



CLIMATE
JUSTICE
CHARTER
MOVEMENT



Press Release:

We Stand Against Climate Apartheid and Eco-cide

CJCM Alternative COP and the Launch of CJCM strategic perspective documents

10 November 2022

On Friday 11 November 2022, 13:00 - 1600 SAST, the Climate Justice Charter Movement will be holding an online assembly of peoples and workers as an alternative to COP27 in Egypt. All committed to resisting climate apartheid and eco-cide (the mass scale destruction of human and non-human life) are invited to attend. [Register Here.](#)

The UN-led COP process has failed. According to Columbia University's Centre on Global Energy Policy, after assessing Nationally Determined Commitments, the world was only on track to cut emissions by 9 percent by 2030 instead of the required 50% to avoid a 1.5°C overshoot in planetary temperatures. The Glasgow Net Zero Banking Alliance has failed, and investments in fossil fuels have soared. The 13th annual report by *Banking on Climate Chaos* says that "In the six years since the Paris Agreement was adopted, the world's 60 largest private banks financed fossil fuels with USD 4.6 trillion, with \$742 billion in 2021 alone." Despite the rhetoric on renewable energy financing, the global north continues to heavily subsidise fossil fuels. These subsidies have doubled since 2021 and the [IMF](#) says that "Globally, fossil fuel subsidies were \$5.9 trillion or 6.8 percent of GDP in 2020 and are expected to increase to 7.4 percent of GDP in 2025." To put that in perspective, it means more than 11 million dollars per minute going to fossil fuels. The COP process has been mere political theatre for almost 3 decades while the climate crisis has worsened with extreme climate weather events now part of lived reality.

The soaring fossil fuel subsidies and Euro-American investment in gas development in Africa (over \$400 billion) shows glaring hypocrisy from the global north. Despite Africa being the most vulnerable continent to the climate crisis, they are investing in fossil fuel developments in Africa just to meet their own energy needs. They do not care that 22 million people in the Horn of Africa are on the brink of famine largely due a climate-induced drought nor do they care that close to 500 people in KwaZulu-Natal were killed by climate change-induced floods which are projected to increase in frequency and intensity. By the end of the decade almost 200 million Africans will be displaced by climate extremes. This is clear climate apartheid by the European governments and the Biden administration based on the logic that the peoples of the global south are expendable. Instead of taking responsibility for causing the climate crisis, the US and the global north are making it worse. The global north owes the world a climate debt for historical emissions. They also owe suffering communities, who did not cause this problem, climate reparations for loss and damage.

The COP process still endorses false solutions such as carbon off-sets. The US climate envoy John Kerry is expected to champion, on behalf of fossil fuel corporations, a credit offset scheme where companies can buy carbon credits (1 credit equals 1 ton of carbon) from states to offset their dirty carbon emission. This false solution is a disaster for the climate and has not worked.

The South African government has failed to take on an African position in COP 27. An African agenda would underline the emergency of the crisis at hand and would reject shallow solutions and technofixes. SA should be championing a Climate Justice Deal with Africa. However, this is unsurprising, given the commitment of the SA government to more coal, oil and gas and its failure to prepare South Africa to deal with climate crisis. Even the recently published Just Energy Transition Investment Plan reflects this. An investment plan that appreciated the climate emergency would be based on a Climate Emergency Development Plan, not our current fossil fuel-addicted NDP. The investment plan ignores the fact that there isn't an alignment between the Integrated Resource Plan, 2030, (IRP) and our Nationally Determined Commitments (NDC) to prevent a 1.5°C overshoot. The investment plan comes while there is no worker and community led just transition plan for the country's top emitters, Sasol and Eskom. Also, the corruption gap has not been closed, the ANC has not committed itself to follow the recommendations of the Zondo commission. Instead, they have continued promoting corrupt politicians for leadership positions and continue to attack criminal justice institutions. Workers and communities have been side-lined in the development of this investment plan.

This is why the Alternative COP will be a people's and worker's assembly. We will be launching the CJCM Strategic Perspective Documents to advance the following:

- A Global Climate Justice Bloc of governments (vulnerable island states, countries devastated by climate extremes and facing twice the global average heating), peoples, workers and movements to fight for a just global peace, an earth democracy and a Climate Justice Deal for Africa. In this regard we have invited the leading climate justice movements on the continent and in the world to engage with this proposal;
- A people and worker led Climate Justice Deal and Climate emergency state in South Africa;
- A renewal of our constitutional democratic project to strengthen deep democracy for the deep just transition to ensure transformative decarbonisation, adaptation and regeneration of workplaces, communities, sectors and the state;
- Building a mass based CJCM, people and worker driven, to accelerate and deepen the just transition, including considering contesting the 2024 elections to prevent further carbon lock ins by the corrupt ruling ANC-led Alliance.

To accelerate the deep just transition from below we will also be launching our activist guide: '*People's planning for a deep just transition*' and a movie, '*A harvest of neglect*' by Rosa Luxemburg Foundation. On 12 November our partners will be holding events across the country saying no to oil, coal, gas and nuclear. We are also urging all who are concerned about the climate emergency to sign [our petition](#) to resist the commitment of the ANC state to more oil, coal, nuclear and gas investments.

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