

# ECO

CEASEFIRE NOW

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FOSSIL FUEL  
PHASE OUT  
FAST FAIR  
FULL AND  
FUNDED

# Keeping the balls up: Juggling the GGA

People who run circuses tell ECO that it's only after the show, when the real work starts. As tents are dismantled, the planning, training and checking the details start straight away for the next show to be perfect for its audience.

We all knew that COP28 was when the framework should have been ready. But there was no proper effort at actually working on the product until the middle of this year. And the decision makers were still less involved. So when they came to take a look here, it was as if they were back to the start. Let ECO remind you, that for the people engulfed by floods, parched by droughts, swept by hurricanes, and especially those with the least resources to respond, the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) means the difference between life and death.

We cannot leave COP28 without any outcome on GGA. The GGA framework must have ambitious quantitative and qualitative targets with timelines and backed with finance and aligned with the NCQG and a clear roadmap on delivering the finance.

Adaptation funding that does not increase the

debt burden must be defined and more than doubled from the putative levels of 2019. The Adaptation Gap report reminded us that the funding scale must be increased by 10 to 18 times from the current levels. Adaptation must be included in NDCs as well as NAPs. It must be inclusive to reflect the spirit of the SDGs and the parallel need for poverty reduction. It must embrace ecosystem based adaptation and nature-based solutions and recognise that people are already and always will be in the lead and at the centre of adaptation efforts. Targets for infrastructure adaptation must be closely monitored to ensure that the work is done efficiently and effectively where most needed.

They say that Azerbaijani circuses are the best in the world. ECO hopes that the clowning is restricted to the fringes, and at the centre of COP29 is a positive and realistic consideration of progress towards the comprehensive guidance and support that the global goal can offer in the world's efforts to adapt to the climate crisis as it intensifies.

ECO repeats. Adaptation could not be more important. Let us all reach the Brazil show in 2025 properly prepared to make it happen. The work starts now.

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## LET THE JTWP ROCK!

Few among you may know that ECO is a music composer in our free time. One day, while marching for a just and equitable phase out of fossil fuels, and for making the Paris Agreement real in every sector of the economy, ECO came up with the idea of creating a rock band. Our songs would be inspired by the struggles and power of all the people - workers and communities - who have been fighting for their rights and for a just transition that puts them front and centre. Our band's name will be JTWP (Work Programme on Just Transition Pathways).

Parties gave us some musical instruments to start with (a scope that covers workers and decent work, social dimensions, international cooperation, participation) and we have the right tempo (dialogues, high level ministerial, annual decisions).

But we can't start yet. There is still noise around us. Bracketed text on unilateral measures and labour rights has not been solved, and we hear our song if we're not all in tune.

The risk for our band to break up before even playing a song is very real, so ECO is worried.

Does the Presidency hear the urgent need to have JTWP up and playing and singing strong over the noise? Don't they want to hear the amazing songs we could sing by COP30 in Brazil? Will they forget that the Just Transition Work Programme is still pending?

The festival of a fossil-free future needs us on stage. The JTWP can bring that perfect mix of alternative development pathways, social justice, human, labour, gender, future generations and indigenous peoples' rights, which the planet so desperately needs

As soon as this noise issue is solved, our JTWP band will go to play in the GST. We ask to be called on the right stage (clearly not in response measures) and with an invitation to deliver an operational outcome.

Let the JTWP play! Those who are rarely invited to the climate party are watching...

# What choice will you make? Will you reject this menu of dead rats?

Attention! Ministers, Heads of Delegation, and diplomats.

ECO has a message for you: Today you have the chance to make history. Or perhaps tomorrow. Or even the day after. If possible ahead of 2030, and well ahead of 2050.

This could be the week that governments make history in the Dubai Expo City. The next days could be an inflection point that helps put the world on track for a future beyond fossil fuels, powered by renewable energy, and with global heating limited to below 1.5°C. That's entirely in your hands.

But there is another possibility. We are already seeing the previews of that possibility now, as cyclones rage and wildfires burn. That is the path we risk if you accept the menu full of dead rats, that is last night's paragraph 39 of the GST draft text, and so fail to agree to a rapid, equitable and funded phase out of fossil fuels. It might serve incumbent interests and billionaires for now, but it won't serve your country's people – and it won't serve you for very long.

ECO would like to remind Ministers that the science is clear: the objectives of the Paris Agreement can only be achieved through a complete phase out of oil, coal and gas production and use. ECO understands that these are complicated negotiations and folks are getting tired so let

us make it simple: NO PHASE OUT = NO 1.5°C.

It's that simple. No "inter alia", no "could include", no "amongst all other things", no boosting false solutions, no propping up gas. That would be betraying present and future generations.

Right now, there is unprecedented momentum to confront the fossil elephant in the room. You have never been closer to this historic agreement to phase out all fossil fuels. That's why over 2,400 oil, gas, and coal lobbyists are here at the COP. That is why OPEC is sending letters. They are here because they are scared that you might take the right decision this week. Will you serve their interests, or the interests of your country's, and every country's, future?

Remember, people will not only judge you for what you say here, but what you do at home – especially if you are here on behalf of one of the five wealthy nations responsible for over half of predicted oil and gas expansion between now and 2050. The atmosphere doesn't care about pretty words. What matters is whether carbon stays in the ground, or gets burned into the sky. What's more, an agreement here won't stop people living near oil refineries back home, from suffering preventable diseases from the chemical pollution from those smokestacks.

The time is now. End oil. End gas. End coal. Our future is renewable energy.

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## The South Starts to Shine in Belém

It is the end of the year and for many, Christmas is in the air. ECO wished for this COP28 to deliver substance, to dive deep into what is needed and urgent in every aspect of the Dubai Agenda: from an effective and trustable Loss and Damage Fund to an adequate finance and adaptation framework and a clear and unambiguous signal to end the fossil fuel era.

After 200 years of immeasurable damage and bogus gains of the fossil fuel industry, all this seems right to have. But it looks like the Grinch (or is it just a fossil fuel lobbyist in disguise?) is whispering more closely and loudly into the negotiator's ears. Again the cream is taken out of the cake. Empty shelves. Bare house. The substance is taken out of the Gender Action Plan, the NCQG, and might not be found at the GGA.

But there is a ray of light (...and I feeeeeel like I just got home...And I feeeeeel...) when we open the window, and it is about the insistence of the Environment Minister of Colombia to put the hard issue of transforming our economy and shifting away from our addiction to fossil fuels into every conversation. It feels like a prayer for good. After 200 years, the ray will shine the light on

the process for a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty. But wait, would that be possible? Is "o maior país do mundo" playing along? ECO heard about Brazil's involvement with OPEC and auctioning 603 new oil and gas blocks across the country. ECO is getting confused. What is under the Christmas tree? A fossil-free world or allegiance to the industry that caused the crisis? ECO hopes this is just a Scrooge tale.

ECO dreams for COP30 to be truly transformational. Brazil has all it takes, including another inspirational woman at the helm, Marina Silva, who has just made it to Nature Magazine's 10. After 30 years, ECO feels we are all mature enough to put life above profit and ensure justice above greed. ECO calls on the diplomacy and coherence of Brazil to help drive the process and bring Latin American and Caribbean countries with it. The wish is clear: we need to establish the Amazon as a fossil-free expansion territory and ensure indigenous people's land rights and access to finance. We must foster Latin American and Caribbean engagement for renewable energy integration and cooperation for a post-extractive era— no more carbon gifts at the end of COP's Eve.

# ECO letter to COP28 President

Dear COP28 President,

When you graciously invited the world to come to Dubai to attend COP28, you repeatedly assured us that your North Star would be science and the absolute necessity of limiting warming to 1.5°C. You told us you were committed to deliver the “most ambitious response” to the climate crisis.

ECO is sorry to let you know that the new GST text published yesterday makes a mockery of these claims. ECO was expecting to see the mitigation section of the new draft reflect the clear call from science and more than 100 countries calling for a full and fair phase out of fossil fuels. Instead, we had an incoherent, weak and vague menu of energy options that parties “could” implement and that are so far removed from what is needed to limit

warming to 1.5°C that AOSIS has already called it its “death certificate”.

ECO would like to repeat a clear message: your COP will be a complete failure unless it secures an agreement for a full, fast, fair and funded phase out of fossil fuels. The operationalization of the Loss and Damage fund was a major achievement of COP28, with some more work remaining to strengthen it. But the only way to deliver a truly historic COP is through a clear, strong, 1.5°C aligned deal on fossil fuel phase out that is rooted in justice and equity.

Dear COP28 President, you face a clear, yet simple choice: will you do what's right for the people of the world and secure a deal to keep 1.5°C within reach or will you cater to the demands of a small group of blocking countries? ECO urges you to show true leadership, time is running out.

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