AGN BI-ANNUAL NEWSLETTER



January - June, 2026 **Vol.1**



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TOP NEWS

AGN Participates in Bonn SB64

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In that respect, we are particularly concerned that some Parties appear to be waiting and positioning themselves for a big moment at GST-2.

WELCOME TO THE AGN BIANNUAL NEWSLETTER

Dear Reader,

Strengthening Africa's Unity in a Fragmenting Global Climate System.

The first half of 2026 has been a defining period for the African Group of Negotiators on Climate Change (AGN), marked by intensified coordination, strategic alignment, and renewed calls for African unity in global climate negotiations.

Across engagements, I have, consistently emphasised that Africa must remain united and strategically focused at a time when global multilateralism is under increasing strain.

A key message that has guided all engagements is that, Africa cannot afford fragmentation in a world where cooperation is weakening.

With Africa among the most vulnerable regions to climate change impacts, the AGN has prioritised strengthening internal coordination and ensuring that as a continent we speak with one voice across all negotiation platforms.

Drawing on the wealth of knowledge and experience across the AGN's membership, climate scientists, lawyers, economists, and diplomats from across all 54 African nations, I will ensure Africa's voice is not merely heard in global negotiations, but genuinely respected.

Later this year, countries will gather at a major UN climate conference in November, where decisions on climate finance, support for vulnerable nations, and accountability for historic emissions will once again be fiercely contested.

Africa will need to walk into that room speaking with one voice, clear, united, and impossible to ignore.

Together with your support I am determined to make sure it does.
We are grateful to all partners who supported our endeavour.
Enjoy reading about our key activies.

HANDSHAKES WITH PURPOSE: AFRICA'S CLIMATE CHAIR OPENS A NEW CHAPTER

Days after assuming the chairmanship of the African Group of Negotiators on Climate Change (AGN), Nana Dr. Antwi-Boasiako Amoah was already deep in conversation, with the organisations whose cooperation will contribute keenly towards Africa achieving her goals in global climate negotiations over the next two years.



On the margins of the **39th Ordinary Session of the African Union Assembly of Heads of State and Government** in Addis Ababa, the new AGN Chair moved through a series of deliberate, focused meetings with some of the most partners in Africa's climate landscape.

Three Meetings. One Message

At the **International Organization for Migration**, the AGN delegation joined senior officials in reaffirming the importance of climate resilience and the deep connections between migration, displacement, and a warming continent. Madam Lisa Lim Ah Ken, IOM's Senior Specialist for Climate Action, welcomed the visit warmly, and left the room with a line that lingered.

"Africa has all the ingredients for its own independence. It has everything it needs, but it has not realised itself yet."

It was not a criticism. It was a challenge, and one the new AGN Chair appears ready to meet.



Nana Dr Amoah (Second Left) and IOM Team (Third Left) Madam Ken

At the **United Nations Office to the African Union**, Mr. Parfait Onanga-Anyanga, the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative to the AU, met with Nana Dr. Amoah and his team to explore something that does not always make it into climate discussions, the relationship between peace, security, and climate change.

It is a conversation Africa cannot afford to avoid. Resource conflicts, displacement, and environmental stress are not separate from climate, they are its consequences, playing out across the continent in real time.



Mr Onanga-Anyanga (Second Left) and his team welcomed Nana Dr Amoah (Second Right) and AGN Officials

At the **United Nations Environment Programme,** Dr. Rose Mwebaza, Director for Africa, and her team met with the AGN Chair to begin sketching the outline of something practical and potentially significant, a two-year plan to strengthen Africa's coordination, technical preparedness, and political engagement in global climate negotiations.

Nana Dr. Antwi-Boasiako Amoah was accompanied by Ms. Stella Okoh, Personal Assistant, and Mr. Xolisa Ngwadla, Technical Advisor to the AGN Chair. The African Group of Negotiators represents all 54 African Union member states in United Nations climate negotiations.

The AGN operates under the political guidance of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment and the Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change.

Its work covers the full range of issues that determine Africa's climate future, adaptation, climate finance, just transition, and sustainable development.



Dr. Rose Mwebaza, (Third Right) with AGN team led by Nana Dr Amoah (Fourth Right)

AFRICAN GROUP CHAIR'S STATEMENT AT THE SB 64 CLOSING PLENARY

Thank you, Chairs, for giving me the floor and for your hard work in navigating the complex issues in this session.

The African Group speaks on behalf of its 54 member states and well over 1.6 billion people - a predominantly youthful population. We support the statement made by the Oriental Republic of Uruguay on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

We came to SB 64 hoping for a shared sense of urgency and ambition - particularly on demonstrating that multilateralism works, and on addressing the headwinds our populations face from the strong El Niño projected by the WMO.

In that respect, we are particularly concerned that some Parties appear to be waiting and positioning themselves for a big moment at GST-2. For Africa, that is not an option. Antalya and Addis Ababa must deliver meaningful progress.

As a collective, we must send the correct political signal to the world and to our peoples.
I will illustrate this concern.

Adaptation
The African Group wishes to place on record its profound disappointment and deep concern regarding the manner in which discussions on the Global Goal on Adaptation have been conducted during this session. For Africa, the GGA is not a peripheral agenda item. It is the primary vehicle through which the international community is expected to advance adaptation action, strengthen resilience, and support implementation in response to the worsening climate impacts already being experienced across our continent.

The significance of this agenda demands a process that is transparent, inclusive, Party-driven, and grounded in genuine negotiations among Parties. The African Group cannot accept a situation where the most important adaptation agenda under the Convention and the Paris Agreement is repeatedly advanced through processes that do not allow for full and meaningful Party engagement.

If we are serious about implementation, then we must be equally serious about protecting the integrity, transparency, and Party-led nature of the negotiations that underpin it. We welcome the conclusions adopted under the Nairobi Work Programme.

We look forward to receiving the annual NWP progress reports, which should include information relevant to the implementation of activities under the NWP, including resources provided, partnerships established, and other contributions that have supported the implementation of the Programme.

Finance
The Africa Group remains deeply concerned with the declining climate finance flows, growing uncertainty around future support, and rising geopolitical tensions that are threatening international cooperation further widening the finance gap for developing countries.

These trends threaten the achievement of the NCQG, the fulfilment of developed countries' obligations under Article 9.1 of the Paris Agreement, and the scaling up of finance needed for adaptation, resilience, and sustainable development.

We therefore underscore the critical importance of renewed commitment to advance our work under the Climate Finance Work Programme which serve as a dedicated space to advance implementation and address persistent gaps in the provision of adequate, predictable, accessible, and grant-based climate finance. We look forward to the launch of the CFWP at CMA 8.

This is a prelude for increased confidence and trust in in multilateralism and international cooperation. We also express our deep disappointment that the transition of the Adaptation Fund to enable it to receive resources from Article 6.4 proceeds continues to be delayed by political considerations. While progress has been made in this session, there remains work to be done to unlock resources for adaptation. We call on all Parties to work together in a collective spirit to ensure that the transition is realised at SB65.

Further, developed country Parties must demonstrate greater commitment and urgency in providing and mobilising resources to support adaptation efforts in line with the tripling adaptation finance commitment. The Africa Group also notes with concern that SCF review continues to be kept in abeyance despite the clear mandate for the review is to be conducted by the COP, which weakens SCF's abilities to improve its work.

Just Transition
On just transitions, the African Group welcomes progress on the UAE JT Work Programme ToR and operationalization of the Just Transition Mechanism. For Africa, just transition means development first: poverty eradication, industrialization, energy access, and decent work. Africa cannot be left at the margins.

The JTM must enable equitable participation through value addition, beneficiation of critical minerals, technology transfer and development on concessional terms, and clean energy value chains. It must also identify and remove international barriers - finance gaps, trade rules, standards, and technology gaps -

AFRICAN GROUP CHAIR'S STATEMENT AT THE SB 64 CLOSING PLENARY (1)

...to support nationally determined pathways consistent with our development priorities and national circumstances, in line with CBDR-RC.

On the JT Work Programme, we welcome the ToR for the CMA8 review of its effectiveness and efficiency. We are concerned, however, at minimal progress on operationalizing the Just Transition Mechanism, a key priority for our Group.

Conflating or deferring JTM discussions under the review or other workstreams is unacceptable. These are separate mandates with distinct functions and must be treated accordingly. The intersessional work must focus squarely on JTM operationalization and deliver concrete outcomes at CMA8 that strengthen international cooperation and means of implementation for developing countries.

Action for Climate Empowerment

The AGN expresses its appreciation for the constructive engagement of Parties throughout this session, despite the considerable constraints under which the negotiations were conducted. However, we leave these meetings with disappointment that discussions did not sufficiently advance the priorities of the African Group, particularly the need to strengthen implementation of the Glasgow work programme through enhanced support for developing countries.

While the AGN engaged in good faith and remained committed to finding common ground, the limited flexibility demonstrated by some Parties constrained progress on issues of critical importance to Africa. The AGN is also concerned that budgetary considerations relating to the work of the secretariat had a disproportionate influence on the negotiations. While recognizing the importance of prudent resource management, we underscore that financial constraints should not undermine the mandates agreed by Parties or hinder the effective implementation of Action for Climate Empowerment.

Looking ahead, the AGN remains committed to working constructively with all Parties towards the adoption at COP31 of a robust, ambitious, and implementation-oriented ACE Action Plan that provides predictable financial and technical support for capacity-building, climate education, public awareness, public participation, access to information, international cooperation, and the empowerment of all stakeholders, particularly children and youth, women, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, Persons with disability, and the elderly across Africa.

Transparency

On transparency, the African Group is very disappointed by both the tone and outcome of deliberations here on the provision of support for reporting to developing countries.

We have felt that we were making real progress in these items in the past few years, but now we feel we have gone backwards, and trust, essential for making progress in this process, has been damaged. Transparency is one of the critical pillars of the Paris Agreement, and we are committed to ensuring the participation of everyone, committed to establishing and maintaining sustainable national reporting systems in our countries, to meet our International obligations, and to enhance our national policymaking processes.

We are surprised and disappointed that this commitment does not seem to be shared by many developed countries. The process to review and revise the MPGs must address the need to systematically report on adaptation needs and loss and damage, and must also tackle the lack of rigour in reporting on support provided.

Without adequate technical and financial support, as mandated, so much less is possible - which we will need to consider in the MPGs review process."

Capacity Building

On matters related to capacity-building, the Group welcomes the successful conclusion of negotiations on the Fifth Comprehensive Review of the implementation of the framework for capacity-building in developing countries under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol, the Sixth Reviews of the implementation of the framework for capacity-building in countries with economies in transition under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol, as well as the annual monitoring of the implementation of the framework for capacity-building under the Convention.

These outcomes reflect Parties' constructive engagement and shared commitment to strengthening the implementation of capacity-building activities. The AGN welcomes the recognition that gaps and needs remain in addressing the priority areas identified in the capacity-building framework and the agreed opportunity for further discussion on the effectiveness and efficiency of its implementation in light of national circumstances, emerging gaps and needs, and persistent challenges.

The AGN Group reiterates that capacity-building remains a critical enabler of climate action and underscores the importance of enhanced support, including financial, technical and capacity-related support, to strengthen the ability of developing country Parties to implement the Convention and the Paris Agreement.

AFRICAN GROUP CHAIR'S STATEMENT AT THE SB 64 CLOSING PLENARY (3)

Gender

The SB64 gender workshops advanced important work on disaggregated data collection, multi-stakeholder partnerships, and the strengthening of NGCCFP tools for mainstreaming gender into national strategies, plans and budgets, including raising awareness on readiness funding windows for developing fundable projects and programmes.

As such, ahead of SB65, the priority remains securing enhanced financial and technological support for the effective implementation of the Belém Gender Action Plan at the local and national level.

Global Stocktake

The Group welcomes the insightful views and experiences shared during the UAE Dialogue and the Annual GST Dialogue, and wishes to express its appreciation to the presenters, facilitators, SB Chairs, and the Secretariat for conducting both dialogues in a manner that elicited practical and useful information for Parties.

A clear message emerged from both dialogues: developing countries continue to demonstrate considerable effort and ambition in pursuit of the goals of the Paris Agreement.

What now requires stronger emphasis, in equal measure, is a renewed commitment to providing the support necessary to address the implementation gaps and the structural and systemic barriers that continue to constrain developing countries.

Agriculture

The African welcomes the consideration of the report by the Secretariat, and assert that the post-2026 mandate for agriculture and food security must be built upon the following priorities

o Accelerating Implementation: Moving beyond the "Joint Work" phase to a mandate focused on the rapid scaling of action on the ground.

o Deepening Collaboration: Strengthening the link between the UNFCCC and regional initiatives like AAI and FAST.

o Facilitating MOI Access: Ensuring technology transfer and concessional finance are no longer obstacles but catalysts for smallholders.

o Empowering COP Presidencies to maintain the political momentum necessary for long-term food security

THE CONTINENT MUST MOVE ADAPTATTION FROM PROMISES TO ACTION

Chair of the African Group of Negotiators on Climate Change (AGN), Nana Dr. Antwi-Boasiako Amoah, has called for urgent and practical action to strengthen climate adaptation efforts across Africa.

He cautioned that millions of vulnerable people on the continent are already bearing the devastating impacts of climate change.

Dr. Amoah says Africa could no longer afford fragmented and underfunded adaptation responses while communities continue to suffer worsening climate shocks.

Dr. Amoah was delivering the opening statement remotely at the Pan African Coalition for Adaptation and Resilience (PACAR 2026) Workshop in Athi River, Kenya.

"For Africa, this sequence must be treated not simply as a calendar of meetings, but as a pathway to move adaptation from recognition to implementation; from general commitments to measurable progress", he said.

"...and from fragmented pilot projects to scaled, financed and country-owned resilience programmes."



ACCRA HOSTS HIGH-LEVEL AFRICAN CLIMATE STRATEGY MEETING AHEAD OF COP31 AND COP32

Ghana hosted a three-day Strategic Meeting of the African Group of Negotiators (AGN), aimed at building a common voice going into the next two global climate summits with a plan, not just a presence.

The meeting brought together negotiators, national focal points, and partners from across the continent to sharpen Africa's position ahead of COP31 in Antalya, Türkiye and COP32 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Convened under the Ghana's chairmanship of the AGN, the first in-person strategic meeting delivered a roadmap to strengthen Africa's negotiating platform, sharpen continental priorities, and reinforce coordination within the AGN and the broader African three-tier negotiation structure.

Welcoming participants to Accra, Prof. Nana Ama Browne Klutse, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), described the meeting as timely and critical.

"Africa's strength in global climate negotiations has always been its unity. At this defining moment, we must reinforce that unity and ensure our collective voice continues to shape outcomes that reflect our realities and aspirations," she stated.

The meeting also recognises a historic milestone for Ghana, as Nana Dr. Antwi-Boasiako Amoah assumes leadership of the AGN.

Delivering the keynote address, Mr Baba Issifu Seidu, Minister of State at the Office of the President for Climate Change and Sustainability, stressed that the global climate process has entered a critical phase focused on implementation, accountability, and delivery.

"Africa must position itself not only as a participant, but as a driver of outcomes across all negotiation tracks," he said.

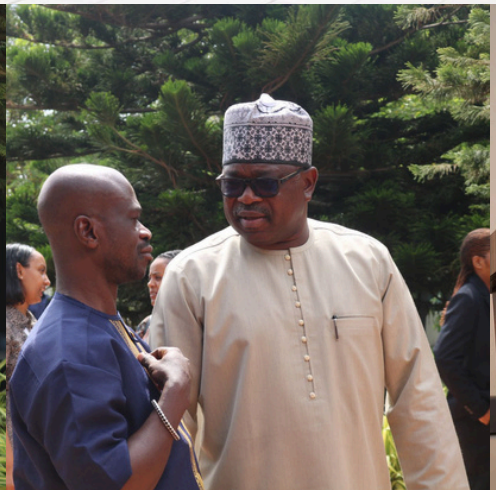
The Minister outlined priority areas for Africa's engagement, including: Advancing the Global Goal on Adaptation with measurable, flexible, and impact-driven indicators;

Ensuring clarity, adequacy, and accessibility of climate finance under the New Collective Quantified Goal.

"The future of Africa will not be defined by negotiations alone, but by how effectively we shape them," Hon. Seidu noted. "This is the moment for Africa to act with unity, purpose, and resolve."









AFRICA SOUNDS ALARM OVER DELAYS AND WEAKENING AMBITION AT SB64

The African Group of Negotiators (AGN) has issued a strong warning that developments at the ongoing UN Climate Change negotiations in Bonn, Germany, risk undermining both the urgency of climate action and confidence in the multilateral process.

Addressing the media at the 64th sessions of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Bodies (SB64), AGN Chair, Nana Dr. Antwi-Boasiako Amoah, expressed concern over attempts to defer substantive climate ambition until the second Global Stocktake in 2028, resistance to advancing commitments on adaptation finance, and procedural decisions that have excluded previously agreed mandates from formal agendas.

“Climate change is not a future event. It is an ongoing emergency.

Africa cannot wait for ambition to be deferred to another negotiation cycle,” said Nana Dr. Amoah.

“We are deeply concerned with the resistance from some partners to engage concretely on the tripling of adaptation finance agreed at COP 30; a commitment that itself built on the doubling target from Glasgow.

It is unacceptable that this hard-won commitment is at risk of being erased from the conclusions of the current session.

The conclusions of SB 64 must lay a clear pathway for COP 31 to formally reaffirm the Glasgow pledge and establish binding trajectories towards achieving the tripling of adaptation finance within a timeframe that is responsive to Africa’s urgent and escalating needs.”

The AGN Chair, pledged Africa’s continued constructive engagement in the negotiations.

He called for COP31 and COP32 to deliver measurable progress on adaptation finance, the operationalisation of carbon market mechanisms under Article 6.4, institutional arrangements for the Just Transition Mechanism, technology support, agriculture and food security, and implementation of the Global Goal on Adaptation.



EDUCATION IS A CLIMATE SOLUTION

Make this a newsletter story Chair of the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) on Climate Change, Nana Dr. Antwi-Boasiako Amoah, has called for climate education to be recognised as a critical pillar of Africa's climate response.

He described it as essential infrastructure for building resilience, empowering communities, and accelerating implementation of climate solutions across the continent.

Speaking at a UNFCCC SB64 side event organized by the Kingdom of Morocco on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and Climate Action in Africa, Dr. Amoah emphasised that climate education is not a peripheral issue but a strategic investment that enables people to understand climate risks, participate in solutions, and strengthen adaptation efforts.

Dr. Amoah noted that while climate finance, technology, adaptation planning, early warning systems, and loss and damage mechanisms are all important, their effectiveness ultimately depends on people's ability to understand and apply them.

“Climate education in Africa is not a side issue. It is part of our climate infrastructure. It helps people understand climate risks, make informed choices, and take action. Education is a climate solution.

It transforms awareness into action and equips communities with the knowledge and skills needed to build resilience. Climate action is lifelong. Climate learning must therefore be lifelong as well.”

Concluding his remarks, Dr. Amoah reaffirmed the AGN's commitment to advancing Action for Climate Empowerment and ensuring education remains central to climate action across the continent.

The side event brought together policymakers, educators, youth leaders, civil society organisations, and climate experts to explore how climate education and lifelong learning can support implementation of the Paris Agreement and strengthen resilience across Africa.



PUTTING AFRICAN WOMEN AT THE CENTRE OF CLIMATE NEGOTIATIONS

African women must speak with one coordinated voice if the continent is to secure stronger outcomes in global climate negotiations, according to the Chair of the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) on Climate Change, Nana Dr. Antwi-Boasiako Amoah.

Speaking during a dialogue with members of the Women and Gender Constituency on the sidelines of the UN climate meetings in Bonn, Germany, Dr. Amoah stressed that Africa's climate and development ambitions cannot be achieved without greater participation and leadership of women.

The engagement formed part of the AGN's broader efforts to ensure that diverse stakeholder perspectives shape Africa's negotiating positions ahead of key climate talks.

"Africa has more women than men, and women have unique circumstances and issues that need to be prioritised," Dr. Amoah said, emphasising that inclusive engagement remains one of his leadership priorities.

He encouraged African women to develop common positions on climate issues, noting that a united voice would strengthen the continent's influence during negotiations.

"If there is a position paper or a collective African women's voice on critical issues, it will carry significant weight in shaping negotiations in certain directions," he said.

Financing Women's Climate Leadership.

A major concern raised during the meeting was the persistent gap in climate finance. Dr. Amoah argued that calls for women's empowerment must be matched with adequate financial support to enable implementation at the community level.

"It is counterproductive to speak about supporting African women while blocking the means of implementation that allow those priorities to materialise at the local level," he noted.

He also reaffirmed the AGN's commitment to promoting merit-based representation while expanding opportunities for women to participate in climate governance and international negotiations.

Women Call for Greater Representation

Participants highlighted several barriers that continue to limit the effective participation of African women in global climate processes. These include underrepresentation in international climate institutions, limited leadership opportunities, inadequate transparency in recruitment processes and insufficient access to climate finance.

Madam Fatou Ndeye Geye, Lead Coordinator for Gender and Climate Change for the AGN, called for greater transparency on the representation of women from developing countries within international climate institutions.

She also expressed concern that limited financing is slowing implementation of the Gender Action Plan, particularly in Least Developed Countries, where resources for research, policy submissions and gender-disaggregated data remain scarce.

Madam Fatuma Hussein, Chief of Staff at Kenya's Office of the Special Envoy on Climate Change, urged that climate finance become more gender-responsive and accessible to women at the grassroots..

Meanwhile, Madam Ayaan Abdi Harare, Climate Finance Negotiator for Somalia, advocated stronger mentorship, training and knowledge-sharing programmes to prepare the next generation of African women climate negotiators and increase female representation in technical and leadership roles.

The dialogue concluded with a shared commitment to continue advancing women's leadership and ensuring that gender equality remains central to Africa's climate diplomacy and implementation efforts.





BILATERAL ENGAGEMENTS

At SB64, the Chair undertook several strategic bilateral engagements in the overall quest to push Africa's climate agenda. Some of the notable bilateral engagements included;

- Meeting with the EU Delegation on unlocking some key agenda items;
- Meeting with the Ethiopian government on collaboration ahead of COP32 next year;
- Meeting with COP31 Presidency designate on key agenda issues at COP31;
- Meeting with Like-Minded (LMDC) group on some agenda items of mutual interest;
- Meeting with the French delegation on strategic agenda items and importance of continuous engagements ahead of COP31;
- Meeting with African Civil Society organisations on the importance of civil society support to the process;
- Meeting with African Climate Foundation on technical support;
- Meeting with the Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa (AFSA) on technical support;
- Meeting with US climate envoys on how the US private and civil society sector could remain involved following the withdrawal of the US government from the climate processes;
- Meeting with the women constituency; and
- Meeting with NFPs.

MEETING WITH COP31 PRESIDENCY DESIGNATE ON KEY AGENDA ISSUES AT COP31



MEETING WITH AFRICAN CLIMATE FOUNDATION ON TECHNICAL SUPPORT



MEETING WITH FRENCH DELEGATION



MEETING WITH NATIONAL FOCAL PERSONS



WHY CLIMATE ACTION MUST ALSO DELIVER PEACE IN AFRICA

As climate impacts intensify across Africa, the continent is strengthening its call for climate action that not only protects the environment but also promotes peace, security and resilience.

That was the focus of a high-level consultative meeting convened by the African Union Commission (AUC) and the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) on Climate Change in Bonn, Germany, on 3 June 2026, ahead of the 64th session of the UN Climate Change Subsidiary Bodies (SB64).

The meeting was supported by the United Nations Office to the African Union, GIZ and other partners.
Bringing together climate negotiators, technical experts and representatives of key institutions, the meeting explored how Africa can better integrate climate, peace and security into its climate diplomacy and policy agenda.

AGN Chair, Nana Dr. Antwi-Boasiako Amoah, stressed that climate change is no longer only an environmental issue."Climate action is not only an environmental imperative; it is a resilience, stability and development imperative for Africa," he said.

He noted that for many African communities, the links between climate change, insecurity and displacement are part of everyday life, making it essential for the continent to respond with a united voice.

A key focus of discussions was the draft Common African Position on Climate Change, Peace and Security (CAP-CPS), which is expected to guide Africa's engagement on the growing risks posed by climate change.

The framework recognises that climate change can worsen existing vulnerabilities by increasing pressure on livelihoods, natural resources and fragile institutions, even though it is not a direct cause of conflict.

Participants agreed that climate, peace and security should become a cross-cutting issue across the UN climate negotiations, including discussions on adaptation, loss and damage, climate finance, technology transfer, transparency and just transition.

The meeting also highlighted the urgent need for greater financial support for countries and communities facing both climate shocks and insecurity.

"Africa needs climate action that is conflict-sensitive, peace-positive and adequately financed. Climate finance must reach the communities facing the greatest climate risks, including those in fragile and conflict-affected contexts," Dr. Amoah emphasised.

Looking ahead, participants identified four priority areas for continued collaboration: strengthening climate risk evidence and early warning systems; mobilising finance for implementation; improving policy coherence across climate, development and peacebuilding; and expanding partnerships with the United Nations, development partners and research institutions.

The meeting concluded with a renewed commitment by the African Union Commission, the African Group of Negotiators, the United Nations Office to the African Union and partners to finalise and operationalise the Common African Position and strengthen Africa's voice on climate, peace and security in the lead-up to COP31 and COP32.









AFRICA'S CARBON MARKET JOURNEY BEGINS WITH STRONGER NEGOTIATORS

As countries begin implementing the carbon market provisions of the Paris Agreement, the Chair of the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) on Climate Change, Nana Dr. Antwi-Boasiako Amoah, has called for sustained investment in building the technical capacity of African negotiators.

Speaking at the opening of the AGN Annual Article 6 Workshop in Bonn, Germany, Dr. Amoah said African countries must strengthen their understanding of carbon markets to fully benefit from opportunities under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.

The workshop, organised in partnership with Conservation International and the West and Eastern African Alliances on Carbon Markets and Climate Finance, brought together negotiators and technical experts ahead of the Bonn Climate Conference (SB64).

Describing carbon markets as one of the most technically demanding areas of the climate negotiations, Dr. Amoah said many African countries still need support to effectively implement Article 6 mechanisms.

"Carbon markets present important opportunities for Africa, but they remain a highly technical area that demands continuous learning and capacity strengthening.

Many African negotiators, and by extension our countries, still require significant support to fully understand and operationalise Article 6 mechanisms," he said.

The workshop comes at a pivotal moment as the focus shifts from negotiating the rules governing Article 6 to putting them into practice.

Recent decisions at the UN climate talks have provided greater operational guidance for both Articles 6.2 and 6.4, while the Article 6.4 Supervisory Body continues to develop standards and procedures for the new global carbon market mechanism.

Participants discussed practical issues that many African countries continue to face, including establishing national governance systems, authorisation procedures, reporting requirements and safeguards to ensure environmental integrity.

The workshop also provided a platform for countries to exchange experiences on implementing Article 6.2, examine emerging technical issues such as additionality, baselines, permanence and alignment with Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), and develop coordinated African positions on carbon markets.

Article 6 of the Paris Agreement provides countries with a framework for voluntary cooperation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and achieve their climate commitments through market and non-market approaches.

Strengthening Africa's technical capacity in this area is expected to help countries participate more effectively in high-integrity carbon markets while ensuring that climate projects contribute to sustainable development across the continent.







AGN LEAD COORDINATORS CONVENE IN BONN TO STRENGTHEN AFRICA'S NEGOTIATING POSITIONS AHEAD OF SB64

African climate negotiators had a days planning meeting for the recently ended 64th Sessions of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Bodies (SB64), with Lead Coordinators of the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) meeting in Bonn.

They aligned priorities, strengthen coordination, and consolidate Africa's positions across key negotiation tracks.

Opening the meeting, AGN Chair Nana Dr. Antwi-Boasiako Amoah called for unity, discipline and hard work as the Group enters a critical phase of the climate negotiations.

“Having been in the process for years, we all know the value of personal commitment and discipline in this process,” said Nana Dr. Amoah.

“Based on our strategic priorities across thematic areas and negotiating clusters discussed at the Accra meeting in March, the work ahead is huge and requires total dedication by all.”

Nana Dr. Amoah emphasised the importance of maintaining a coordinated African voice and ensuring that negotiators are fully prepared to advance the continent's priorities during the upcoming session.

The meeting brought together lead coordinators from the various thematic negotiation streams including

...to review key agenda items and assess progress in implementing the outcomes of the AGN Strategy Meeting held earlier this year in Accra, Ghana.

the thematic are adaptation, finance, loss and damage, mitigation, agriculture, climate and health, just transition, and article six among others,

Participants reflected on the agreed elements of the African Common Platform, which provides strategic guidance for Africa's engagement across the climate negotiations.

"Our strength lies in our unity and our ability to speak with one voice," said the Chair.

"The work we do here is critical to ensuring that Africa's priorities are effectively reflected in the negotiations and that our continent continues to advocate for ambitious and equitable climate action."

In preparation for high-level engagements scheduled during the session, coordinators were requested to adequately prepare to facilitate coordinated messaging and ensure consistency across all high-level interventions.

SB64 is expected to play a critical role in shaping the pathway toward COP31, and ultimately, COP32 to be hosted in Africa, providing an opportunity for Parties to advance progress on adaptation, climate finance, just transitions, loss and damage, and other key issues of importance to developing countries.



AFRICA'S CLIMATE NEGOTIATORS PUT HEALTH AT THE CENTRE OF CLIMATE ACTION AHEAD OF SB64

African climate negotiators have reaffirmed their commitment to placing health at the heart of global climate negotiations.

They recognised that climate change was not only as an environmental challenge but as a growing public health emergency affecting millions across the continent.

The call was made by African Group of Negotiators on Climate Change (AGN) Chair, Nana Dr. Antwi-Boasiako Amoah during a Climate and Health Capacity Building Workshop convened in Bonn, Germany, ahead of the 64th Session of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Bodies (SB64).

Addressing negotiators, technical experts, young climate leaders, and representatives from key institutions including WHO-AFRO, Africa CDC, Amref Health Africa, and the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), Nana Dr. Amoah, emphasised that climate and health are inseparable realities for Africa.

He noted that rising temperatures, recurrent floods and droughts, food insecurity, malnutrition, air pollution, and changing disease patterns are placing unprecedented strain on health systems and communities across the continent.
The workshop, supported by the IISD builds on momentum generated by the launch of the first ever African Negotiators Climate and Health Curriculum developed by Amref Health Africa and launched in Dar es Salaam last year.

"Since then, evidence of climate-related health impacts has continued to mount, with climate-sensitive diseases expanding into new regions and extreme weather events damaging critical health infrastructure," said Dr. Amoah.
"We continue to witness climate-sensitive diseases expanding into new geographies, health infrastructure being damaged by extreme weather events, and increasing burdens on already stretched public health systems in Africa."

The AGN Chair highlighted progress made in securing the inclusion of health within the framework of the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA).

Following the adoption of the Belém Adaptation indicators and the ongoing discussions under the Baku Adaptation Roadmap, Africa has a unique opportunity to shape how adaptation is measured, financed and implemented globally.

We must ensure that health indicators under the global goal on adaptation are meaningful, context-specific, and responsive to Africa's realities," said the AGN Chair.

"Health is the human face of the climate crisis," he noted, emphasizing that if climate negotiations are ultimately about protecting people, then health must remain at the centre of global climate action.







AGN CHAIR ENGAGES ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT ON PREPARATIONS FOR COP32

On the margins of the Bonn Climate Change Conference, the Chair of the African Group of Negotiators on Climate Change (AGN), Nana Dr. Antwi-Boasiako Amoah, held a strategic engagement with Ethiopia's Minister for Planning and Development, Her Excellency Fitsum Adela, following Ethiopia's designation as the host of the 32nd United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP32) in 2027.



The meeting formed part of ongoing efforts to strengthen Africa's coordination and readiness for a successful African-led COP process, while reinforcing collaboration between the AGN and the Government of Ethiopia in the lead-up to COP32.

Welcoming the engagement, H.E. Fitsum Adela expressed appreciation for the solidarity and support extended by the AGN since Ethiopia was selected to host COP32. She noted that Africa's growing influence within the global climate process presents a unique opportunity to elevate the continent's priorities and perspectives on the international stage.



The Minister emphasized the importance of sustaining the momentum generated through recent climate negotiations and ensuring that preparations for COP32 remain firmly grounded in Africa's development aspirations, climate realities, and collective interests.

The AGN Chair Nana Dr. Antwi-Boasiako Amoah underscored the importance of continuous engagement and close coordination among African countries and institutions as preparations advance. He noted that early and sustained collaboration would be critical to delivering a COP32 that reflects Africa's priorities and strengthens the continent's voice within the global climate agenda.



The engagement reaffirmed the shared commitment of the AGN and the Government of Ethiopia to work closely together in advancing preparations for COP32 through enhanced coordination, strategic engagement, and a common understanding of Africa's priorities within the multilateral climate process. The discussions underscored a shared vision for an African-led COP32 that effectively reflects the continent's development imperatives, adaptation needs, and aspirations for enhanced ambition and support under the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement.





IN RETROSPECT: YOUTH, THE AGN, AND THE FUTURE OF AFRICA'S CLIMATE NEGOTIATIONS

There is a quiet contradiction at the heart of climate diplomacy. We describe climate change as a crisis of the future, yet continue to negotiate it through frameworks that often exclude the demographic that will live longest with the consequences of today's decisions.

In Africa, where young people make up the majority of the population, this contradiction is becoming increasingly difficult to ignore, given the continent's unique circumstances.

While important progress has been made within the African Group of Negotiators in broadening engagement, the opportunity now is to take a more strategic step forward, one that can help redefine how Africa's climate negotiations are shaped in the years ahead.

The challenge is no longer whether young people should be included in climate negotiations, but how their engagement is understood, not as participation at the margins, but as part of Africa's negotiating capacity itself.

That shift in framing is subtle, but it is beginning to matter. Within the African Group of Negotiators, there is an emerging emphasis on moving youth engagement from visibility to structure.

Under the leadership of Nana Antwi-Boasiako Amoah, AGN Chair, the focus is increasingly on institutionalising how young professionals engage with the process, through more deliberate coordination, decentralised collaboration, and opportunities to contribute to technical preparation and thematic workstreams that inform Africa's common positions.

The intention is not simply to broaden participation, but to make youth contribution part of how negotiating positions are formed. The distinction lies in what institutionalisation makes possible: continuity of contribution, not just moments of participation.

From a reflective standpoint, having had the opportunity to engage within this evolving space while also belonging to the generation whose future is being negotiated, I have come to see youth participation differently.

Its value is not in visibility during negotiations, but in the evidence generated, the questions raised, and the lived realities experienced by young people being reflected in Africa's positions before negotiations begin.

In other words, the shift that matters most is from youth observing positions to contributing to how those positions are formed.

Africa's youth population is not simply a demographic fact, but a strategic reality that already shapes how climate change is experienced and responded to across the continent.

From local adaptation efforts to research, innovation, and community leadership, young Africans are already engaged in climate action in ways that often sit outside formal diplomatic structures, but remain highly relevant to them.

The opportunity now is to ensure that this evolving approach becomes embedded within the institutional fabric of the AGN, rather than remaining associated with any single moment or leadership cycle.

If Africa is to continue strengthening its voice in global climate negotiations, it will require processes that reflect not only technical rigour, but also the lived realities of the continent they represent.

Africa's negotiating strength will not rest only in the unity of its voice, but in how that voice is formed. In that regard, the current direction within the AGN leadership represents an important step forward, particularly in the effort to make youth engagement more structured and embedded within the negotiating process.

What will matter going forward is how this approach is sustained and deepened over time.





WEAVING OUR OWN FUTURE: HOW GHANA'S INDIGENOUS TEXTILES ARE SHAPING GLOBAL CLIMATE JUSTICE (1)

As the morning sun warms the conference halls of Phakalane Golf Estate in Gaborone this winter season of June 2026, a profoundly African philosophy is turning heads at the 5th Annual Just Transition Platform Convening.

While global climate summits are frequently dominated by cold, bureaucratic spreadsheets and dense technocratic jargon, the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) has introduced a strikingly different canvas.

Presenting a groundbreaking conceptual paper, Angelina Ama Tutuah Mensah the AGN Lead Coordinator for the Just Transition Work Programme (JTWP/JTM) and Expert Member of the Katowice Committee on Impacts on the Implementation of Response Measures, (KCI) captivated delegates by turning to the ancient artistry of the Ghanaian loom.

Her thesis is as elegant as it is provocative: Africa does not need to import foreign blueprints for climate governance. From the narrow strips of Kente to the egalitarian weave of the northern Fugu, and through the profound grammar of Adinkra symbols, Ghana possesses a living, indigenous architecture perfectly suited to steer a just transition.

The Loom as a Metaphor for Governance

"To weave is not simply to interlace threads," Mensah observed during her address. "It is to make choices about structure, sequence, tension, and purpose."

In the eyes of the AGN, the theme of this year's convening —Weaving Principles into Pathways is far more than a poetic catchphrase. Weaving is a profoundly moral and political act.

Every completed cloth stands as a communal statement about identity and justice. Instead of chasing western-designed models that often ignore local realities, the AGN argues that the multilateral climate architecture must align with the values long preserved in African textiles.

Kente: Structure, Sovereignty, and the Geometry of Rights

Kente is perhaps the continent's most globally recognizable textile, yet its true genius lies in its construction.

Woven in separate, narrow strips that are later meticulously sewn together, a single piece of Kente represents a harmony of independent voices joining to form a magnificent, coherent whole.

Within Ghana, this tradition branches into two great rivers the Asante Kente of the Akan people and the Ewe Kente of the Volta Region each carrying a vital lesson for global climate negotiators.

Akan Kente: The Obligations of Power

Woven in the historic looms of Bonwire and across the Ashanti Region, Asante Kente is historically the cloth of kings and state occasions.

Its color sequence is an intentional, highly consulted political language: gold for royalty and wealth, green for growth and ecological renewal, red for the blood of sacrifice and struggle, and black for maturity and ancestral connection.

For the global climate transition, Akan Kente speaks directly to the responsibilities of leadership. Just as the royal cloth binds a chief to duties of service and protection, the global economic powers who built their wealth on historical emissions must be bound to their climate obligations.

This underpins the AGN's firm stance at the negotiating table, demanding Article 9.1 grant-based finance over the market-driven displacements of Article 2.1(c). Those who wear the mantle of global economic leadership must honor the structural obligations that come with it.

Volta Kente: Agency and the Author's Voice

In communities like Agotime-Kpetoe in the Volta Region, Ewe weavers take a more narrative approach. They masterfully weave figurative motifs, proverbs, and contemporary social commentary directly into the fabric.

If Asante Kente represents structural precision, Ewe Kente celebrates authorship and agency. This is precisely how Africa approaches global multilateral systems.

African nations are not passive consumers of international climate frameworks; they are authors. Like the Ewe weaver, the AGN under the Chairmanship of Dr. Antwi Boasiako Amoah is actively inserting Africa's unique narrative into the global text naming the informal market trader, the smallholder farmer, the climate-displaced family, and the carbon-border-adjusted aluminium producer.

Fugu: Equity and the Cloth of Common Dignity

Moving northward across the Upper East, Upper West, and Northern regions, and out into the broader Sahelian belt, one encounters the Fugu (or smock cloth).

Unlike the elite prestige of Kente, Fugu is wide-loomed, intensely durable, and deeply egalitarian. Woven for everyday labor, harvest seasons, and celebrations alike, it is worn by chiefs and subsistence farmers without distinction.

The Reality of the African Workforce: Across the continent, approximately 80% of the working population operates within the informal economy. These are the backbone of our societies, yet they are routinely left out of formal international climate agreements.

WEAVING OUR OWN FUTURE: HOW GHANA'S INDIGENOUS TEXTILES ARE SHAPING GLOBAL CLIMATE JUSTICE (2)

The "Fugu Principle" demands that these informal workers be placed at the absolute center of the transition. Furthermore, the Fugu reminds us of intergenerational continuity.

Just as northern weaving patterns encode decades of communal knowledge passed down through generations, a truly just transition must protect and retrain workers particularly in vulnerable energy sectors through robust green skills development, social safety nets, and investments in the care economy.

Adinkra: A Constitutional Grammar for Transition

Perhaps the most explicit system of indigenous governance lies in Adinkra, the visual philosophy developed by the Akan.

Far from mere decorations, these symbols function as a living, visual constitution that anchors policy in timeless moral and social truths.

In her address, Ms. Mensah masterfully unfurled four specific symbols to map out the current climate crisis.

The journey begins with Sankofa—the profound reminder that "it is not wrong to go back and fetch what you forgot."

In the context of a just transition, Sankofa dictates that Africa must look to its own historical knowledge frameworks and development pathways before adopting imported, foreign solutions.

It demands an honest global reckoning with historical climate responsibilities.

This historical grounding seamlessly interfaces with Funtunfunefu Denkyemfunefu, the iconic Siamese crocodiles who share a single stomach. This symbol captures the essence of unity in diversity.

While individual African nations face vastly different economic realities ranging from oil exporters and mineral wealth holders to vulnerable coastal and landlocked states their ultimate survival and interests converge.

The AGN's solidarity on the global stage is this very symbol made institutional.

Untangling these diverse economic realities requires the application of Nyansapo, the "wisdom knot" which only the wise can untie.

The global climate transition is a policy knot of extraordinary complexity, tightly binding together finance, labor, energy, and state sovereignty.

The AGN argues that untangling this knot requires indigenous wisdom drawn directly from those who live out the daily consequences of climate change, rather than relying solely on the technocrats who designed the systems that created the crisis.

Finally, this governance path brings us to Aya, the resilient fern that thrives in the most difficult and unyielding conditions.

The Aya reflects the profound endurance and resourcefulness of Africa's informal workers and climate-exposed communities.

However, Ms. Mensah left the delegation with a vital warning: in a truly just transition, mere endurance in the face of structural unfairness must ultimately give way to systemic transformation. Resilience must not become a substitute for justice.

From the Loom to the Negotiating Table

The message echoing from Gaborone back home to the pews and communities of Ghana is clear: Africa is no longer waiting for a seat at a table where others design the fabric of our future.

The weavers of Bonwire, the narrative masters of Agotime-Kpetoe, and the communal craftsmen of the North did not wait for external validation to build beautiful, enduring systems of meaning.

They took the raw fibers available to them and wove a heritage that has withstood centuries.

As the 5th Annual Just Transition Platform Convening progresses, the African Group of Negotiators carries that exact same determination to the global stage.

By anchoring international policy in the equity of the Fugu, the sovereign design of Kente, and the wisdom of Adinkra, Africa is stepping forward to weave its own path toward a sustainable and deeply just tomorrow.



FROM FAR LEFT: TSHEPISO MBEREKI (GEN-SECRETARY, BOTSWANA FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS), ANGELINA AMA TUTUAH MENSAH (AGN LEAD NEGOTIATOR), LINET LUVAI (DEPUTY REP. UNIDO, KENYA OFFICE) MIDDLE HON DR. PHENYO BUTALE (MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS FOR THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA), CHERONO SWGO (SENIOR PROGRAMME OFFICER, CLIMATE WORKS FOUNDATIONS AND MAVIS KOOGOOTSITSE (EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, AFRICA TRADE UNION COORDINATION COUNCIL).

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