Brahma Kumaris
Environment Initiative

CONFERENCE REPORT

UN Climate Change Conference

COP31

9–18 November 2026 | Antalya, Türkiye



BK Team: Burhan, Birajith, Shantanu, Sonja, Sister Maureen, Golo, Aneta, Dorcas, Krishna, Swapnil

Our Theme

“Climate Resilience Begins Within”

Inside this report

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02 The World Leaders’ Summit — 11–13 November 2026

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04 The Final Stretch — 17–18 November 2026

Key facts & dates

COP31 at a Glance

The Conference

100+
presidents, prime ministers and ministers expected to deliver official national addresses

100,000
delegates registered for the conference – almost

91
heads of state and government confirmed their participation

$1.3 trillion
climate finance goal – vulnerable nations demand accessible grants

10,000+
activists marched through Antalya to demand climate justice

21
unresolved issues as COP31 neared its end

The Brahma Kumaris

Booth No. 1
prime location – a lively meeting point for sharing our work

4th year
of our Climate Wisdom Studio at COP

150
participants from 50+ countries at the COY21 Youth Conference

~40
people at our first programme in the Green Zone

5-star
sustainable building – BK Solar House, Gyan Sarovar

VR 3D
immersive experience of Madhuban and our environment projects

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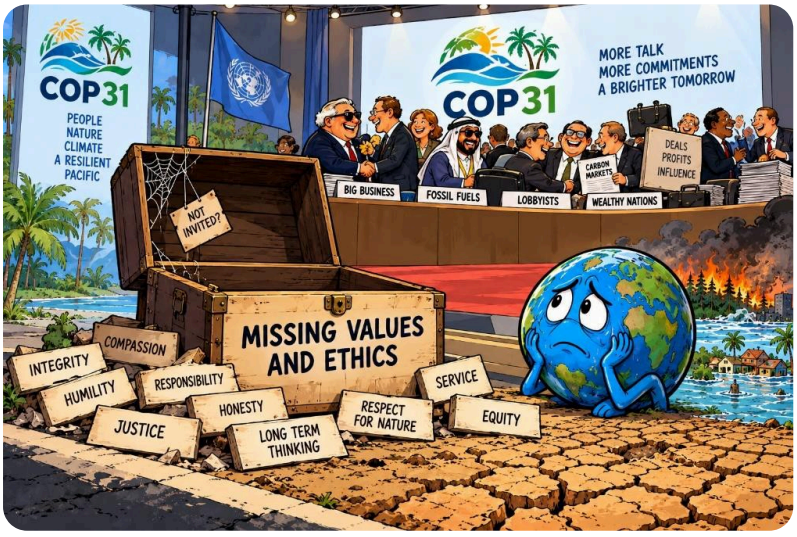
Prologue

Setting the Scene

This year's COP comes with huge expectations. We are already witnessing an unfolding climate catastrophe—mega-droughts, fires and floods, intensified by a powerful El Niño. Meanwhile, geopolitical tensions only make things harder. Politicians and negotiators are under immense pressure to deliver real results.

Interestingly, this year's conference is held under the ambitious motto **"COP of the Future – COP of Implementation."** Türkiye and Australia agreed to a rare joint-presidency and shared leadership model after a long standoff. Monday was the opening of the conference, and everybody expressed the urgency of joint climate action to keep global warming below 1.5°C.





Motto of COP31

"COP of the Future – COP of Implementation"

Türkiye • Australia

a rare joint presidency and shared leadership model

1.5°C

urgency of joint climate action to keep global warming below this limit

Our presence

The Brahma Kumaris at COP31

Our Theme

“Climate Resilience Begins Within”

Under the theme **“Climate Resilience Begins Within,”** the team brings an important spiritual perspective to the climate discussions, highlighting the connection between our thoughts, values, lifestyles and the state of the planet.



Burhan, Birajith, Aneta, Swapnil, Dorcas

Through dialogues, interviews, meditation experiences and activities at **Exhibition Booth No. 1**, the Brahma Kumaris will share the message that lasting climate action requires not only technological and political solutions, but also a transformation of human consciousness.



Sister Maureen Goodman, Aneta, Sonja and Golo registering for COP31

> As the negotiations begin, we are reminded that **peace, cooperation and resilience in the world begin with peace, cooperation and resilience within ourselves.**

Exhibition

Exhibition Booth No. 1

Our exhibition booth No.1 enjoys a prime location, and from the first day, it has been a lively meeting point for sharing our work, offering blessing cards and reconnecting with delegates.






Blessing cards and conversations with delegates at Booth No. 1



BK Team: Birajith, Shantanu, Dorcas, Swapnil, Aneta, Sonja, Golo, Sister Maureen. Burhan is taking the photo

Our team

The Brahma Kumaris Team at COP31



BK Team: Burhan, Birajith, Shantanu, Sonja, Sister Maureen, Golo, Aneta, Dorcas, Krishna, Swapnil

M **Sister Maureen Goodman**
Dialogues and meetings throughout COP; keynote speaker at the Tanzania Pavilion

G **Golo**
Hosts Climate Wisdom Studio interviews; presentation at the Solar Hub

S **Sonja Ohlsson**
Moderates Climate Wisdom Studio dialogues; met Queen Mary of Denmark

A **Aneta**
RINGO meetings; Leaders' Summit opening; meditation at the Energy & Nature event

S **Shantanu Mandal**
Youth delegate; panellist at the Rotary Club and Tanzania Pavilions

B **Birajith**
Media training; evening meditation at the Cryosphere Pavilion

B **Burhan**
BK team; Climate Wisdom Studio team

D **Dorcas**
BK team; left after the busy first week

S **Swapnil**
BK team

K **Sister Krishna**
Radio Madhuban at the COP31 Pressdesk

R **Reena**
From Leicester; brought Mother Earth's message to COP31

B **Biru**
From London; COY21 Youth Conference

Team members and their roles are drawn from the daily accounts in this report.

> Through positive vibrations and the message that inner transformation is the key to world renewal, our delegation plays a valuable role in supporting the nearly 95,000 delegates at COP31.

Before the conference

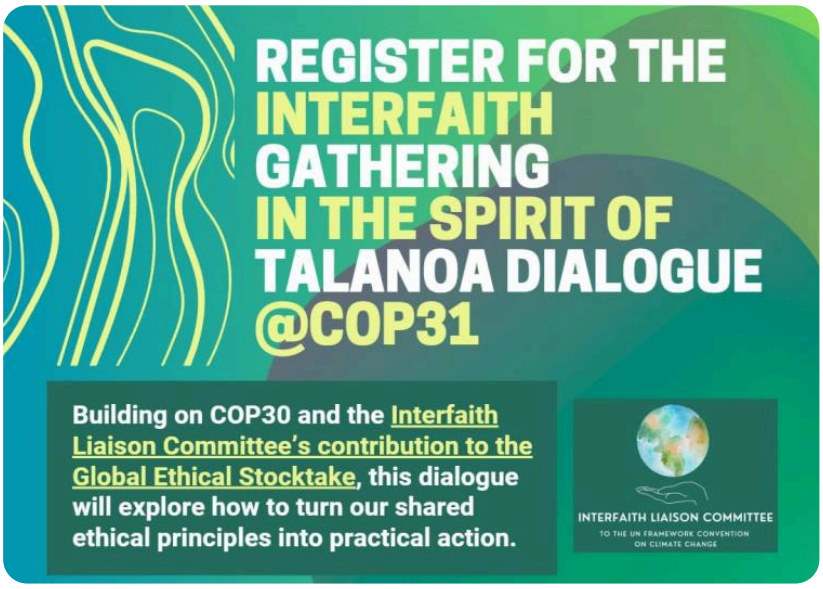
Pre-COP Events

4 November • Online

Talanoa Dialogue

The Talanoa Dialogue at COP31 took place online this year, on 4th Nov. The dialogue aimed to build concretely on the discussions initiated at COP30 and further develop the Interfaith Liaison Committee's contribution to the Global Ethical Stocktake. The dialogue focused on how we can translate the shared ethical principles and commitments emerging from COP30 into practical action.

Talanoa dialogues are Fijian indigenous peoples' way of solving problems in their communities, and Fiji, when president of COP23, introduced the concept to work on the most challenging issues. The methodology of a Talanoa Dialogue leads participants to address the following questions:



Interfaith gathering in the spirit of the Talanoa Dialogue

The three Talanoa questions

01 Where are we?

02 Where do we want to go?

03 How do we get there?

And as faith communities active in climate action all over the world, the Talanoa Dialogue will bring us to discuss the greatest climate challenges: where are we; where do we want to go; and how do we get there. Sister Maureen, Valeriane and Aneta took part from the BK's.

Training

Media Training

Birajith and Shantanu participated in a Media Training prior to COP



Youth

COY21 Youth Conference



COY21 Youth Conference in Antalya – Three Days of Inspiration, Connection and Climate Action!

Over three inspiring days, 150 participants from more than 50 countries came together to create a vibrant community of young people united by their love and care for Mother Earth and one another.

Brahma Kumaris was represented by Biru and Shantanu from London, who facilitated a session, contributed as speakers to another, and connected with like-hearted young changemakers from around the world.



The Brahma Kumaris' first programme in the Green Zone – Sister Maureen, Aneta, Shantanu

PART 01 9–10 November 2026

01

The Conference Begins

Today, the **"Antalya Leaders Summit"** has just started. More than 100 presidents, prime ministers and ministers are expected to deliver their official national addresses as part of the climate negotiations. Almost 100,000 delegates are registered, and due to the extremely high security measures, people sometimes get stuck for hours in transportation.

100+
presidents, prime ministers and ministers

100,000
delegates registered – almost

Booth No. 1
the Brahma Kumaris exhibition

In this part

→ Highlights of the Opening Days – Danish Pavilion, Green Zone, Climate Wisdom Studio 11

→ Tuesday 10th Nov. 13

→ Part 01 Highlights 14

Highlights of the Opening Days

Danish Pavilion • Green Zone • Climate Wisdom Studio



Danish Pavilion

Meeting the Queen of Denmark

At the opening of the Danish Pavilion at COP31, Sonja had a brief encounter with Queen Mary of Denmark and presented her with a blessing card.

Our first programme

Green Zone Event

The first programme for the Brahma Kumaris at COP31 this year was a side event at the **COP31 Green Zone, Zero Waste Hub, Stage 1**. Sister Maureen, Aneta and Shantanu spoke on the theme **"Consciousness, Community and Food Sovereignty: Three Pathways to Climate Resilience."** The event brought together reflections on the importance of inner awareness, community engagement and sustainable food systems in building climate resilience, with an audience of approximately 40 people.

The programme featured a dialogue followed by a film screening presenting a case study from India, highlighting the impact of climate-induced migration on local communities and their way of life.

VIDEO • SCAN THE QR CODE OR CLICK

Watch Program

www.youtube.com/@ecobrahmakumaris

Interview series

Climate Wisdom Studio

This year we are also recording interviews inside the conference for our Climate Wisdom Studio. Golo is interviewing Margareta Koltai, Policy Advisor, the Church of Sweden.



Climate Wisdom Studio - Youth Leadership for Climate Action

Young voices took centre stage as our Climate Wisdom Studio kicked off for the fourth consecutive year! Shantanu interviewed Lucy Plummer (Youth Rep. Soka Gakkai Int. Office for UN Affairs), Saikat Das, (Net Zero Strategist), Birajith and Sonja, exploring youth perspectives on climate change, their hopes for the future and the important role of young people in shaping a more sustainable world.





Climate Wisdom Studio – Youth Leadership for Climate Action

VIDEO • SCAN THE QR CODE OR CLICK

Watch live

www.youtube.com/@ecobrahmakumaris

NOV
10

Tuesday 10th Nov.

TED Countdown House • Thomas Hirsch

Morning

Breakfast at TED Countdown House



For Aneta and Sonja the day started early with a breakfast event at the **TED Countdown House in Antalya.** Convened by Project Dandelion, this invitation-only working breakfast brings together delegates from COP to discuss the intersection between Health, Women and Climate Change. What will it take to turn that knowledge into action? Sonja had the opportunity to steer the discussion towards mental health and to guide a meditation.

Afternoon

An Inspiring Exchange with Thomas Hirsch

In the afternoon, the team had an **inspiring exchange** with Thomas Hirsch, Adviser and Strategist on Climate Development. Together, we explored how the Brahma Kumaris can further strengthen their contribution to the COP processes and bring their unique values-based perspective more effectively into the global climate dialogue.



The Climate Wisdom Studio

The Human Dimension of Climate Change

Under the theme “The Human Dimension of Climate Change,” we welcomed three guests to the studio. Golo interviewed Thomas Hirsch, Director of Climate & Development Advice, Madeleine-Alisa Wörner from Climate & Energy Policy at Misereor, and Sonja. The conversation explored how climate change is affecting people's lives and the important role that values, meditation and prayer can play in addressing these challenges.



Burhan, Sonja, Golo, Madeleine-Alisa Wörner, Thomas Hirsch

VIDEO • SCAN THE QR CODE OR CLICK

Watch live

www.youtube.com/@ecobrahmakumaris

Part 01 Highlights

01 Met Queen Mary of Denmark at the opening of the Danish Pavilion

02 First BK programme in the Green Zone – about 40 participants

03 Climate Wisdom Studio launched for the fourth consecutive year

04 Health, women and climate change at TED Countdown House

05 An inspiring exchange with Thomas Hirsch

06 Studio dialogue on ‘The Human Dimension of Climate Change’



World leaders at the COP31 Leaders' Summit, Antalya

PART 02 11–13 November 2026

02

The World Leaders' Summit

Following two days of intense statements at the World Leaders' Summit, where urgent warnings from the UN and vulnerable nations met competing global priorities, COP31 in Antalya is now moving from speeches into the heart of the climate negotiations.

91
heads of state and government confirmed their participation

Chris Bowen
COP President

3 key issues
climate finance • adaptation • clean energy

In this part

- Wednesday 11th Nov – Summit opening, evening meditation, Climate Wisdom Studio 17
- Thursday 12th – Friday 13th Nov. – exhibition and studio dialogues 19
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State of play

Under the leadership of COP President Chris Bowen, delegates are tackling some of the most challenging issues, incl. climate finance, adaptation and accelerating the transition to clean energy. New initiatives and commitments continue to emerge, including a proposed UN disaster-risk financing platform and a growing focus on building more resilient cities.

91

Ahead of the summit, **91 heads of state and government had confirmed their participation**, demonstrating high-level international engagement on climate action.



Message from the UN Secretary-General

UN Secretary-General António Guterres delivered a powerful message of urgency, warning that the climate crisis is advancing faster than global efforts to address it. He stressed that the first climate duty is to tell the truth and that science calls not for surrender, but for stronger action.

The Brahma Kumaris perspective

Amid these complex negotiations, the Brahma Kumaris continue to bring a distinctive perspective to COP31: **the importance of inner resilience, ethical values and our shared humanity in turning global commitments into meaningful action.**

Through our Climate Wisdom Studio, conversations, events and encounters across the conference, we explore how a change in consciousness can inspire the cooperation, compassion and determination needed to create a more sustainable and peaceful world.

NOV
11

Wednesday 11th Nov

Leaders' Summit • Evening Meditation • Climate Wisdom Studio

World Leaders' Summit

High-Level Summit Opening

Aneta got the opportunity to attend the spectacular opening of the COP31 Leaders' Summit, that brought together world leaders under the theme "Towards a Sustainable, Resilient and Equitable Future."



The spectacular opening of the COP31 Leaders' Summit

> Towards a Sustainable, Resilient and Equitable Future
>
> — Theme of the COP31 Leaders' Summit

Meditation • Cryosphere Pavilion

Evening Meditation at COP31 - Shared Seas, Shared Humanity



Birajith conducted an evening meditation on the topic of water and the sea at the Cryosphere Pavilion. A small gathering decided to stay late at the pavilion and enjoy the meditation. The topic of ocean created a sense of being unlimited, a sense of shared humanity across distance, cultures and changing seas.

Watch

Media interview

Faith and Climate Action in South Asia

Golo gave an online interview from temporary home office on how faith and religious institutions can contribute to climate action across South Asia. The reporter is exploring how faith, religious beliefs and institutions can become drivers of practical climate action, the potential of their community networks to support environmental protection, and the challenges of translating spiritual values into measurable outcomes.



Golo – online interview from a temporary home office

20 YEARS Dialogue Earth

Climate Wisdom Studio

Empower Communities, Protect the Planet

Stéphane Pouffary, CEO of ENERGIES 2050, and Francesca de Gasparis, Executive Director of SAFCEI, joined Maureen as guests in our Climate Wisdom Studio this evening. Golo interviewed them about what brings them to COP, their personal motivations and their hopes for the future.





Guests in conversation at the Climate Wisdom Studio

VIDEO • SCAN THE QR CODE OR CLICK

Watch on YouTube

www.youtube.com/@ecobrahmakumaris

NOV 12–13

Thursday 12th – Friday 13th Nov.

Exhibition • Climate Wisdom Studio

Due to high-level summit the access to shuttlebus etc is massively restricted so not so much activity. Maureen was able to attend part of the high-level summit. She was also interviewed by 'Alo Prothom', the Bangladesh newspaper with the largest circulation in both Bangla and English.

The Exhibition keeps being very busy. The new VR Immersive 3D is popular and gives the visitor a real time experience of our Madhuban and environment projects,





The new VR Immersive 3D experience at our exhibition

Climate Wisdom Studio

Education and Ethics for Climate Action

How can education and ethical values inspire meaningful climate action? In this Climate Wisdom Studio conversation, Golo welcomed Maureen, Dr. Pramod Kumar Sharma from the Foundation for Environmental Education, and Rev. Einar Tjelle from the Church of Norway. Together, they explored how education, faith and shared values can help build a more sustainable future.



Golo, Maureen, Dr. Pramod Kumar Sharma, Burhan



Golo, Maureen, Sonja and Rev. Einar Tjelle from the Church of Norway

VIDEO • SCAN THE QR CODE OR CLICK

Watch on YouTube

www.youtube.com/@ecobrahmakumaris

Interfaith cooperation

Interfaith Meeting

The faith-based organisation met to coordinate activities, share news and network. Aneta and Shantanu participated.



Representatives of faith-based organisations at the interfaith meeting

Climate Wisdom Studio

Ethics at the Heart of COP31

At Climate Wisdom Studio, Sonja Ohlsson welcomed Sailesh Rao of Climate Healers, Ashley Kitisya of the Laudato Si' Movement, and Maureen. They explored how ethics, compassion and justice can inspire plant-based living, care for animals and hope for the future.





Ethics, compassion and justice at the Climate Wisdom Studio

VIDEO • SCAN THE QR CODE OR CLICK

Watch on YouTube

www.youtube.com/@ecobrahmakumaris

Youth voices

Young Climate Activists



Young people were protesting near our stand, with Greta Thunberg among them. She also visited our stand and received blessing cards.

Part 02 Highlights

01 91 heads of state and government confirmed their participation	02 Leaders' Summit theme – Towards a Sustainable, Resilient and Equitable Future
03 'Shared Seas, Shared Humanity' evening meditation at the Cryosphere Pavilion	04 Online interview on faith and climate action in South Asia
05 The new VR Immersive 3D experience proved popular	06 Greta Thunberg visited our stand and received blessing cards



Sunday 15th Nov. – the BK team by the sea in Antalya

PART 03 14–16 November 2026

03

Into the Final Week

The COP31 climate summit in Antalya, Türkiye, has entered its final week with negotiators scrambling to overcome sluggish progress and deep geopolitical divides. Frustration runs high inside the venue due to grueling two-to-three-hour traffic commutes and the absence of an official United States delegation.

Final week
negotiators scrambling to overcome sluggish progress

2–3 hours
grueling traffic commutes to the venue

USA
absence of an official United States delegation

In this part

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- Sunday 15th Nov. – tour down the coast 27
- Monday 16th Nov. – Rotary Club Pavilion, Radio Madhuban, Climate Wisdom Studio 28
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State of play

Inside the negotiating rooms, deeply entrenched factions are clashing over money, energy, and trade. Vulnerable developing nations are demanding accessible grants toward the $1.3 trillion climate finance goal, while wealthier countries cite domestic debt and inflation as barriers. Meanwhile, major fossil fuel producers are fiercely resisting binding phase-out roadmaps, and emerging economies are pushing back against green tariffs. Outside the venue, more than 10,000 activists marched through Antalya over the weekend to demand climate justice and criticize the host nation's ongoing coal expansion. As government ministers arrive to resolve deadlocked texts, the next few days will determine whether COP31 delivers real action or ends in another watered-down compromise.

$1.3 trillion

climate finance goal – vulnerable developing nations demand accessible grants

10,000+

activists marched through Antalya over the weekend to demand climate justice



BK Team Update

After a week of intensive programmes and networking, Birajith and Dorcas are leaving. A heartfelt thank you to both! Sister Krishna from Radio Madhuban and Reena from Leicester have arrived and will focus on youth programmes and interviews. A warm welcome to both!

Activities at the Venue

Green Zone • Press Conference • TED Countdown House • Climate Wisdom Studio

Brahma Kumaris & SAFCEI

Green Zone

The Brahma Kumaris and SAFCEI did a morning program together in the Green Zone, which is open for all citizens. Many school classes visits do learn more about climate change and in today session there were students from Istanbul and other cities. Green Zone is busy and millions of visitors are expected during COP. The topic this morning was Ethical and Youth Dimensions of the Clean Energy Transition. Southern African Faith Communities' Environment Institute (SAFCEI) is an umbrella organisation doing amazing work with NGO's.



Students and participants at the Green Zone programme



David Munene, Golo, Francesca de Gasparis, Birajith, Joanne Harding

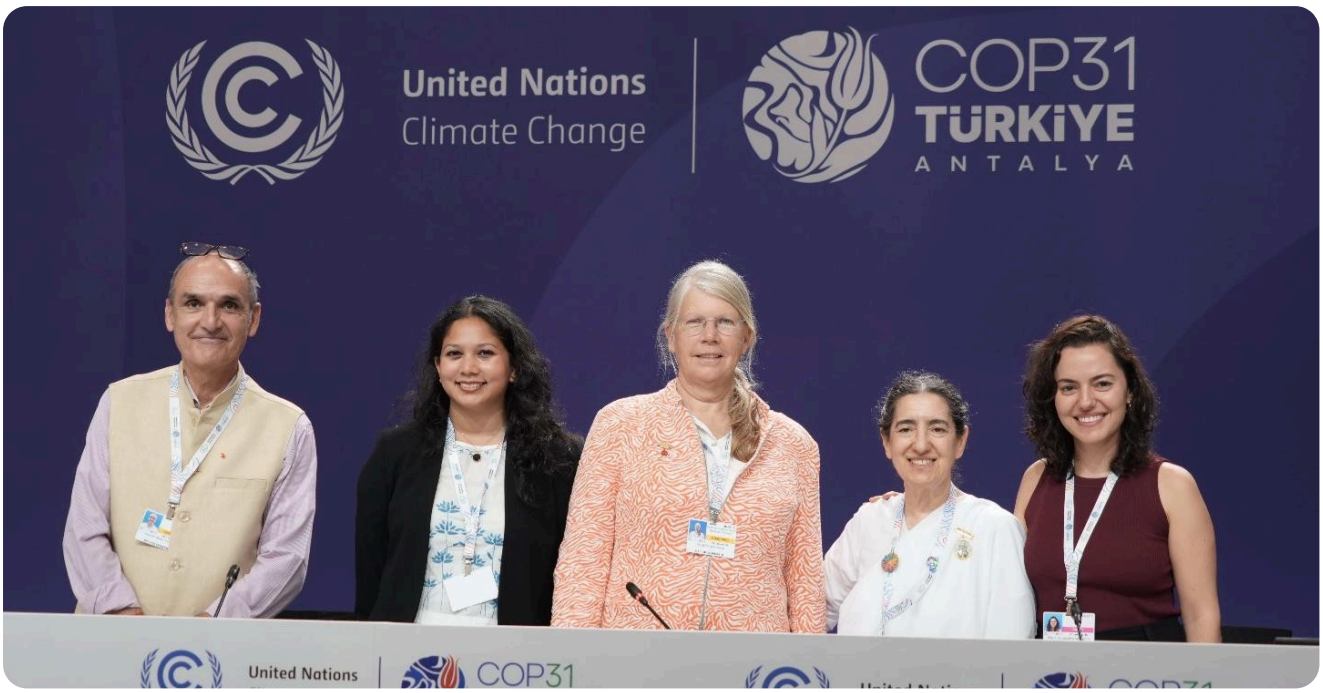
VIDEO • SCAN THE QR CODE OR CLICK

Watch program

www.youtube.com/live/zRjE5ekCW9w

With the Center for Earth Ethics

Press Conference



Golo, Samira Siddique, Sonja, Maureen, Flavia Bellaguarda

Global Ethical Stocktake: A New Awareness for Climate Action

This year's press conference was organised jointly with the Center for Earth Ethics and focused on the Global Ethical Stocktake, an initiative launched by the Brazilian government at COP30. The discussion explored the background and latest developments of the Stocktake, how ethical principles are put into practice on the ground, and the deeper spiritual meaning of ethics.

VIDEO • SCAN THE QR CODE OR CLICK

Watch recording

unfccc.int/event/brahma-kumaris-world-spiritual-university-global-ethical-stocktake-a-new-awareness-for-climate

Interview

TED Countdown House



Golo with Lindsay Levin, Co-Founder of TED Countdown House

TED Countdown House has been a space for conversation and connection at COP conferences for several years. Golo interviewed its Co-Founder, Lindsay Levin, and we will broadcast the conversation in our Climate Wisdom Studio. This year, TED Countdown House was located in a restaurant surrounded by a beautiful pine forest, close to the COP venue.

Interview

Benefits of a Plant-Based Diet

Aneta in an interview with Bui Linh Giang, Vegan Health Coach, on the importance and benefits of a plant-based diet for individual health and the planet.



Climate Wisdom Studio

Ethics at the Heart of COP31



Ethics and governance at the Climate Wisdom Studio

Flávia Bellaguarda, Project Manager for the COP30 Special Advisory Office of the Brazilian Government, joined Maureen Goodman at Climate Wisdom Studio this evening. Sonja Ohlsson moderated a dialogue on ethics and its vital role in governance and climate action.

Watch on this link

NOV
15

Sunday 15th Nov.

BK team tour down the coast

Sunday the COP conference is closed. Delegates use the opportunity to take a rest, catch up and also visit the beautiful surroundings of Antalya. The BK team make a tour down the coast and had a beautiful time in nature. The highest peak of the Western Taurus Mountain Range is over 3000 meters.







The BK team's day by the sea near Antalya

NOV 16

Monday 16th Nov.

Rotary Club Pavilion • Radio Madhuban • Climate Wisdom Studio

Rotary Club Pavilion • Panel discussion

Caring for the Changemakers: Burnout, Belonging and Collective Power

The Rotary Club Pavilion organised a side event titled **"Caring for the Changemakers: Burnout, Belonging and Collective Power."** Shantanu was invited to join the panel, exploring what it means to put people at the centre of climate systems change. The discussion addressed the emotional and relational dimensions of climate leadership, including eco-anxiety, burnout and the pressures of working towards systemic change. It explored how care, psychological wellbeing, reflective leadership and healthy ways of processing climate emotions can become integral to the work of movements and organisations.





Panel discussion at the Rotary Club Pavilion

COP31 Pressdesk

Radio Madhuban





Krishna has settled down in Radio Madhuban COP31 Pressdesk

Three special guests

Climate Wisdom Studio

Busy evening in our studio with 3 guests – Ovais Sarmad, Vice Chair – The Greenhouse Gas Protocol Steering Committee, Former Deputy Executive Secretary of UNFCCC; Janna Hoppmann, Founder Climate Mind Academy and Fr. Rigobert Minani Bihuzo, coordinator of the Ecclesial network for the Congo basin forest. The conversations was covering a wide range of topics, from UN climate policy, to psychology and Rainforest.







Climate Wisdom Studio Lounge with guest speakers and colleagues

Part 03 Highlights

01 Green Zone programme with SAFCEI for school students	02 Press conference on the Global Ethical Stocktake with the Center for Earth Ethics
03 Interview with Lindsay Levin, Co-Founder of TED Countdown House	04 Sunday tour down the coast for the BK team
05 Rotary Club panel – 'Caring for the Changemakers'	06 Sister Krishna set up Radio Madhuban at the COP31 Pressdesk



Tanzania Pavilion – Community Climate Adaptation and Coexistence

PART 04 17–18 November 2026

04

The Final Stretch

With COP31 nearing its end, negotiations remain deadlocked on 21 unresolved issues, and observers expect the summit, as usual, to run into overtime. Ministers are holding closed-door consultations to break deadlocks over climate finance, adaptation and overshooting the 1.5°C temperature limit. Under the UN's consensus rule, fossil fuel-producing countries, are blocking explicit commitments to transition away from fossil fuels and seeking to delay key UN climate science (IPCC) reports.

21
unresolved issues – negotiations remain deadlocked

1.5°C
temperature limit at stake in closed-door consultations

95,000
delegates at COP31 – nearly

In this part

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State of play

Delegates and civil society groups are increasingly frustrated by the gridlock. Panama's Environment Minister warned that the world is being "held hostage by the petroleum mafia," while wealthy nations face criticism for offering insufficient climate funding. Frustrated by the slow UN process, countries are pursuing alternative initiatives: 30 nations are backing a binding Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty, 11 are developing concrete fossil fuel phase-out roadmaps, and an Ethiopia-led group is working to restore natural carbon sinks.

30
nations backing a binding Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty

11
countries developing concrete fossil fuel phase-out roadmaps

Ethiopia
leads a group working to restore natural carbon sinks

> …held hostage by the petroleum mafia.
>
> — Panama's Environment Minister

The role of the BK Environment Team

In these critical times, the presence of the Brahma Kumaris Environment Team is becoming increasingly important. Through positive vibrations and the message that inner transformation is the key to world renewal, our delegation plays a valuable role in supporting the nearly 95,000 delegates at COP31.



NOV 17

Tuesday 17th Nov.

Mother Earth • COP Conversations • Well-being • Solar Hub • Climate Wisdom Studio

A message from Mother Earth

Mother Earth at COP31

Reena wore the beautiful costume made by Goreth from Salvador da Bahia, Brazil, and first used in Belém last year. People queued to take photos and selfies with her. Reena told each person, “Mother Earth has a message for you,” and invited them to draw a blessing card. It was a wonderfully refreshing and positive event in the otherwise rather heavy atmosphere of COP!



Reena as Mother Earth



People queued to take photos and selfies with her

Sister Maureen

COP Conversations

Maureen had a series of dialogues at COP. She met Kenneth Amatoeng, Dir. Abibiman Foundation, Ghana and Monique Nardi, Program Officer UNFCCC. King Goodluck, Nigerian traditional ruler and climate advocate also came in especially to COP today to meet the BK team.







Sister Maureen’s dialogues and meetings at COP

Children and Youth Pavilion

Well-being Space

At the Wellbeing Corner of the Children and Youth Pavilion, creative and reflective sessions were offered by the youth representatives of the Brahma Kumaris. Young delegates and children engaged in positive thinking activities and learned how to manage stress, nervousness, and anxiety, especially at COPs. They also received Biodiversity cards and Be a Bridge badges. The participants enjoyed the meditations and left feeling happy, calm, and confident.



The Wellbeing Corner at the Children and Youth Pavilion

Meditation

Meditation at Clean Energy Futures Pavilion

The Energy & Nature side event at COP31 opened with a relaxing meditation offered by Aneta, focusing to bring heart and science together. The conversation highlighted dignity-based ecological restoration, trauma-informed conservation, and respect for communities and ecosystems. Speakers emphasized the importance of youth leadership, ethical innovation, and bridging scientific knowledge with traditional wisdom.



The Energy & Nature side event



Special guest at our stand

UNEP

Inger Andersen, Executive Director of the UNEP with headquarters in Nairobi visiting our stand and meeting Shantanu and Aneta.

Solar Hub

Designing Resilient Futures at Solar Hub

Golo gave a presentation at a side event jointly organised by the International Solar Alliance and GRIHA Council. The event explored how climate-responsive design, renewable energy and local knowledge can strengthen tourism infrastructure in Small Island Developing States. In his introduction, Karan Mangotra from ISA highlighted the award received for the Brahma Kumaris Solar House in Gyan Sarovar, recognised as a 5-star sustainable building. Other speakers included Akash Deep from GRIHA Council and Ruth Cross Kwansing, Minister for Women, Youth, Sports and Social Affairs of Kiribati.



Golo, Akash Deep, GRIHA Council and Ruth Cross Kwansing, Minister for Women, Youth, Sports and Social Affairs of Kiribati, Small Island State.

Climate justice & ethical leadership

Climate Wisdom Studio

Golo hosted a conversation with Simon Chambers, Head of Communications at ACT Alliance's Toronto Office, and Maureen. The dialogue explored the importance of climate justice and ethical leadership in addressing the climate crisis, highlighting how radical compassion, responsibility and interfaith cooperation can inspire meaningful climate action.



Burhan, Golo, Simon Chambers ACT Alliance, Maureen, Sonja, Aneta – Climate Studio team

NOV
18

Wednesday 18th Nov

RINGO & YOUNGO • Tanzania Pavilion • UNFCCC • Climate Wisdom Studio

At COP the days can start quite early. Aneta attends the RINGO meetings (Research and Independent NGOs), while our young delegates join YOUNGO, the official youth constituency. The Brahma Kumaris are registered with both constituencies at COP.

For Maureen, the day began with a warm and spiritual meeting with Swedish Bishop Karin Johannesson from Uppsala.



Sister Maureen with Bishop Karin Johannesson of Uppsala

Tanzania Pavilion

Community Climate Adaptation and Coexistence



Maureen Goodman was invited as keynote speaker, with Shantanu Mandal joining as a panellist, at this COP31 side event focusing on community resilience, wildlife conservation and climate adaptation in Tanzania: Building Resilient Livelihoods Around Tanzania's Wildlife Areas. In her keynote, Maureen highlighted the importance of involving local communities in protecting forests and wildlife. She emphasised three essential elements: knowledge, financial support and, above all, inner empowerment. She shared how spiritual values, positive attitudes and a sense of connection with nature can inspire lasting change, strengthening both communities and their care for the Earth.

01
Knowledge

02
Financial support

03
Inner empowerment
Above all

UNFCCC dialogue

Facing Ethical Challenges

Maureen was invited to join faith leaders in a COP31 Inclusive Dialogue organised by the UNFCCC on **"How Ethical Foundations Shape Our Actions for Climate Justice."** The discussion explored how values such as justice, compassion, responsibility and care for nature can strengthen climate action. It also highlighted how faith-based perspectives can complement science, encourage international cooperation and inspire greater ambition in climate negotiations.



COP31 Inclusive Dialogue organised by the UNFCCC

Moderated by Soka Gakkai International

UNFCCC Side Event – Options for a Better World

At this COP31 side event, moderated by Flore Ghetti from Soka Gakkai International (SGI), Maureen joined an international panel exploring effective, healthy and equitable climate policies. Speakers included representatives from the UN, the German Federal Environment Agency, Climate Analytics and youth climate organisations. Maureen presented sustainable yogic agriculture, combining environmentally friendly farming with meditation, compassion and respect for nature. The discussion highlighted the importance of human rights, renewable energy, community empowerment and ethical values in creating a more just and sustainable future.



Partner organisations

- Soka Gakkai International Office for UN Affairs
- Brahma Kumaris
- Friends World Committee for Consultation
- Quakers in Britain

VIDEO • SCAN THE QR CODE OR CLICK

Watch webcast

www.youtube.com/live/6vu7L_EZigk



UNFCCC side event – Options for a Better World

Energy • Environment • Wildlife

Climate Wisdom Studio

Sonja Ohlsson hosted a conversation with Golo, Dr. Vibha Dhawan, Director General of The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), and Lilian Wawa from the Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority. The dialogue brought together perspectives on renewable energy, environmental sustainability and wildlife conservation, exploring how wisdom, cooperation and shared responsibility can help us navigate the climate crisis and create a more sustainable future.



Picture: Guest speaker Lilian Wawa gave a Masai dress to Golo and Sonja

VIDEO • SCAN THE QR CODE OR CLICK

Watch webcast

www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLZCQgoLMHTv0



In conversation at the Climate Wisdom Studio

Part 04 Highlights

01 Mother Earth's message brought joy to COP31

02 UNEP Executive Director Inger Andersen visited our stand

03 BK Solar House in Gyan Sarovar recognised as a 5-star sustainable building

04 Keynote by Maureen Goodman at the Tanzania Pavilion

05 UNFCCC Inclusive Dialogue on ethics and climate justice

06 Studio dialogue with Dr. Vibha Dhawan (TERI) and Lilian Wawa

Websites & social media

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Scan the QR codes to visit our websites and to watch the Climate Wisdom Studio interviews on YouTube.

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Climate Resilience Begins Within

As the negotiations begin, we are reminded that peace, cooperation and resilience in the world begin with peace, cooperation and resilience within ourselves.