

# AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

## RECOMMENDATIONS TO PARTIES TO THE UNFCCC FOR HUMAN RIGHTS CONSISTENT CLIMATE ACTION IN 2022

The climate crisis is a human rights crisis.<sup>1</sup> The window of opportunity to limit the increase of global average temperatures within 1.5°C is rapidly closing.<sup>2</sup> At COP26, states failed once again to act with the urgency and ambition required by their human rights obligations. However, they also took some important commitments that must now be delivered in full.<sup>3</sup> The recent increase in fossil fuel prices, caused in part by the war in Ukraine, should not divert but rather foster their implementation and accelerate a just and human rights consistent transition to sustainable renewable energy, as well as other measures to enhance the efficiency of energy use and reduce energy demand.

At COP27, states must take bold measures on emission reductions, climate finance, loss and damage, Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE), and guarantee meaningful public participation to meet their human rights obligations and to protect the human rights of all, now and in the future.

### KEY HUMAN RIGHTS MESSAGES FOR CLIMATE ACTION

- **Protect 1.5!** Ensure that the Work Programme to Scale Mitigation Ambition and Implementation will effectively limit global warming to 1.5°C. All governments must review, and update as necessary, their 2030 emissions targets to ensure they are fully aligned with the 1.5°C imperative and reflect their responsibility for the climate crisis and their capacity.
- All states must commit to **rapidly phase out fossil fuels** rather than relying on carbon markets and carbon removal mechanisms that would in fact delay meaningful climate action and may also negatively impact on human rights.
- Wealthy states must present a clear plan that will **increase their contributions to climate finance** and collectively meet this year the goal of raising at least 100 billion USD annually, including meeting previous shortfalls, funded primarily through grant funding rather than loans.
- Ensure the Glasgow Dialogue leads to the speedy provision by wealthy countries of **new and additional finance to provide support and remedy** to people whose human rights have been negatively affected as a result of the loss and damage caused by the climate crisis.
- **Agree a concrete and human rights consistent work plan for the Glasgow Work Programme on Action for Climate Empowerment.** Wealthy states should also commit adequate support for developing countries to facilitate its implementation.
- **Protect civic space at COP27** for Egyptian and non-Egyptian NGOs and Indigenous Peoples. All states must press for meaningful improvements in the human rights situation in Egypt ahead of the conference.

<sup>1</sup> Amnesty International, *Stop burning our rights! What governments and corporations must do to protect humanity from the climate crisis*, 7 June 2021, [www.amnesty.org/en/documents/pol30/3476/2021/en/](http://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/pol30/3476/2021/en/)

<sup>2</sup> IPCC, *Climate Change 2022 - Climate Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability, Working Group II contribution to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*, Summary for Policymakers, [www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg2/downloads/report/IPCC\\_AR6\\_WGII\\_SummaryForPolicymakers.pdf](http://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg2/downloads/report/IPCC_AR6_WGII_SummaryForPolicymakers.pdf); IPCC, *Climate Change 2022 - Mitigation of Climate Change, Working Group III contribution to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*, Summary for Policymakers, [report.ipcc.ch/ar6wg3/pdf/IPCC\\_AR6\\_WGIII\\_SummaryForPolicymakers.pdf](http://report.ipcc.ch/ar6wg3/pdf/IPCC_AR6_WGIII_SummaryForPolicymakers.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> Amnesty International, *COP26 outcome: 12 months to take climate action that delivers on human rights*, 18 November 2021, [www.amnesty.org/en/documents/ior40/4989/2021/en/](http://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/ior40/4989/2021/en/)

## ROOTING DECISIONS IN HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARDS

While the Paris agreement and some of the following COP decisions include some references to human rights standards, these have remained limited. For example, the COP26 decisions related to international carbon markets only included symbolic references to the preamble of the Paris agreement that acknowledges that governments must respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights when taking action to address climate change. However, the decisions did not provide for concrete mechanisms to ensure that carbon offset projects and other non-market approaches for emission reductions do not violate the human rights of affected people.<sup>4</sup>

Rooting decisions taken within the UNFCCC in human rights standards should not be a cosmetic exercise. States' human rights obligations must guide all climate decision. Human rights principles and standards help to clarify the steps that states must take to ensure not only that climate measures are effective to protect people from the worst impacts of climate change but also that they work for all persons, without discrimination.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Ahead of COP27, Amnesty International calls on all parties to the UNFCCC to:

- Include references to human rights standards in all decisions and ensure these decisions substantively respect, protect and fulfill human rights.
- Ensure that the references to human rights included in the COP26 decisions are translated into effective measures to respect, protect and fulfil human rights in climate action, particularly in the implementation of the Glasgow work program on Action for Climate Empowerment (see below) and in other decisions related to international carbon markets and other non-market approaches for emission reductions.
- Include and fully consult human rights and gender experts in all parties' delegations to UNFCCC meetings.
- Facilitate the meaningful participation and full and equitable access to representatives of Indigenous Peoples and civil society organizations, including human rights and social justice groups.

## CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION

The recent IPCC reports have made clear that the window to keep average global temperatures within 1.5°C is rapidly closing and that the impacts of not meeting that target would be catastrophic for the protection of human rights of people around the world, and particularly for those already marginalized. Limiting global warming as much as possible and keeping the global temperature rise to 1.5°C remains the utmost imperative. Yet, current emission reduction targets by 2030 would still result in 2.4°C global warming.<sup>5</sup>

A reliance on carbon markets and carbon removal mechanisms would severely jeopardize the 1.5°C limit, as this would risk delaying genuine emissions reductions and could lead to human rights violations on a massive scale, such as impacts on food security and on the right to a healthy environment, or dispossession of Indigenous Peoples from their ancestral land and forced evictions of other communities.<sup>6</sup>

---

<sup>4</sup> Amnesty International, COP26 outcome: 12 months to take climate action that delivers on human rights, 18 November 2021, [www.amnesty.org/en/documents/ior40/4989/2021/en/](http://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/ior40/4989/2021/en/)

<sup>5</sup> Climate Action Tracker, Addressing global warming, 9 November 2021, [climateactiontracker.org/global/temperatures/](https://climateactiontracker.org/global/temperatures/)

<sup>6</sup> Amnesty International, COP26: States risk bulldozing human rights of people most affected by the climate crisis, 11 November 2021, [www.amnesty.org/en/documents/ior40/4981/2021/en/](http://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/ior40/4981/2021/en/); Amnesty International, *The impact of new technologies for climate protection on the enjoyment of human rights – Submission to the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee*, April 2022, [www.amnesty.org/en/documents/ior40/5520/2022/en/](http://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/ior40/5520/2022/en/)

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Ahead of COP27, Amnesty International calls on all parties to the UNFCCC to:

- Ensure that the Work Programme (WP) to Scale Mitigation Ambition and Implementation,<sup>7</sup> initiated at COP26, delivers decisions and actions which effectively close the emission gap and limit global warming to 1.5°C.<sup>8</sup>
- Review their 2030 emission reduction targets and ensure they are fully aligned with the 1.5°C imperative.
  - States which have not yet communicated new or updated nationally determined contributions (NDCs) should do so as soon as possible in advance of COP27, as requested by the Glasgow Climate Pact Decision.<sup>9</sup>
  - All other state parties must revisit and strengthen the 2030 targets in their NDCs as necessary to align with the 1.5°C imperative by the end of 2022, as requested by the Glasgow Climate Pact Decision.<sup>10</sup>
  - Wealthy industrialized states<sup>11</sup> must also decarbonize their economies quicker than others, including by adopting the most ambitious emission reduction targets that reflect their responsibility for the climate crisis and their higher level of resources and that would enable them to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 50% well before 2030 and reach zero carbon emissions by 2030 or as soon as feasible after then.
  - Developing countries with greater capacity<sup>12</sup> must set emission reduction targets that would enable them to reduce GHG emissions by at least 45% from 2010 levels by 2030 or as soon as possible after that, and to reach zero by 2050, as the IPCC stated that these emission reduction targets at global level are needed to limit global warming to 1.5°C.
  - Other developing countries should aim to reduce their emissions by levels consistent with the 1.5°C target as soon as possible in line with their own respective capacity and all available international financial and technical support provided for climate action.
  - All countries must urgently implement their updated commitments and reduce emissions in all sectors.
- Rapidly phase out the production and use of all fossil fuels – coal, oil and gas - in a way that delivers a just transition that safeguards the human rights of all, with the full participation of the most affected groups. In particular:
  - Fully implement the COP26 recommendation to accelerate efforts towards the “phasedown of unabated coal power and phase-out of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, while providing targeted support to the poorest and most vulnerable in line with national circumstances and recognizing the need for support towards a just transition”.<sup>13</sup>
  - Adopt a recommendation at COP27 calling on all countries to rapidly phase out all fossil fuel use and production and all fossil fuel subsidies, while recognizing the obligation for wealthy industrialized countries to provide adequate climate finance to achieve a managed, equitable and human rights-consistent phase out of existing operating fossil fuel reserves and all coal, oil and gas production in all nations.

---

<sup>7</sup> UNFCCC, Report of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement on its third session, held in Glasgow from 31 October to 13 November 2021 Addendum Part two: Action taken by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement at its third session, Decision 1/CMA.3 Glasgow Climate Pact, UN Doc. FCCC/PA/CMA/2021/10/Add.1, Para 27.

<sup>8</sup> For more detailed recommendations on what the Work Programme should deliver, see Climate Action Network, *Briefing: May Ministerial and Ministerial on Climate Action*, May 2022, [climatenetwork.org/resource/can-briefing-may-ministerial-ministerial-on-climate-action/](https://climatenetwork.org/resource/can-briefing-may-ministerial-ministerial-on-climate-action/)

<sup>9</sup> UN Doc. FCCC/PA/CMA/2021/10/Add.1, Para 28 (previously cited).

<sup>10</sup> UN Doc. FCCC/PA/CMA/2021/10/Add.1 Para 29 (previously cited)

<sup>11</sup> Amnesty International uses the term “wealthy industrialized countries” to refer to countries included in Annex 1 of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

<sup>12</sup> Amnesty International considers countries classified by the World Bank as “upper middle income” and which are also part of the G20 as “developing countries with greater capacity”. These are China, South Africa, Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, South Korea, Indonesia.

<sup>13</sup> UNFCCC, Report of the Conference of the Parties on its twenty-sixth session, held in Glasgow from 31 October to 13 November 2021, Addendum Part two: Action taken by the Conference of the Parties at its twenty-sixth session, Decision 1/CP.26 Glasgow Climate Pact, UN Doc. FCCC/CP/2021/12/Add.1, para 20.

- Adopt and implement new domestic targets related to phasing down and stopping the expansion of fossil fuels and related international commitments such as joining the Beyond Oil and Gas Alliance and Powering Past Coal Alliance, if not already a member, and endorsing the call to adopt and implement a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty.

## CLIMATE FINANCE

The provision of adequate finance to lower-income countries is not just a humanitarian issue but is a human rights obligation as part of states' duties to provide international assistance and cooperation to others to enable them to meet their own rights commitments. Providing adequate climate finance to lower-income countries is also essential to ensure that global average temperatures are kept below 1.5°C, as poorer countries need a sufficient level of resources to carry out just and human rights consistent transitions to zero carbon economies and resilient societies in the quickest timeframe possible. Wealthy countries have so far failed to meet their commitment to deliver 100 billion USD climate finance annually from 2020 till 2025 to developing countries - an amount which, in any case, falls far below what is actually needed.<sup>14</sup>

## RECOMMENDATIONS

**Ahead of COP27, Amnesty International calls on all parties the UNFCCC to:**

- Agree on clear and human rights-consistent principles<sup>15</sup> to guide the adoption, by 2024, of a new higher annual quantified goal for international climate finance from 2025 onwards.<sup>16</sup> At COP27, states should also adopt a decision that clarifies that the new goal will cover not just mitigation and adaptation measures, but also loss and damage.

**Amnesty International further calls on wealthier states to:**

- Present a clear plan to achieve and surpass the goal set by COP26 to at least double adaptation finance from 2019 levels by 2025,<sup>17</sup> taking into account that a doubling of 2019 adaptation finance would still be insufficient to enable developing countries to adequately support people to adapt to climate change. This plan should be backed up by concrete commitments by individual countries.
- Commit new and additional climate finance to less wealthy countries for human rights-consistent mitigation and adaptation measures in order to reach the 100 billion USD annual goal this year and provide 500 billion USD between 2022-2025 to make up for earlier gaps.
- Make a clear commitment at COP27 to provide climate finance to low-income countries primarily in the form of grants, not loans, to ensure that climate finance does not force them into fiscally unsustainable debt levels.
- Implement previous climate finance pledges, including those made at COP26 to the Green Climate Fund (GCF), by signing contribution agreements as soon as possible.

<sup>14</sup> According to information compiled by the UNFCCC's Standing Committee on Finance, 78 of 153 NDCs have costed needs, and these amount to USD 5.8–5.9 trillion up until 2030. Only 11% of the costed needs specify whether finance has to be domestic or international; of these USD 502 billion is identified as needs requiring international sources of finance. See UNFCCC Standing Committee on Finance, First report on the determination of the needs of developing country Parties related to implementing the Convention and the Paris Agreement, 2021, para. 16, [unfccc.int/topics/climate-finance/workstreams/needs-report](https://unfccc.int/topics/climate-finance/workstreams/needs-report). These figures were as of 31 May 2021.

<sup>15</sup> For an analysis of states human rights obligations and principles related to international climate finance see Amnesty International, *Stop burning our rights! What governments and corporations must do to protect humanity from the climate crisis*, 7 June 2021, pages 112-115, [www.amnesty.org/en/documents/pol30/3476/2021/en/](https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/pol30/3476/2021/en/). For a list of principles that must underpin the adoption of the new collective quantified goal, see Climate Action Network, *Submission: Principles on the aims of the new collective quantified goal*, February 2022, [climatenetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/CAN-Submission\\_NCGQ\\_February2022.pdf](https://climatenetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/CAN-Submission_NCGQ_February2022.pdf)

<sup>16</sup> At COP26, states established an ad-hoc work programme for 2022-2024 to set a new collective quantified finance goal by 2024. See UNFCCC, Report of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement on its third session, held in Glasgow from 31 October to 13 November 2021 Addendum Part two: Action taken by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement at its third session, Decision 9/CMA.3, FCCC/PA/CMA/2021/10/Add.3

<sup>17</sup> UN Doc. FCCC/PA/CMA/2021/10/Add.1, para 18 (previously cited).

## LOSS AND DAMAGE

At COP26, states failed to set up a financial facility or other mechanisms to provide new and additional finance, separate from those committed for climate change mitigation and adaptation and beyond insurance, to support people in lower-income countries affected by loss and damage caused by the climate crisis. Despite the coordinated efforts from developing countries to finally obtain dedicated financial commitments for loss and damage, wealthy countries once again opposed any concrete decisions in this regard. As a consequence, the COP26 outcome only established a two-year dialogue (the “Glasgow Dialogue”) to “discuss the arrangements” for funding activities related to loss and damage.<sup>18</sup> The Glasgow Dialogue should not be allowed to become another lengthy process with limited results, but must lead to the provision of adequate, new and additional finances for loss and damage to developing countries, separate from those committed for climate change mitigation and adaptation and beyond insurance.<sup>19</sup>

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Amnesty International calls on all parties to the UNFCCC to:

- Establish a Loss and Damage Finance Facility at COP27 and agree an effective and human rights-consistent process to identify the scale of funding needed to address loss and damage.
- Reach an agreement on the process and concrete milestones for each year to ensure that by the end of the Glasgow Dialogue, in 2024, the finance facility is fully operational and funded through various sources of predictable, sustainable and adequate loss and damage finance, both new and additional.
- Ensure the Glasgow Dialogue’s outcomes also provide a pathway for equitable and direct access to timely means, support and remedy, for people and communities, including Indigenous Peoples, whose human rights have been negatively affected as the result of loss and damage caused by the climate crisis, particularly in climate-vulnerable countries.

## ACTION FOR CLIMATE EMPOWERMENT

Enhancing climate change education, training, public awareness, public participation, public access to information is not only an important part of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement but is also required by states’ human rights obligations. It is essential to ensuring effective and ambitious climate action. While COP26 adopted the new 10-year Glasgow Work Programme on Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) to enhance climate change education, training, public awareness, public participation, public access to information and international cooperation, it failed to root this work programme in human rights law, principles and standards. Nevertheless, the COP26 overarching decision urges states to respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights, as well as gender equality and empowerment of women, in the implementation of the Work Programme on Action for Climate Empowerment.<sup>20</sup>

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Amnesty International calls on all parties to the UNFCCC:

- Adopt a robust action plan for the Glasgow Work Programme on Action for Climate Empowerment, with concrete activities and timelines, promoting all six elements of ACE.
  - Wealthy states should also commit to providing adequate support for developing countries to facilitate its implementation

---

<sup>18</sup> UN Doc. FCCC/PA/CMA/2021/10/Add.1, para 73 (previously cited).

<sup>19</sup> For more detailed recommendations on what the Glasgow Dialogue should deliver, see Climate Action Network, *Briefing: May Ministerial and Ministerial on Climate Action*, May 2022, [climatenetwork.org/resource/can-briefing-may-ministerial-ministerial-on-climate-action/](https://climatenetwork.org/resource/can-briefing-may-ministerial-ministerial-on-climate-action/)

<sup>20</sup> UN Doc. FCCC/PA/CMA/2021/10/Add.1, para 91 (previously cited).

- Ensure the action plan contains clear references to, and contributes to the fulfillment of, each state's human rights obligations, including the right to access to information, participation in public affairs, freedoms of expression, association and peaceful assembly, as well as the right of Indigenous Peoples to free, prior and informed consent.
- Ensure the action plan recognizes the role of environmental human rights defenders in promoting effective and ambitious climate action and concrete measures to protect them in line with the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders.
- Agree provisions for regular and effective reporting obligations from state parties on the implementation of the Work Programme and the action plan, with progress being measured by appropriate human rights indicators, targets and benchmarks.

## GLOBAL STOCKTAKE

As mandated by Article 14 of the Paris Agreement, at COP28 in 2023 states will undertake the first “global stocktake” to assess progress towards achieving the objectives of the Paris Agreement in terms of mitigation, adaptation, and finance, and “in the light of equity and best available science”. This process, due to repeat every five years, was conceived to prompt enhanced commitments from states and to inform the preparation of future Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). While it will conclude at COP28, the process has already started at COP26. This year, states and non-state parties, including civil society, are encouraged to present submissions that will inform the global stocktake at COP28. At the June 2022 UN Climate Change Conference subsidiary bodies session (SB56), states will also start a series of technical dialogues that will continue at COP27 and conclude in June 2023.<sup>21</sup>

It is essential that the global stocktake results in the urgent re-alignment of national targets and commitments to the 1.5°C limit and ultimately is an effective tool to protect people from the impacts of climate change and, support them to mitigate and adapt and address loss and damage to achieve climate justice. For this, states must ensure that the global stocktake review climate action in light of human rights, including the rights of Indigenous Peoples, public participation, gender equality, and a just transition for workers.<sup>22</sup>

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Amnesty International calls on all parties to the UNFCCC to:

- Present submissions to the UNFCCC Secretariat that, while responding to the prepared guiding questions, also reflect on how committed or undertaken climate measures are consistent with states' human rights obligations.
- Ensure the whole global stocktake process, including the technical dialogues and negotiations, is fully inclusive for developing states' delegations, as well as for civil society organizations, Indigenous Peoples and local communities. It should enable and facilitate the input of indigenous knowledge and local communities' practices that are sometimes transmitted in informal ways.
- At the technical dialogues to be carried out in June 2022 at SB56 and at COP27, ensure that the following crucial issues are adequately considered:
  - mapping of existing financial flows for loss and damage and the gaps that need to be filled;
  - mapping of non-financial needs to provide remedy for loss and damage to affected people;

<sup>21</sup> For more information, see [unfccc.int/topics/global-stocktake/global-stocktake#eq-2](https://unfccc.int/topics/global-stocktake/global-stocktake#eq-2)

<sup>22</sup> For an analysis of the importance of human rights in the Global Stocktake, see Center for International Environmental Law, *Briefing note: Promoting human rights in climate action - a global stocktake informed by human rights*, February 2022, [www.ciel.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/2022\\_2\\_2\\_CIEL\\_Briefing\\_A-Global-Stocktake-Informed-by-Human-Right-1.pdf](https://www.ciel.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/2022_2_2_CIEL_Briefing_A-Global-Stocktake-Informed-by-Human-Right-1.pdf)

- progress made by parties in the phase-out of fossil fuel use and production and transition to sustainable renewable energy through a just and human rights-consistent transition;
  - the respect of human rights, including rights of Indigenous Peoples, public participation, gender equality, and a just transition for workers.
- Identify, by COP27, a suitable way forward to ensure that the global stocktake considers not only climate action by state actors but also by businesses and financial institutions.

## CIVIC SPACE IN EGYPT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT COP27

The meaningful participation of a broad range of civil society actors and Indigenous Peoples at UN climate conferences and the exercise of their rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly are crucial to ensure scrutiny of governmental action and to provide diverse inputs that can shape states' decisions. Free exercise of these rights is therefore essential to foster global efforts to address the climate crisis.

However, COP27 will take place amid an ongoing human rights crisis in Egypt, as the authorities have severely repressed the rights to freedom of expression, association, and peaceful assembly.<sup>23</sup> They have effectively closed down civic space in the country and criminalized any form of peaceful dissent. Thousands languish in jail in inhuman conditions simply for peacefully exercising their human rights or following grossly unfair trials. The authorities have further failed to address discrimination and sexual and gender-based violence against women, girls and LGBTI people. Street protests – an integral part of previous UNFCCC COPs – have been eradicated through a gamut of repressive measures. Given this appalling track record, there are serious concerns about the safety of all COP27 civil society and Indigenous Peoples participants.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

To ensure that all participants at COP27 are able to focus on addressing the climate crisis through safe and meaningful participation<sup>24</sup> without fear of intimidation or reprisals, Amnesty International urges all parties to the UNFCCC, as well as international bodies and non-governmental organizations participating in the event, to call on the Egyptian authorities to:

- Immediately and unconditionally release all those arbitrarily detained solely for the peaceful exercise of their human rights or for reasons of discrimination on any grounds including religion, gender identity and sexual orientation.
- Take measures to ensure that prisoners are held in conditions that meet international standards and ensure that all those held have access to timely and adequate medical care, and their families and lawyers.
- End reprisals against human rights defenders and civil society workers including by:
  - closing the criminal investigations into the legitimate work of human rights NGOs, known as Case 173/2011;
  - lifting all arbitrary travel bans and asset freezes against civil society workers and human rights defenders;
  - guaranteeing a safe and enabling environment for human rights organizations including by amending Law No. 149/2019 on NGOs to bring it in line with international human rights law and standards on the right to freedom of association.

<sup>23</sup> Amnesty International, *Egypt: COP27 should not overshadow human rights crisis in the country*, 23 May 2022, [www.amnesty.org/en/documents/MDE12/5638/2022/en/](https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/MDE12/5638/2022/en/)

<sup>24</sup> On 26 March, the Egyptian Minister of Environment, Yasmine Fouad, launched the first national dialogue on climate change in Sharm El-Sheikh bringing together Egyptian officials, media, civil society representatives, and social media influencers. Even though the minister stated that a participatory approach involving several parties was needed to tackle climate change, independent organizations were not invited. This demonstrates the challenges to meaningful participation in Egypt.

- Respect the right to freedom of peaceful assembly, and issue clear instructions to security forces to comply fully with the international standards governing the use of force by law enforcement officials, as set out in the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials and the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials.
- Bring legislation in line with Egypt's obligations under international law, including by repealing or amending laws that criminalize the exercise of human rights and erode fair trial guarantees. These include Law No.58/2015 on counterterrorism, Law No.8/2015 on the Organization of Lists of Terrorist Entities and Terrorists, Law No.175/2018 on cybercrimes, Law No.180/2018 on Regulating the Press and Media; Law No.107/2013 on protests; Law No.10/1914 on assembly, Law No.150/1950 on Criminal Procedures and Law No.58/1937 known as the Penal Code which includes provisions criminalizing consensual sex between adults in private and restricting the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion.
- End all forms of arbitrary censorship of online news, human rights and other websites and independent media.
- Ensure the meaningful participation of civil society and Indigenous Peoples at and around COP27 without fear of reprisals by:
  - Facilitating the accreditation of independent Egyptian civil society organizations (CSOs) to COP27;
  - Ensure availability of affordable and accessible accommodation for civil society and Indigenous Peoples observers in Sharm El-Sheikh for example by requiring hotels to provide reasonable rates for these participants;
  - Ensuring the timely provision of visas to all participants, and particularly those from the global south, requiring visas in advance to enter Egypt;
  - Facilitating the organisation of parallel events by CSOs and Indigenous Peoples ahead and during COP27, inside and outside the COP27 venue;
  - Ensuring all persons can freely express themselves and peacefully demonstrate ahead, during and after COP27 inside and outside the COP27 venue;
  - Instructing security forces and other law enforcement bodies to refrain from any act of reprisal against members of Egyptian civil society for their engagement with COP27 or exercise of their rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly in relation to COP27, and hold accountable those violating these rights.

Amnesty International further calls on all parties to the UNFCCC and the UNFCCC Secretariat to:

- Provide adequate funding to subsidize hotel costs for those civil society and Indigenous Peoples observers unable to afford them.
- Ensure physical access for Egyptian and non-Egyptian civil society and Indigenous Peoples observers to the COP27 venue, including meeting rooms, plenary and negotiation rooms, as well as effective mechanisms for remote participation.