



Pathways to operationalize the Belém-Antalya Mechanism (BAM) - Just Transition Agenda

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1. Introduction

COP30, held in November 2025 in Belém do Pará, represented a historic milestone for the Just Transition agenda within the UNFCCC. Through decision 5/CMA.7, the Parties not only reaffirmed fundamental principles of equity and inclusion but also agreed on the development of a Just Transition Mechanism, internationally named the Belém-Antalya Mechanism (BAM), to be formalized by COP31.

The Just Transition mechanism represents the main achievement of COP30 for workers and communities worldwide. Greater climate ambition can be achieved if we place social justice at the center of attention. No COP decision has ever presented such ambitious and comprehensive language on rights and inclusion: human rights; labor rights; the rights of indigenous peoples and people of African Descent; and strong references to gender equality, women's empowerment, education, youth development, and more.

From the perspective of organizations committed to racial and gender justice, such as Geledés, the inclusion of people of African Descent in the decision is a symbolic, historic, and political milestone. This mention recognizes that the climate crisis intersects with centuries of inequality, racism, and exclusion. It also acknowledges that mitigation and adaptation processes can produce new injustices if they are not guided by equity criteria.

The mention of the care economy reinforces this understanding. The document affirms the responsibility of countries to protect and value work essential for the sustainability of life, which falls disproportionately on Black women. Thus, the JTWP brings climate policy closer to the feminist economy, which for decades has demanded dignity, redistribution, and well-being as central elements of the economy.

Despite these advancements, there are significant limitations. The text does not present a detailed implementation plan, does not establish robust human rights safeguards, and does not define concrete international financing instruments. We believe it is precisely on these limitations that the negotiation spaces within SB64 must focus.



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This document seeks to systematize the pathways for the operationalization of the BAM, based on proposals developed by the networks of organizations to which Geledés belongs, centering ongoing debates in the UNFCCC process from an anti-racist perspective. The objective is to contribute to ensuring that the mechanism is, indeed, ambitious, inclusive, and equipped with concrete implementation instruments, rather than just a symbolic achievement.

2. Belém-Antalya-Mechanism (BAM)

The BAM was conceived to transform the principles agreed upon at COP30 into a coherent, ambitious, and operational framework under the Paris Agreement. Its purpose, as defined by decision 5/CMA.7, is to: (i) strengthen international cooperation, technical assistance, capacity-building, and knowledge sharing; and (ii) enable just, equitable, and inclusive transitions.

Geledés supports the proposal organized by the Climate Action Network (CAN) and Observatório do Clima (OC) for the BAM to be structured around three core functions:

1. **Coordination, Coherence, and Inclusion:** continuous mapping of just transition initiatives, identification of gaps, and alignment with the goals of the Paris Agreement and the principle of Common But Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC). This includes creating safe and inclusive spaces for the participation of state and non-state actors, especially workers, communities, and human rights groups mentioned in the COP30 decision.
2. **Knowledge Sharing and Generation:** the BAM could function as a global hub for policymakers, facilitating dialogue, the exchange of best practices, and the production of new knowledge to guide decisions—not limiting itself to a single just transition approach, but serving as a space to assess implemented actions and policies to map their limitations and challenges.
3. **Action and Support:** the mechanism will facilitate support to countries, match projects with funders, and work to mobilize and channel non-debt-generating finance, technical assistance, and technology transfer, especially for developing countries.

Regarding the governance structure for the BAM, we also follow the recommendations shared previously, which foresee:

1. **Just Transition Committee:** an inclusive body of Parties and non-Parties, meeting at least quarterly virtually and at least once a year in person. It will be responsible for convening and organizing the mechanism's activities. The participation of non-Parties must go



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beyond consultations, including contributions to agenda-setting, knowledge generation, and monitoring.

2. Just Transition Technical Body: with balanced regional representation between Parties and rights-holders, responsible for preparing the Committee's agenda, collecting and bundling projects seeking support, and identifying gaps for discussion at the COP.
3. Dedicated Secretariat: supported by the UNFCCC and other partner organizations, operating under the guidance of the Committee and the Technical Body, with a dedicated budget provided by supporting Parties and the practitioner community.

3. Connections with the JTWP (Just Transition Work Programme)

The Just Transition Work Programme (JTWP) was established at COP27 (decision 3/CMA.5) and served as the primary space for discussions on just transition within the UNFCCC until COP30. The decision also provides for a review of its effectiveness and modalities.

Now, our proposal is fully connected with the proposal of the organizational networks in which we participate, which is for the JTWP to be integrated into the BAM as its knowledge-sharing component, moving forward to receive thematic and work guidance from the Just Transition Committee and the Technical Body. This integration would prevent the fragmentation of efforts and ensure continuity for the work already developed, while embedding the JTWP within a more robust institutional framework with a greater capacity to influence implementation. Within this space, it is possible to enhance civil society participation and build robust structures that qualify the guarantee of rights for the most vulnerable populations, outlining the pathways for the realization of a just transition.

In the context of the Bonn Climate Change Conference (SB64), Parties are expected to advance on three essential fronts related to the JTWP and its coordination with the BAM:

- Structure the BAM creation process and define its scope, financing instruments, and sectoral priorities;
- Initiate the debate on indicators and methodological guidelines that incorporate human rights, gender, race, informal workers, and the care economy;
- Connect the theme to other climate agendas—NDCs, adaptation, finance, and energy transition—in order to ensure coherence among implementation instruments;
- Ensure that its continuity supports the institutionalized space for knowledge exchange among civil society organizations, governments, the private sector, the academic community, and other sectors.



4. Key recommendations

(i) Rapid implementation involving:

- Holding the first in-person meeting of the Just Transition Committee in April 2027, coordinated with the Technical Body and one of the annual dialogues of the JTWP (now part of the BAM), ensuring inputs for the SB negotiations;
- Parties should consider offering to host the first meeting of the Committee and defining the host country by COP31;
- Holding at least two additional virtual meetings of the Committee in the second half of 2027;
- Regional groups should initiate consultations on their representation in the Technical Body between SB64 and COP31, demonstrating readiness for implementation.

(ii) Financing for the operationalization of the mechanism with equity, involving:

- Support financed by the BAM must be non-debt-generating and prevent the deepening of indebtedness of countries in the Global South;
- The mechanism must address the structural barriers faced by developing countries: institutional limitations, implementation gaps, financial and technical constraints;
- Financing must cover all aspects of delivering a just transition: planning, engagement of rights-holders and involved non-state actors, capacity-building/technology transfer, and implementation.

(iii) Integration with the outcomes of the First Conference on the Transition Away from Fossil Fuels, involving:

- Ensuring a feedback space between the conference's outcomes and the decisions surrounding pathways for energy transition within the BAM.

(iv) Participation of civil society organizations and other actors, involving:

- The governance of the BAM must guarantee a seat and real, rather than merely symbolic, influence for women, youth, indigenous peoples, local communities, people of African Descent, and informal workers;
- The care economy must be recognized as a central part of the just transition agenda, with policies that value and protect this work, historically carried out by women of African descent and grassroots women;



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- The mechanism must incorporate robust human rights safeguards and establish metrics and minimum criteria for monitoring just transition actions in national plans (NDCs, NAPs, LTS);

(v) Racial justice and combating environmental racism, involving:

- For countries like Brazil, the BAM represents a strategic opportunity to incorporate the centrality of racial justice, the fight against environmental racism, and the valuation of indigenous peoples, people of African Descent, and traditional communities into national climate policies.