



The Group of Friends of
Culture Based Climate Action

Meeting of the Ministers of Culture within the Framework of the Twenty-Ninth Session of the Conference of the Parties

Baku, Azerbaijan

15 November 2024

Communiqué by the COP Presidencies' Culture Troika

On 15 November 2024, Ministers of Culture and representatives of participating entities gathered for the second High-Level Ministerial Meeting of the Ministers of Culture within the Framework of the Twenty-Ninth Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP29), under the leadership of the COP Presidencies Troika, the United Arab Emirates, Azerbaijan, and Brazil – Presidencies of COP28, COP29 and COP30, respectively.

The Ministers and representatives of participating entities **acknowledged the important momentum gained in the culture and climate nexus over the past 12 months since the inception of the Group of Friends of Culture-Based Climate Action;**

They have reiterated their deep concern over the **growing and multifaceted impact of climate change on cultural heritage**, in all its forms, and the disproportionate impact that climate change has on certain regions as well as on vulnerable groups;

Taking stock of the progress made since 2023, the Ministers and representatives of participating entities **welcomed the inclusion of a target dedicated to cultural heritage within the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience** in line with the implementation of the Global Goal on Adaptation;

The Ministers and representatives of participating entities **reaffirmed their commitment to continue working towards the approval of the first Work Plan on Culture-based Climate Action at the UNFCCC**, acknowledging the relevance of the strategy outlined by the COP29 Culture Troika.



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To that end, they have further **expressed their strong belief in the integral role of culture for climate action**, as regards both climate mitigation and adaptation as well as behavioural change, and the importance to support ecological transition of the cultural and creative sectors.

The Ministers and representatives of participating entities **approved the Terms of Reference of the GFCBCA** as an important step in providing a roadmap and securing a solid foundation for the development of the strategies and initiatives centered on culture's role to foster climate action.

In striving to achieve the commitments enshrined in international normative instruments, such as the **2022 MONDIACULT Declaration** and the **2024 G20 Salvador da Bahia Declaration**, the COP29 Culture Troika highlighted the need for a strong commitment of Member States to i) Further integrate culture in policies and strategies on climate adaptation and mitigation, including national adaptation plans and nationally determined contributions; ii) Foster cross-sectoral policy-making at national level, including through enhanced inter-ministerial cooperation; iii) Harness the transformative agency of the cultural sector to promote behavioural change and sustainable production and consumption patterns; iv) Invest in knowledge building and data collection on culture and climate change; v) Promote structured dialogue and coordinated advocacy on culture-based climate action and sustaining a standing working mechanism in the COP; vi) Foster international cooperation on culture and climate action, including South-South and North-South cooperation, based on values of solidarity and inclusiveness; and, vii) Bolster support for the inclusion of culture as a stand-alone goal in future discussions on how to advance sustainable development beyond 2030, recognizing the power of culture as a transformative enabler and driver for sustainable development.

By the end of the meeting, Yalchin Rafiyev, Lead Negotiator of the COP29 Presidency, highlighted the support for the efforts of the GFCBCA towards inserting culture in the global climate agenda.

The Ministers and representatives of participating entities thanked the Ministry of Culture of Azerbaijan for convening the second High-Level Ministerial Meeting of the Ministers of Culture within the COP framework and welcomed the launch of the Culture For Climate



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(C4C) initiative, which contributes to the ongoing efforts to make culture part of the climate frameworks.

The Ministers and representatives of participating entities thanked the International Organizations including UNESCO as Lead Knowledge Partner and ICESCO as a key partner of the Second High-Level Ministerial Dialogue, Non-Governmental Organizations and Civil Society for the continued support in leveraging culture as a necessary part of the UNFCCC framework.

They have agreed to reconvene at COP30, in 2025, under the Presidency of Brazil, to take stock of new developments and challenges related to the culture-climate nexus.