# The 12th session of the Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development

**Item 5 of the Provisional Agenda**
**Implementation of the Mandate and Programme of Work –**
**Consideration of Thematic Studies**
Palais des Nations, Room XVI, Geneva

## Climate finance: vulnerability and responsibility

Monday 27 October 2025, 15:00–16:00

**Transcript of statement by H.E. Mrs. Fancy Chepkemoi Too,**
**Permanent Representative of Kenya**

*Please check against delivery*

I would like to begin by thanking the Chair and Ms. Durant for providing the frame, meanwhile, our discussions today. I'd also like to thank you for the opportunity to address this critical session on climate finance: vulnerability and responsibilities, a theme that resonates deeply with our nation's lived realities and aspirations for sustainable development.

Climate change continues to exacerbate vulnerabilities across the Global South, disproportionately impacting developing countries like Kenya, where recurring droughts, flooding, and natural resources degradation threatens food security, livelihoods, and very the right to development. Kenya firmly stands on the foundations of the internationally recognized principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. Historical emissions by developed countries have created an enduring climate date which must be met with predictable, accessible and additional climate finance. This moral and legal obligation is anchored within the framework, including the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris agreement, whose operationalization Kenya has actively supported and whose main promises remains unfulfilled. Yet the troubling and recent reduction of official development assistance further compound the direct challenges for today's commitments, jeopardizing the financing necessary for adaptation and resilience in vulnerable states.

At the core of this dialogue lies the inseparable relationship between the right to development and climate justice. The right to development is not a standalone human right but is fundamentally interlinked with climate justice. As equitable climate action must safeguard development aspirations of vulnerable peoples and nations. Climate change poses profound challenges to the realization of development right by exacerbating inequalities and heightening the risk faced by marginalized communities. As Kenya continually affirms, climate justice demands that climate financing mechanisms and policies must be grounded in human rights principles, prioritizing equality, meaningful participation, transparency, and international cooperation to ensure that the benefits and balance of climate action are shared fairly. This prospective reaffirms the need to approach climate financing not merely as a technical or financing instrument, but as a vehicle to uphold human dignity, pursue social equity, and realize sustainable development for all.

Mr. Chair,

Kenya is a proactive party in pioneering climate finance initiatives that align with our national determined contributions. We have launched climate resilient agricultural innovations, invested in reforestation projects that contribute to carbon security, and implemented scalable solar and wind power programs, which demonstrate the integration of mitigations and adaptation measures. These actions are furthered by institutional frameworks that strengthen domestic climate governance and enable Kenya to participate in emerging carbon markets.

However, Kenya underscores several urgent priorities for effective climate finance mechanisms. First is robust carbon market governance. Kenya advocates for transparent, credible, and equitable carbon trading framework, particularly under the Article 6 of the Parties Agreement. The integrity of carbon credit must be ensured through rigorous verification and monitoring systems, preventing inflation or fraud thus safeguarding benefits for local communities, including women who are frontline custodians of ecosystems. Second is the scaling high integrity credits for Africa's first carbon securitization potential to be realized. We support the development of quality carbon credits that can command adequate prices, reflective of environmental and social value to catalyze investment in conservation, clean energy, and climate adaptation projects. The third is the inclusive benefit sharing protocol. Equitable distribution of benefits derived from climate financing must be codified to prevent elite capture, ensuring local communities are recognized as partners, not passive beneficiaries. Monetary returns, capacity building, and infrastructure support must flow transparently to those most impacted.

Before this expanding clean cooking solutions, Kenya has advanced clean cooking initiative to reduce household emissions and improve health outcomes, particularly for women and children. We add in identifying as an international support and integrating funding mechanisms related to this intervention, recognizing their dual climate and social benefits.

Mr. Chair,

Kenya believes that climate finance is invisible from justice and equity. The shifting global political landscape must not erode hard-won commitments but rather reaffirm international solidarity and accelerate finance delivery. We must welcome and enhance South to South cooperation, but reiterate that it must complement, not replace North-South cooperation grounded in equity. In this crucial decade leading to 2030, Kenya pledges to continue its leadership within Africa and globally to integrate climate justice into all aspects of development policy. We add all parties to commit to fully operationalizing just transition finance mechanisms that respect human rights, empower vulnerable population and as a collective action consistent with the right to development. Failure to close the climate finance gap risks immense setbacks to sustainable development, peace and security worldwide.

I thank you.

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