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement underscored that the risks and impacts of climate change will be much lower at the temperature increase of 1.5 °C compared with 2 °C and reiterated its resolve to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C, to limit both the magnitude and the duration of any temperature overshoot, and to close adaptation gaps,

Noting with serious concern the findings contained in the synthesis report of the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change³ and the findings from the contribution of Working Group II to the Assessment Report, stating that climate change is a threat to human well-being and planetary health, and that any delay in concerted anticipatory global action on adaptation and mitigation will miss a brief and rapidly closing window of opportunity to secure a liveable and sustainable future,

Reaffirming the commitment to realize the full, effective and sustained implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement adopted under the Convention, including in the context of sustainable development, in order to achieve the ultimate objective of the Convention,

Stressing the urgency of implementing the commitments undertaken under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement regarding mitigation, adaptation and the provision and mobilization of finance, technology transfer and capacity-building to developing countries, and emphasizing also that realizing the goals of the Paris Agreement would enhance the implementation of the Convention and help to ensure the greatest possible adaptation and mitigation efforts in order to avert, minimize and address loss and damage from the adverse impacts of climate change on present and future generations,

Acknowledging that, as stated in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible cooperation by all countries and their participation in an effective and appropriate international response, in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities and their social and economic conditions, and acknowledging also that article 2 (2) of the Paris Agreement states that the Agreement will be implemented to reflect equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances,

Noting, as stated in the Paris Agreement, the importance for some of the concept of “climate justice” when taking action to address climate change,

Recalling the unanimous advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 23 July 2025 on the obligations of States in respect of climate change and the advisory opinion

³ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, *Climate Change 2023: Synthesis Report. Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* (Geneva, 2023).

of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea of 21 May 2024 on climate change and international law, as well as the final report of the International Law Commission Study Group on sea-level rise in relation to international law,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 80/263 of 20 May 2026 on the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the obligations of States in respect of climate change, including the preambular paragraph recalling the Court's findings on the most directly relevant applicable law governing States' obligations in respect of climate change,

Recalling further Assembly resolution 76/300 of 28 July 2022 on the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment,

Emphasizing the importance of the work of the scientific community and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, including its assessment reports and special reports, in support of strengthening the global response to climate change, including considering the human dimension, and Indigenous Peoples', peasants' and local communities' knowledge,

Acknowledging that, as stated in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, responses to climate change should be coordinated with social and economic development in an integrated manner, with a view to avoiding adverse impacts on the latter, taking into full account the legitimate priority needs of developing countries for the achievement of sustained economic growth and the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing the specific needs and circumstances of developing countries, and taking fully into account the special circumstances of least developed countries and small island developing States,

Recognizing also that poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is one of the greatest global challenges, and that eradicating poverty and ending hunger and malnutrition are critical to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and climate change resilience, in the face of loss and damage brought about by extreme weather and slow-onset events, as well as to the promotion and protection of human rights, inter alia, the full realization of the right to an adequate standard of living, and maintaining resilient livelihoods, particularly of people living in developing countries, including least developed countries, small island developing States, and other climate-vulnerable countries who are disproportionately affected by the negative impacts of climate change,

Expressing extreme concern that climate change poses severe and irreversible threats to countries, and the enjoyment of human rights of the present generation and the needs and interests of future generations, and has already had adverse impacts on the full and effective enjoyment of the human rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights instruments,

Emphasizing that the adverse effects of climate change have a range of implications, both direct and indirect, that increase with greater global warming, for the effective enjoyment of human rights, including, inter alia, the right to life, the right to adequate food, the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, the right to adequate housing, the right to self-determination, the rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, the right to work, the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment and the right to development, and recalling that in no case may a people be deprived of its own means of subsistence,

Expressing concern that, while these implications affect individuals and communities around the world, they directly and disproportionately affect women and girls, children, youth, older persons, persons with disabilities, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, people of African descent, migrants, persons living in poverty and others in vulnerable situations, including those segments of the population that are already in vulnerable situations owing to factors such as geography, race, ethnicity, or minority status where applicable, national or social origin, birth or other status, among others,

Recalling that the Paris Agreement recognizes that Parties may be affected not only by climate change, but also by the impacts of the measures taken in response to it, and

emphasizes the intrinsic relationship that climate change actions, responses and impacts have with equitable access to sustainable development and eradication of poverty,

Acknowledging that adaptation is an urgent priority and a global challenge faced by all countries, in particular developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, and recognizing that the current need for adaptation is significant, and that greater levels of mitigation can reduce the need for additional adaptation efforts, and that greater adaptation needs can involve greater adaptation costs, and reaffirming that the provision of scaled-up financial resources should aim to achieve balance between adaptation and mitigation,

Stressing the importance of global solidarity in undertaking adaptation efforts, including long-term transformational and incremental adaptation, towards reducing vulnerability and enhancing adaptive capacity and resilience, as well as the collective well-being of all people, the protection of livelihoods and economies, and the preservation and regeneration of nature, for current and future generations,

Reaffirming that national adaptation processes should facilitate country-owned and country-driven action guided by the best available science and the importance of consideration of gender, human rights, intergenerational equity and social justice, and participatory and fully transparent approaches to adaptation,

Recognizing that the erosion of livelihoods through, inter alia, the destruction of homes and infrastructure and loss of property and income, human health and food security, partly caused by the adverse effects of climate change, is a push factor for displacement, human mobility and migration,

Recognizing also climate change as one of the drivers of disaster risk and the urgent need to effectively implement the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 through policies and programmes that integrate sustainable development and climate adaptation strategies, incorporating considerations regarding the risk of disaster displacement, in accordance with national circumstances,

Reaffirming States' obligation to, within their jurisdiction, uphold the human rights of individuals displaced due to sudden and slow-onset climate events within and across borders, in accordance with applicable international law,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 79/128 of 4 December 2024 which decided to conclude by 2027 a legally binding instrument on the protection of persons in the event of disasters,

Emphasizing that social security is a human right and a potent tool in the promotion of social inclusion and human dignity as well as in enhancing adaptive capacity and livelihood resilience, especially of the most marginalized, and underscoring that efforts to progressively realize the right to social security should be inclusive and accessible to all,

Acknowledging with concern the significant and widening gaps in climate financing for adaptation, mitigation and for responding to loss and damage, including economic and non-economic losses, particularly for developing countries, including least developed countries, small island developing States and other climate-vulnerable developing countries, and further expressing concern that these gaps constrain the capacity of States that are already lacking in resources to implement adaptation plans and nationally determined contributions, which may lead to higher exposure to extreme weather events and slow-onset events undermining the enjoyment of human rights,

Expressing concern that stringent conditions, high transaction costs, complex reporting and lengthy approval processes for climate finance continue to seriously impede the timely access to adaptation funds,

Reaffirming that the provision, mobilization, management and disbursement of climate finance should be guided by solidarity, climate justice, equitable access, transparency, adequacy, and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities,

Taking into account the imperatives of a just transition of the workforce and the creation of decent work and quality jobs in accordance with nationally defined development priorities,

Recognizing that States should cooperate on promoting a supportive and open international economic system aimed at achieving sustainable economic growth and development in all countries, and thus enabling them to better address the problems of climate change, and noting that measures taken to combat climate change, including unilateral ones, should not constitute a means of arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination or a disguised restriction on international trade,

Emphasizing the importance of appropriate remedies for loss and damage caused by climate change and environmental degradation to redress harm and associated violations of human rights,

Reaffirming that the effective and robust implementation of the new collective quantified goal on climate finance is essential for advancing global climate objectives and achieving a just transition through adequate adaptation efforts and mitigation measures in developing countries, and recalling the Baku to Belém Roadmap to 1.3T,

Stressing the importance of the full, equal, meaningful and safe participation of women, including older women, Indigenous women and girls, national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minority women and girls, and women with disabilities, in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policy and decision-making processes, including the provision and mobilization of financial resources in preventing and tackling the crisis,

Noting that, in the context of taking action to address climate change and its adverse effects, the human rights obligations as enshrined in the relevant international human rights instruments provide roles for States as duty bearers to respect, protect and fulfil human rights, and other responsibility bearers, including businesses, have the responsibility to respect human rights,

Acknowledging the importance of technical assistance and capacity-building for States, upon their request, in upholding human rights in the context of climate change mitigation, adaptation and in averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage, through an age-, disability- and gender-responsive approach, taking into consideration national needs and priorities in consultation with the concerned States,

Welcoming the decisions adopted at the thirtieth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,

Looking forward to the adoption of more effective decisions at the thirty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, to be held in Antalya, Türkiye, on 9–20 November 2026,

Noting with appreciation the work of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as well as of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights, in the context of climate change, taking note of the mandate holder's most recent reports,⁴

Welcoming the convening of a panel discussion, held pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 59/25 of 8 July 2025, on facilitating actionable pathways for gaining momentum in climate financing in the context of addressing the adverse impacts of climate change on the full realization of human rights for all people, and ways forward to address the challenges thereto, as well as on best practices and lessons learned,

Reaffirming that prioritizing equity, climate justice, social justice, inclusion and just transition processes, when supported by the provision and mobilization of adequate

⁴ A/HRC/59/42, on the imperative of defossilizing our economies, A/HRC/59/42/Add.1 and A/80/188.

resources, can enable adaptation and ambitious mitigation actions and climate-resilient development, and emphasizing that adaptation outcomes are enhanced by increased support to regions and people with the highest vulnerability to climatic hazards, and that integrating climate adaptation into shock-responsive social protection programmes improves resilience,

1. *Expresses grave concern* that climate change has contributed and continues to contribute to the increased frequency and intensity of both extreme weather events and slow-onset events that adversely affect the enjoyment of human rights of the present generation and the needs and interests of future generations;

2. *Emphasizes* the importance of continuing to address urgently climate change and its adverse consequences for present and future generations, particularly in developing countries and for the people most vulnerable to climate change;

3. *Calls upon* all States to respect and ensure the effective enjoyment of human rights of peoples and individuals under international law, by taking necessary measures to protect the climate system and other parts of the environment;

4. *Recognizes* that the decisions, actions and inactions of present generations have an intergenerational multiplier effect, and resolves to ensure that present generations act with responsibility towards safeguarding the needs and interests of future generations;

5. *Encourages* States that are not parties to the Paris Agreement to ratify, accept, approve or accede to it;

6. *Recognizes* the importance for all countries of averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including extreme weather events and slow-onset events, and the role of sustainable development in reducing the risk of loss and damage;

7. *Urges* the replenishment of the Santiago Network and the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage to assist developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change in responding to loss and damage associated with the adverse impacts of climate change, in the context of relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement;

8. *Calls for* deep and rapid cuts in global emissions and enhanced adaptation action and support to avert, minimize and address loss and damage from extreme weather and slow-onset climate events that have an adverse impact on the enjoyment of human rights;

9. *Calls upon* countries to contribute to the global efforts as outlined in paragraph 28 (a) to (h) of decision 1/CMA.5,⁵ in line with 1.5°C pathways and in a nationally determined manner, taking into account the Paris Agreement and their different national circumstances, pathways and approaches, and stresses the importance of reflecting equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities in the light of different national circumstances;

10. *Calls upon* all States to adopt a country-driven, people-centred, comprehensive, integrated, gender-responsive, age-inclusive and disability-inclusive approach to climate change adaptation and mitigation policies based on the best available science, consistent with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement adopted under the Convention and the objective and principles thereof, to address efficiently the economic, cultural and social impact and human rights challenges that climate change presents, for the full and effective enjoyment of human rights for all;

11. *Calls upon* States to better promote the human rights of persons in vulnerable situations, their inclusion in risk reduction decision-making and their access to livelihoods, food and nutrition, safe drinking water and sanitation, social protection, healthcare services and medicines, education and training, adequate housing and decent work, clean and low-emission energy, science and technology, including digital technology and early warning systems, in the light of the right of everyone to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and

⁵ See FCCC/PA/CMA/2023/16/Add.1.

its applications, and ensure that services can be adapted to emergency and humanitarian contexts;

12. *Urges* States to strengthen adaptation and disaster risk reduction strategies that reduce vulnerability, support resilience and address displacement, human mobility and migration in the context of climate change, including by facilitating safe, voluntary and dignified movement in accordance with applicable international law and by addressing protection gaps affecting persons moving across borders, especially women and girls, older persons and persons with disabilities;

13. *Calls upon* States to fulfil their obligations of international cooperation in addressing climate change, including in enhancing support for developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, and reiterates the urgency of scaling up action and support, in particular in financing, the transfer of technology and capacity-building for mitigation, adaptation, and averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage;

14. *Calls upon* States and all relevant stakeholders, with developed countries taking the lead, to promote equitable access to finance and resources for enhancing the adaptive capacities of the most affected communities, including by providing new, additional, quality, predictable, flexible and grants-based climate funding to developing countries, including dedicated assistance for debt-stressed countries, in accordance with the principle of equity, climate justice and the right to development, as a progressive implementation of the obligations of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement;

15. *Urges* States to take urgent effective measures to fulfil, at the minimum, the new collective quantified goal on climate finance, adopted at the twenty-ninth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Baku, and to cooperate in implementing the Baku to Belém Roadmap to 1.3T aiming at scaling up climate finance to developing country Parties to support low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development pathways and implement the nationally determined contributions and national adaptation plans;

16. *Encourages* States, development partners, international financial institutions, multilateral development banks and other financial actors to enhance equitable and simplified access to climate finance, including through direct access arrangements, increased small grant financing, timely concessional and low-cost financial resource mobilization schemes, and fair debt relief and other fiscal space-related measures;

17. *Encourages* States to accelerate reforms of the international financial architecture, including the discussion on a United Nations framework convention on international tax cooperation, to support pathways for climate resilient development;

18. *Urges* States, consistent with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, to uphold the principle of corporate responsibility to respect human rights, including the responsibility to avoid causing or contributing to adverse human rights impacts through business activities that may harm the environment and the climate system, in accordance with national pathways, circumstances and approaches;

19. *Calls upon* business enterprises, both transnational and others, as well as international financial institutions, to meet their responsibility to respect human rights, including in the context of climate change and the environment, in conformity with their respective national laws;

20. *Encourages* States to implement human rights education initiatives with respect to the environment and climate change, taking into consideration the World Programme for Human Rights Education;

21. *Reaffirms* its commitment to the safe, full, and meaningful participation of civil society in climate action and the work of the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms in the context of climate change, conducted in a regular, systematic, inclusive, accessible and transparent manner;

22. *Recalls* Human Rights Council resolution 47/24 of 14 July 2021, in which the Council decided to incorporate into its annual programme of work, beginning in 2023, at a minimum a panel discussion, decides that the annual panel discussion to be held at the sixty-fifth session shall be focused on “Human rights and climate adaptation: challenges, good practices, and recommendations on actionable pathways to safeguard the enjoyment of human rights of the present generation and the needs and interests of future generations”, and also decides that the panel discussion will have International Sign interpretation and captioning;

23. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to submit a summary report on the panel discussion held at the sixty-fifth session to the Human Rights Council at its sixty-seventh session, and to make the report available in accessible formats, including in easy-to-read versions;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with and taking into account the views of States, the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Meteorological Organization, the International Labour Organization, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and other relevant international organizations and intergovernmental bodies, including the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and other stakeholders, to prepare an analytical study on “Human rights and climate adaptation: challenges, good practices, and recommendations on actionable pathways to safeguard the enjoyment of human rights of the present generation and the needs and interests of future generations”, and to submit the report to the Council at its sixty-sixth session, to be followed by an interactive dialogue, and also requests the Secretary-General to make the report available in accessible formats, including in easy-to-read versions;

25. *Encourages* relevant special procedure mandate holders to continue to consider the issue of climate change and human rights, including the adverse impact of climate change on the full and effective enjoyment of human rights, particularly the rights of persons in vulnerable situations, within their respective mandates;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner to provide all the human, technical and financial assistance necessary for the effective and timely realization of the above-mentioned panel discussion, reports and interactive dialogue;

27. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

*32nd meeting
6 July 2026*

[Adopted without a vote.]
