

Talanoa welcomes the COP30 Presidency's letter

Letter released on Monday, signed by COP30 president Ambassador André Corrêa do Lago, outlines the visions for the conference

The letter employs rich and symbolic language, drawing on Brazilian cultural and historical references to frame the moment as one of collective effort and transformation. The mention of the Southern Cross suggests looking to the South for direction—either literally, toward Brazil, or figuratively, through the lens of the Global South. The concept of *mutirão*, deeply rooted in Brazilian traditions, presents COP30 as a collaborative effort where different actors come together to make things happen. The phrase *de virada* signals a decisive turning point, emphasizing that this COP is meant to mark a shift from negotiations to action.

Beyond the words themselves, the letter suggests that Brazil is bringing a certain rhythm to its climate diplomacy—much like it did with Bossa Nova in music. There is an attempt to balance ambition with a relaxed yet deliberate tone, avoiding grandiose claims while setting a clear direction. This style, smooth but purposeful, aims to make climate negotiations more inclusive and engaging rather than rigid and confrontational.

Central Themes

The document reinforces the need to advance structural issues on the global climate agenda, emphasizing the urgency of implementation.

- **Adaptation as a central pillar** – Talanoa acknowledges that the COP30 Presidency has responded to the call to prioritize adaptation. The letter makes it clear that adaptation does not compete with mitigation—on the contrary, it strengthens it by ensuring that communities and ecosystems can withstand the increasingly severe impacts of the climate crisis. Advancing the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) and mobilizing dedicated adaptation finance are points that must be concretized by COP30.
- **Transition away from fossil fuels** – The letter references the Global Stocktake (GST) goals for the energy transition, including tripling renewable energy capacity, doubling energy efficiency, and reducing fossil fuels in a fair and orderly manner. However, there is still no explicit link between these goals and the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Brazil will face the challenge of translating this ambition into concrete commitments in the coming months.
- **Climate finance** – The COP30 Presidency will work with COP29 to produce a report on the progress of the Baku to Belém Roadmap to 1.3T, but there is no expectation of new negotiations. The challenge now is to detail how resources will be mobilized and allocated, ensuring that climate finance benefits both mitigation and adaptation in a fair and accessible manner for developing countries.

- **Forests** – The letter recognizes the essential role of forests as an immediate strategy to contain the climate crisis, highlighting that restoring degraded areas can remove large amounts of carbon from the atmosphere. Additionally, the text suggests that concrete proposals for financing forest protection and restoration should be expected, which could mark an important step in implementing climate commitments.
- **Technology** – The document emphasizes that technological advancement is essential for accelerating the transition to a low-carbon and climate-resilient economy. The expectation is that COP30 will structure a technology implementation program, strengthening the UNFCCC’s Technology Mechanism and ensuring that developing countries have access to the innovations needed for adaptation and mitigation.
- **NDCs** – The letter states that COP30 will be a moment to assess NDC progress and identify barriers limiting ambition and implementation. While it reinforces that NDCs are nationally determined and non-negotiable, there is an opening for discussions on how to remove obstacles and encourage more ambitious commitments. The proposed format appears to be a high-level dialogue in collaboration with the UN Secretary-General. However, in our view, a structured process with concrete outcomes (decisions) is still missing.
- **Transition to the post-negotiation phase** – The Presidency positions COP30 as a turning point for implementation. This includes efforts to make climate governance more efficient and coordinated, ensuring that past agreements are fulfilled in practice rather than merely reaffirmed in speeches.

Climate Governance

The letter also proposes new mechanisms to ensure transparency and accountability, strengthening alignment between past and future COPs.

- **Circle of Presidencies** – A consultative group bringing together former COP Presidents, from Paris (COP21) to Baku (COP29), as well as the leaders of the Biodiversity (CBD) and Desertification (UNCCD) conferences, for strategic advisory.
- **Global Ethical Stocktake (GES)** – An initiative to engage scientists, Indigenous leaders, policymakers, and civil society in a debate on the ethical commitments of climate action and the shared responsibility of all actors in addressing the crisis.

Final Considerations

Talanoa values the COP30 Presidency’s effort to present a structured vision for the conference early on, with a strong emphasis on prioritizing adaptation as a central pillar of the climate response. However, key aspects—such as the transition away from fossil fuels and the new NDC cycle—still need further development.



Brazil presents COP30 as a global *mutirão* for climate action, calling on all sectors to collaborate on implementation. The challenge now is to ensure that ambition, equity, and resilience are delivered in practice.

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About the Talanoa Institute

The Talanoa Institute is an independent think tank dedicated to accelerating climate action through research, analysis and strategic dialogues. Founded with the aim of making the climate debate more accessible and solutions-oriented, the institute works at the intersection of science, public policy and innovation to support the implementation of global climate commitments.

With a special focus on adaptation and resilience, Talanoa works to strengthen institutional capacities, broaden civil society engagement and encourage the private sector to adopt effective climate solutions. Its aim is to transform technical knowledge into concrete actions, promoting spaces for dialog between different sectors to influence political and economic decisions.

The institute also collaborates actively with international organizations, governments and civil society organizations to develop strategies that integrate climate justice, sustainable financing and effective climate governance. With an active presence in climate negotiations, Talanoa plays a key role in mobilizing global support for climate adaptation as a priority on international agendas.