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DAY TWO: THE REAL TEST BEGINS

Finance divides negotiators as a new carbon budget and debate over fossil fuels sharpen the stakes.

−0.4%
Projected 2026 fossil CO_2 change [3]

43.3 Gt
Projected 2026 total CO_2 [3]

US$2.8bn
Loss-and-damage needs reported by 119 countries [1]

THE BIG PICTURE

Formal talks accelerated on 10 November after a late opening session. Finance, adaptation, mitigation and a just-transition mechanism all moved into detailed negotiations. No final agreement on these tracked items was reported by the end of the day. [1]

1 Fossil-fuel tension takes centre stage

UN Secretary-General António Guterres criticised fossil-fuel dependence and its economic costs as Türkiye celebrated newly identified oil resources. The host presidency promoted a proposal to lift electricity's share of final energy consumption to 35% by 2035. The proposal does not specify a clean-power requirement and was not adopted as a COP decision on Day 2. [2]

WHY IT MATTERS Electrification lowers emissions only when power systems become cleaner and oil, coal and gas use declines. A headline target needs measurable safeguards.

2 Finance talks expose a delivery gap

Negotiators examined support for adaptation, the Adaptation Fund and the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage. Developing-country groups pressed for predictable, accessible and grant-based finance. Delegates cited US$2.8 billion in needs communicated by 119 countries to the loss-and-damage fund. This is a statement of need, not a new funding commitment. [1]

WHY IT MATTERS The central question is when vulnerable communities receive money, under what terms, and who carries the financial burden.

3 A smaller fossil footprint, but higher total CO_2

The Global Carbon Budget 2026 projected fossil CO_2 emissions would fall 0.4% to 38.2 gigatonnes, partly due to an energy-price shock and clean-energy expansion. Emissions from land-use change still push total CO_2 to 43.3 gigatonnes, up from 42.8 in 2025. [3]

WHY IT MATTERS A temporary fossil-fuel dip does not demonstrate a lasting emissions peak, particularly when deforestation and peat fires increase total emissions.

DAY 2 STATUS

Negotiations advanced, but the energy proposal, finance demands and adaptation language described above had not become agreed COP31 decisions by the close of 10 November.

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Where the negotiations stand

The most consequential disagreements concern responsibilities, finance and how implementation will be measured. The items below remained under discussion on Tuesday. [1]

Adaptation: agreement on process, disagreement on power

Parties broadly supported a two-track approach to refining Global Goal on Adaptation indicators: technical work on methods and policy work on implementation. They disputed the task force's mandate, membership and schedule. The G77 and China criticised the absence of a dedicated agenda item on tripling adaptation finance; developed-country groups preferred discussing it under the broader finance work programme. [1]

WHY IT MATTERS Indicators matter only when they capture lived risks and connect to financial support for real projects.

Loss and damage: response speed under scrutiny

Delegations discussed the fund's Board report and its response to Nepal's request after a glacial disaster. Small-island and developing-country groups urged faster response mechanisms and more funding. Some developed-country delegations argued detailed political guidance was premature while the Board develops its operating model. Co-chairs were tasked with preparing draft decision text. [1]

WHY IT MATTERS Rapid response and simpler access determine whether assistance reaches people during recovery, rather than long after damage occurs.

Mitigation: continuation is popular, design is disputed

Many delegates supported continuing the Mitigation Work Programme, yet disagreed whether it should run until 2030, 2040 or without a fixed end date. Discussions also covered stronger cooperation, learning and investment support. Bangladesh joined parties supporting useful guidance for future Nationally Determined Contributions, while other groups warned against new burdens. [1]

WHY IT MATTERS A longer work programme needs clear outcomes, financial backing and links to actual emissions reductions.

Just transition and gender: institutions still under design

Negotiators discussed a just-transition mechanism built around a political or governance body and an operational arm. They also examined implementation of the Belém Gender Action Plan, including funding, inclusion and women-led initiatives. No mechanism design was finalised on Tuesday. [1]

WHY IT MATTERS Communities need a voice in decisions and resources to support jobs, livelihoods, accessibility and gender equality.

NEGOTIATING STATUS

Adaptation, loss and damage, mitigation and the just-transition mechanism remained open issues on 10 November. Draft text and further consultations were expected. [1]

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Three fault lines defining COP31

Editorial analysis based on the developments reported on 10 November.

01 The electricity target needs a carbon test

Türkiye's 35%-by-2035 electrification proposal offers a practical opening: electric transport, heating and industry could reduce reliance on imported oil and gas. Yet electrification alone is not decarbonisation. If new demand is met by unabated fossil generation, emission savings are smaller and communities remain exposed to pollution and volatile fuel prices. [2]

WHY IT MATTERS Assessment should track the carbon intensity of electricity, grid access, renewable capacity, storage and the pace of fossil-fuel retirement. The negotiation challenge is to match ambition with credible implementation, rather than accept a single percentage as proof of progress.

02 Climate finance is also a question of public debt

The dispute around Article 9.1, grant-based adaptation support and access to multilateral funds reflects two competing priorities. Climate-vulnerable countries want predictable public finance tied to developed countries' responsibilities; others favour a broader mix of actors, contributors and investment channels. The problem is practical: a loan-financed seawall or cyclone shelter increases repayment pressures in countries already coping with climate losses. [1]

WHY IT MATTERS Judging success by the headline value of finance alone is inadequate. Grant share, concessionality, time to approval, community-level access and actual disbursement are more useful accountability tests.

03 A one-year emissions drop is not structural progress

The carbon budget's 0.4% projected decline in fossil CO_2 is noteworthy, yet the study links part of the change to disruptions in oil supply. Oil-related emissions are projected to fall 1.9%, while global emissions from land-use change rise. The remaining 1.5°C carbon budget is estimated at 150 gigatonnes of CO_2, less than four years at today's emissions rate. [3]

WHY IT MATTERS A resilient transition requires sustained clean-energy deployment and less deforestation, not lower energy use caused by conflict and price shocks.

THE SCIENCE SNAPSHOT / TOTAL GLOBAL CO_2 EMISSIONS

42.8 Gt	↑ 0.5 Gt	43.3 Gt
2025 estimate	Projected change	2026 projection

Total CO_2 includes fossil-fuel emissions and land-use change. Figures are 2026 Global Carbon Budget projections, not final observed values. [3]

WHAT WOULD COUNT AS PROGRESS?

A credible outcome would link cleaner electricity and fossil-fuel reduction to accessible grants, measurable adaptation action and rights-based support for affected workers and communities.

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From Antalya to vulnerable communities

Bangladesh calls for finance people can reach

As the summit entered its second day, Bangladesh's State Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Shaikh Faridul Islam, said the country would seek more grants for adaptation and quicker access to loss-and-damage support. At a Bangladesh-linked side event on Tuesday, speakers also highlighted predictable climate finance and the difference between global financing targets and resources that reach communities. [5][6]

WHY IT MATTERS For low-lying and disaster-exposed countries, finance terms matter as much as volume. Project readiness, transparent delivery and locally determined priorities should be central.

A stronger demand for a just transition

More than 700 organisations from 88 countries publicly called for a Belém–Antalya Mechanism to support workers and communities during economic transition. Their demands include rights, technical and financial assistance, and representation of people affected by policy decisions. This was a civil-society campaign, not an adopted COP decision. [7]

WHY IT MATTERS A fair transition should count outcomes for informal workers, Indigenous Peoples, women, persons with disabilities and younger generations.

The conference experience also matters

Delegates reported severe congestion and long journeys to the venue, which delayed some morning sessions. The UNFCCC programme also listed events on early-warning systems, access to adaptation finance, agriculture, methane and Indigenous-led solutions. [1][4]

WHY IT MATTERS Logistics and access are not side issues when participants with limited resources need a fair opportunity to engage.

WATCH IN THE NEXT ROUND

- **Finance text:** Will the draft clarify public-finance responsibilities, grant terms and access?
- **Adaptation metrics:** Will parties settle a practical indicator process and address finance for delivery?
- **Energy commitments:** Will electrification be linked to low-carbon power and fossil-fuel transition?
- **Just transition:** Will the mechanism include a clear mandate and community participation?

SOURCES & EDITORIAL NOTES

[1] IISD Earth Negotiations Bulletin, 10 Nov
[2] Reuters, 10 Nov: oil dependence and electrification
[3] Global Carbon Project, 10 Nov: Carbon Budget 2026
[4] UNFCCC official programme, 10 Nov
[5] The Business Standard, 10 Nov: Bangladesh priorities
[6] The Daily Star, 11 Nov: Bangladesh side event on 10 Nov
[7] Climate Action Network statement, issued 11 Nov
[8] rp5 Antalya city station and Antalya Airport records, 10 Nov

> **YESTERDAY'S WEATHER | ANTALYA, TUESDAY 10 NOVEMBER**
> Observed temperatures: 9.2°C early morning at Antalya Airport and 16.0°C in the city at 15:00. **Conditions:** partly to mostly cloudy, light northerly winds, with brief drizzle reported in the afternoon. Station observations, not official daily extremes. [8]

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