

# **Global Cooling Pledge Signatories Focal Points Meeting**

## **SUMMARY REPORT**

13 – 14 June 2025

Bonn, Germany

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## Executive Summary

The first Global Cooling Pledge Signatories Focal Points Meeting opened in Bonn with a strong call for accelerated implementation, inclusive governance and global solidarity in addressing the climate and development challenges linked to sustainable cooling. Co-hosted by the governments of Germany, Italy, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), and co-chaired by Brazil and the UAE, the two-day event brought together representatives from over 50 countries, three states and one city, seven intergovernmental organizations, and multiple technical partners.

The Global Cooling Pledge Signatories Focal Points Meeting took place against a backdrop of intensifying climate impacts, record-breaking temperatures, and rising global demand for cooling. With extreme heat now one of the most visible and deadly consequences of climate change, the urgency of sustainable cooling has never been greater.

According to the [Global Cooling Watch 2023](#), more than 1.2 billion people already face high exposure to heat-related risks, and the demand for cooling is expected to triple by 2050, placing enormous pressure on electricity grids, increasing greenhouse gas emissions, and deepening inequalities in access to thermal comfort, health, and productivity. Yet, despite this growing challenge, most national climate plans and development strategies remain underprepared to address the scale and complexity of cooling needs.

Participants recognised that without decisive action, cooling-related emissions could derail global climate goals. At the same time, the sector offers enormous opportunity: deploying passive design, super-efficient technologies, and climate-friendly refrigerants can significantly cut emissions, improve health outcomes, reduce energy costs, and enhance resilience, especially for the most vulnerable exposed to extreme heat.



Figure 1: Group photo of Focal Points of Signatory Countries to the Global Cooling Pledge and Partner Organizations

The meeting concluded with several concrete outcomes to advance Pledge implementation: agreement on the Enabling Pledge Implementation for Cooling (EPIC) Facility to support signatory countries; productive discussions and next steps on finalizing the Terms of Reference for the Intergovernmental Committee on Cooling (IGCC) and the Cool Champions recognition initiative; and technical capacity building sessions, covering passive cooling, MEPS, financing mechanisms, and NCAPs and integrating cooling into NDCs. Focal points and participants also engaged in a dialogue on COP30 priorities, including the launch of the “Beat the Heat in Cities” initiative, the Annual Cooling Ministerial, and a dedicated COP30 Buildings and Cooling Pavilion.

The meeting marked a pivotal step in accelerating Pledge implementation, placing sustainable cooling at the center of climate action as both a mitigation and adaptation priority on the road to COP30 in Belém, Brazil, and beyond.

## Background

The [Global Cooling Pledge](#), launched by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Cool Coalition and the COP28 Presidency in Dubai (UAE), represents a landmark collective commitment to address one of the fastest-growing climate and development challenges: sustainable cooling. As global temperatures rise and demand for cooling soars, the sector has emerged as both a major source of greenhouse gas emissions and a critical component of adaptation, particularly for vulnerable populations exposed to extreme heat. Recognizing this dual role, over 70 countries have endorsed the Pledge, agreeing to a comprehensive approach that includes scaling up passive cooling, improving appliance efficiency, and phasing down climate-damaging refrigerants.

In support of this momentum, the first [Global Cooling Pledge Signatories Focal Points Meeting](#) was convened to provide countries with a platform for structured dialogue, technical exchange, and coordinated planning. The event focused on equipping national focal points with the tools and partnerships needed to integrate cooling into climate policies, notably through National Cooling Action Plans (NCAPs), Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), and access to finance. It also marked the start of formal consultations on a proposed Intergovernmental Committee on Cooling (IGCC), designed to guide implementation and accountability for the Pledge. Building on growing global interest and existing coalitions, the meeting reinforced cooling as a cross-cutting solution at the intersection of mitigation, adaptation, health, and equity.

## Day 1: Enhanced Pledge Implementation and Inclusive Governance

### High-level Opening

**Ms Gulnara Roll**, Head of Cities Unit and Chair of the Cool Coalition Secretariat at the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), opened the meeting by emphasizing the urgency and opportunity that the Pledge represents. She welcomed delegates and outlined the dual focus of the meeting: Day 1 focused on aligning countries around Pledge implementation and governance, while Day 2 focused on technical capacity building. Ms Roll thanked the host governments of Germany, Italy, and the UAE, and the co-chairs, Brazil and the UAE, for their leadership and commitment.



*Figure 2: Gulnara Roll, Head of Cities Unit at UNEP, welcomes the focal points and opens Session 1*

**Dr. Silke Karcher**, Deputy Director-General for Circular Economy, Climate Action, and Nature Conservation at Germany's Federal Ministry for the Environment, welcomed participants and reaffirmed Germany's support for multilateralism in cooling governance. She recognized the Global Cooling Pledge as a transformative opportunity to align sustainable cooling with mitigation, adaptation, and development priorities.

**H.E. Ahmed Al Kaabi**, Assistant Undersecretary for Electricity, Water, and Future Energy at the UAE Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure, emphasized the UAE's strategic commitment to sustainable cooling both domestically and globally. He reiterated the Pledge's importance within the UAE's broader climate diplomacy agenda, linking it to energy transitions and extreme heat adaptation.

**Ms Annalidia Pansini** read the statement of **Mr Alessandro Guerri**, Director General, Ministry of Environment and Energy Security of Italy, expressing Italy's continued support for multilateral engagement and the expansion of the Global Cooling Pledge community. His remarks underlined the need for sustained financing and technical cooperation.

**Mr Martin Krause**, Director of UNEP's Climate Change Division, spoke about UNEP's role in convening the Cool Coalition and supporting Signatories through policy, finance, and capacity-building initiatives. He called for an institutional anchoring of the Pledge to ensure long-term support and credibility.

**H.E. Adalberto Maluf**, Brazil's Vice Minister for Environment and Climate Change and co-Chair of the Pledge, linked Brazil's leadership role to its upcoming presidency of COP30. He noted that cooling must be elevated as both a mitigation and adaptation priority and announced Brazil's commitment to advocating for cooling integration in the COP30 negotiations.



Figure 3: From left: Martin Krause (UNEP), Dr. Silke Karcher (Germany), H.E. Adalberto Maluf (Brazil), and H.E. Ahmed Al Kaabi (UAE).

## Session 1: Setting the Scene “From Commitments to Implementation”

The first thematic session opened with a comprehensive presentation by the Cool Coalition Secretariat outlining the status and trajectory of the Global Cooling Pledge since its launch at COP28.

**Zimbabwe** emphasized the importance of transitioning from pledges to tangible implementation and reaffirmed its commitment to reducing HFC emissions.

The **United Kingdom** emphasised this opportunity to learn from other countries’ cooling strategies and highlighted the value of bilateral exchanges during the meeting.

**Cambodia** showcased its early integration of passive cooling strategies into national regulations for buildings energy use and national climate plans including regulations for energy use in buildings, supported by multiple international partners.

**Iraq** highlighted its active efforts to integrate cooling into its updated NDC and submitted related projects to the Climate and Clean Air Coalition for future implementation.

**Lily Riahi**, Head of the Cool Coalition Secretariat, reiterated the Secretariat’s support to Signatories and framed the Pledge as a living platform for innovation, cooperation, and mutual learning. She emphasized the need for countries to set specific, actionable targets and to align cooling policies with broader development goals, such as health, agriculture, and energy access. The Secretariat provided a detailed update on the growing number of Signatories, progress on initial coordination efforts, and evolving areas of collaboration across the three pillars of the



Pledge: passive cooling, super-efficient technologies, and climate-friendly refrigerants. The Secretariat also highlighted the integration of sustainable cooling in a growing number of NDCs, and the positive momentum generated by multilateral partnerships, technical cooperation, and ministerial engagement.

Overall, the first session moved the conversation from ambition to action, and laid the groundwork for the next two sessions on implementation tools and international coordination. Countries agreed on the need to align national pathways with global frameworks, and identified the Bonn meeting as a critical juncture in preparing deliverables and milestones for COP30 in Brazil. Several countries called for tailored technical assistance to align national plans with the Pledge. Participants also emphasized the need for access to data and modelling tools to build robust, science-based strategies. Some focal points advocated for the institutionalization of national “cooling coordination mechanisms,” including inter-ministerial committees and public-private task forces. A recurrent theme was the request for platforms to share experiences and case studies from both developed and developing countries, including South-South cooperation opportunities.

## Session 2: Pledge Implementation

The second session marked the transition from ambition to action, focusing on the operationalization of the Global Cooling Pledge’s 2030 Implementation Strategy. The meeting served to present in detail a new financing instrument: the Enabling Pledge Implementation for Cooling (EPIC), which aims to address upfront project financing, one of the most significant bottlenecks in implementing sustainable cooling solutions.



Figure 4: Discussion of signatory. Countries about EPIC and Cooling Finance during Session 2.



**Mr Amr Seleem**, Mr Amr Seleem, UNEP's Country Engagement and Climate Policy Lead, opened the session by outlining progress since COP 29, the structure of the 2030 Implementation Strategy, and the five workstreams. He then described Secretariat support to countries, emphasizing mainstreaming cooling in adaptation, data collection challenges, and the upcoming reporting cycle.

**Ms Myriem Touhami**, Head of UNEP's Finance Unit, presented the EPIC facility in detail, describing it as a technical and financial assistance platform. She explained pilot projects in Djibouti and Brazil, discussed barriers with local utilities and banks, and clarified how small-scale demand aggregation and loan subsidies can enable access to efficient cooling. Specifically, Ms Touhami stressed that commercial finance is not available for passive cooling, which lacks tangible collateral, noting that only grant or public funds can support such measures.



Figure 5: Myriem Touhami delivers her presentation on EPIC Framework at Session 2 of Day 1.

**H.E. Adalberto Maluf** of Brazil echoed the need for implementation tools, but cautioned that they must be responsive to countries' diverse capacities. He called for the EPIC Facility to actively support countries in the Global South through regionally contextualized methodologies and language. He also stressed the importance of domestic resource mobilization as a counterpart to international support.

The exchange among focal points started with **Morocco** explaining that the country has started the process to develop an inclusive NCAP with multi-sectoral engagement, and has recently begun the kick-off, stakeholder consultation, and data-collection phases.

**Grenada** specifically asked for clarification on whether the EPIC fund would provide only technical assistance or would also support investment-type activities, emphasizing that investment support is their primary need.

**Ghana** emphasized that they are experiencing environmental dumping of obsolete appliances and highlighted the importance of international responsibility, not just national regulation, and requested EPIC support for lifecycle management and import controls.

**Solomon Islands** specifically advocated for private sector-led audits as an approach to drive cooling improvements, suggesting small enterprises could lead this, and noted most Pacific Island countries lack national cooling plans.

**Somalia** expressed strong commitment to passive cooling and NCAP development and flagged limited electrification and financial access as barriers.

**Tamil Nadu, India**, proposed classifying extreme heat as a disaster to unlock funding and emphasized the urgency of moving from strategy to implementation.

**The Comoros** emphasized the urgency of implementation of cooling and air conditioning, especially in hospitals and schools, and requested cooling finance mechanisms.

**Iraq** expressed strong interest in the support UNEP can provide to its NCAP and proposed integrating cooling tracking into the process of the Biennial Transparency Reports.

**Mr Asher Lessels** from UNEP's GEF Climate Mitigation Unit presented opportunities for cooling finance through GEF-8 and GEF-9, described the application and allocation process, and answered country questions about eligibility, scope, and the structure of national and global cooling projects.

**Armenia** shared its progress in launching its Kigali HFC Implementation Plan and emphasized the need for enhanced climate finance and support to overcome implementation barriers, while endorsing the Beat the Heat in Cities initiative.

**Micronesia** highlighted key barriers to cooling access in small island states, such as limited data on health impacts of heat-related illness, while raising concern over the high cost of equipment. It proposed EPIC support for bulk procurement of equipment and school-focused solutions because children in schools are particularly vulnerable to heat.

**Morocco** highlighted the need for financial incentives to help its cooling industry transition to climate-friendly technologies.

**The Dominican Republic** explained that it is integrating cooling into its new NDC while developing a national cooling strategy. They stressed the difficulties for households to access air conditioning systems due to lack of resources, identifying financial constraints and technology costs as major implementation challenges.

**Cambodia** expressed strong interest in using GEF funding to scale up passive cooling as a cost-effective and climate-resilient strategy.

**Zimbabwe** emphasized that cooling has not historically been a priority, the need for new explicit strategies on cooling (not just energy efficiency), the importance of data collection and capacity, and the need for lifecycle refrigerant management, including recovery and destruction systems.

**Ghana** advocated for scaling up passive cooling and engaging manufacturers to reduce costs, drawing on past success with a rebate scheme supported by GEF and UNDP.

**Iraq** emphasized the importance of integrating the Global Cooling Pledge and GEF-funded mitigation actions into national planning.

**Peru** is aligning its Kigali implementation and technical training programmes with its updated national climate policy, emphasizing the urgent need for solutions for vulnerable populations.

**The Maldives** called for cooling and cold chain solutions under GEF-9 to be tailored to SIDS needs, and specifically asked whether GEF-9 would provide funding for cooling through a set-aside allocation for SIDS or as part of the general country allocation, requesting clarity on the funding modality.

Overall, focal points engaged in a robust dialogue and the session concluded with a strong consensus: countries require well-designed, adaptable, and well-financed mechanisms to move from Pledge to Implementation. The launch of EPIC was warmly welcomed as a critical enabler, but participants stressed the need for transparent access criteria and participatory governance to ensure that the facility delivers on its promise.

### Session 3: COP30 Priorities and Outcomes

This session served as a strategic bridge between the current implementation momentum and the forward-looking diplomatic and policy agenda culminating at COP30 in Brazil.

**Ms Mozah Alnuaimi**, Director of Productivity and Demand Management Department, Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure, opened the session by highlighting Brazil's strong momentum and continued leadership in global cooling. She emphasized that partnership and concrete implementation will be key to delivering on the Global Cooling Pledge. She then invited H.E. Adalberto Maluf to speak on COP30 priorities.

**H.E. Adalberto Maluf** positioned sustainable cooling within Brazil's broader COP30 priorities. He stressed that cooling is no longer a niche or peripheral issue, but one that intersects with short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs), public health, food systems, and just transitions. Brazil is committed to mainstreaming the Pledge into the official outcomes of COP30 and will advocate for cooling to be treated with the same strategic weight as methane or deforestation. On the launch, together with UNEP, of the Beat the Heat in Cities/Mutirão contra o Calor Extremo initiative, H.E. Maluf explained that it aims to mobilize cities worldwide to implement cooling

solutions such as green roofs, cool surfaces, and district cooling. To operationalize this effort, Brazil outlined a timeline: launch the call to cities via a joint letter from the COP30 Presidency and UNEP by July; engage a first wave of cities and partners by August; showcase progress during Climate Week NYC in September; and present implementation outcomes at the C40 Summit in Rio de Janeiro in early November. The initiative would culminate in a formal announcement and political showcase at COP30 in Belém, potentially including the launch of a dedicated “EPIC Cities” chapter. H.E. Maluf also underscored that the initiative should be inclusive of various city types and governance models, with flexible entry points for countries that may not have formal municipal structures. The vision is to position cities as climate action leaders, using cooling as a visible, measurable, and urgent entry point.

**United Kingdom** expressed enthusiasm about the direction of the COP30 roadmap and encouraged the COP Presidency to send official invitations to national governments to facilitate city engagement.

**Singapore** welcomed the Beat the Heat in Cities initiative and highlighted its relevance to Singapore’s context as a dense, tropical city-state.

**Germany** strongly supported the Beat the Heat in Cities initiative, noting the rising political attention on urban heat stress even in temperate countries, and emphasized alignment with their national focus on nature-based cooling.

**Tamil Nadu, India** highlighted its proactive role in local heat resilience planning, with heat action plans in 10 cities and detailed vulnerability assessments down to the ward level.



Figure 6: Pedro Miraldo from Sao Paulo highlighting role of green spaces as a cooling strategy

**São Paulo, Brazil** described comprehensive climate initiatives including major green space expansion and public awareness efforts. However, they also noted practical challenges in local implementation of pledges such as the lack of engagement from all public services

**Grenada** supported the COP30 agenda but cautioned that not all countries have municipal governance structures capable of participating in city-focused initiatives, urging inclusive design.

**Nigeria** emphasized the urgent need for sustainable cooling as a resilience and energy issue, particularly in light of growing population and grid constraints. The representative advocated for stronger engagement from the real state developer sector and sub-national participation.

**Armenia** underlined the need for predictable climate finance, technology transfer, and the recognition of cooling as a public health and social justice issue in the UN Climate Change adaptation framework.

**Iraq** shared that it has completed local adaptation plans for six cities, emphasizing alignment between local priorities and national climate strategies.

**Mr Gennai Kamata**, Associate Programme Officer, Buildings and Urban Energy at UNEP, walked participants through the draft roadmap for cooling and buildings at COP30, including the Buildings and Cooling Pavilion and key expected deliverables such as a second Cooling Ministerial, the adoption of the Terms of Reference for the IGCC, and the launch of a Global

Cooling Progress Tracker. Kamata emphasized the importance of political momentum and concrete commitments, particularly financial ones, to ensure the roadmap's credibility.

The session closed with a call for countries to begin national preparations for COP30 now—including stakeholder consultations, finance proposals, and inter-ministerial coordination—to ensure that cooling is both visible and actionable on the global stage.

### *Fireside Chat*

This informal but strategic Fireside Chat, moderated by **Ms Lily Riahi** (UNEP), brought together **H.E. Adalberto Maluf** and **Mr Martin Krause** to discuss how to elevate cooling within climate negotiations, particularly at the June Subsidiary Bodies (SB) sessions and looking ahead to COP30 in Belém.

H.E. Adalberto Maluf emphasized that cooling, especially nature-based and passive solutions, must be reflected in adaptation indicators and official climate negotiations. Drawing on Brazil's experience, he highlighted the acute vulnerability of informal settlements to extreme heat, noting that while São Paulo has 15 per cent of its population in informal housing, in Belém this figure rises to 53 per cent. He stressed that these communities often lack basic infrastructure, making adaptation particularly challenging. Maluf called for the debates on cooling to be translated into official negotiations, and for countries to align their advocacy with the Baku–Belém roadmap on climate finance, ensuring that discussions at COP30 help close persistent funding and implementation gaps.

Mr Martin Krause emphasized shifting to implementation, deeper private sector and manufacturer engagement, and proposed creating a dedicated cooling window within major finance instruments like the GCF and GEF.

H.E. Adalberto Maluf detailed Brazil's use of green bonds and blended finance to mobilize private investment, and the need for demand-driven markets, especially through public procurement.

On enhancing NDCs, Krause noted their role in raising public and political support for action, and warned against relying solely on planning. Maluf described Brazil's alignment of NDCs, national implementation plans, green taxonomies, and a new carbon market to channel investments into climate priorities.





*Figure 7: Fireside Chat moderated by Lily Riahi (UNEP) with H.E. Adalberto Maluf (Brazil) and Martin Krause (UNEP) discussing how to elevate cooling within climate negotiations on the road to COP30 in Belém.*

The fireside chat concluded with a strong call to translate the momentum around sustainable cooling into tangible climate action, especially in the lead-up to COP30. Both H.E. Adalberto Maluf and Martin Krause emphasized that cooling offers a compelling, people-centred narrative that makes climate impacts real and actionable, particularly through its links to extreme heat, public health, and economic resilience.

They urged greater integration of cooling into national climate plans, financing frameworks, and international negotiations, including the Global Goal on Adaptation. Contributions from country representatives reinforced cooling's cross-cutting relevance across sectors and regions, and highlighted the need for inclusive, demand-driven solutions backed by political support and innovative financing. The segment closed with consensus that sustainable cooling is not just a technical solution but a strategic lever to shift climate discourse toward immediate, equitable, and impactful outcomes.

Inputs from **Grenada** (highlighting the Montreal Protocol and Kigali Amendment as mitigation models), **Iraq** (calling for incentives and the application of Article 6 to cooling investment), and **Nigeria** (emphasizing the need for political buy-in to mainstream cooling across NDCs and sectors) reinforced cooling's cross-sectoral impact, financing needs, and the importance of integrating cooling into international climate mechanisms.



## Session 4: Intergovernmental Committee on Cooling (IGCC)

The session began with an overview of the IGCC's evolution from the former Contact Group, which negotiated and implemented the Cooling Pledge. The IGCC was formally proposed at the 2023 Baku ministerial, following a request from the COP28 presidency, with the secretariat tasked to draft its Terms of Reference (ToR).

The session was moderated by **Mr Graeme Maidment**, Lead Technical Adviser, UK Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, and **Mr Hubert Nsoh Zan**, Assistant Manager, Energy Commission Ghana, who facilitated the open discussion on the draft ToR, and encouraged participation from all delegates.



*Figure 8: Session 4 moderated by Graeme Maidment (UK Department for Energy Security and Net Zero) and Hubert Nsoh Zan (Energy Commission Ghana) on the draft ToR of IGCC*

**Ms Gulnara Roll** outlined the background, structure, and purpose of the IGCC, explaining that it is intended to overcome fragmentation by providing formal coordination and peer learning among signatories. She described the proposed ToR, according to which the IGCC would be chaired initially by the presidencies of COP28 and COP30, later elected by members, supported by a rotating secretariat (shared with the Cool Coalition). Key responsibilities include tracking Pledge progress, facilitating knowledge exchange, producing guidance, and preparing for the annual ministerial. IGCC meetings would consist of one annual high-level meeting and two technical/focal point meetings per year. Observers, including non-state stakeholders, may participate per agreed procedures. Coordination with the Cool Coalition was stressed as essential

for science-policy interface. Ms Roll also highlighted how the IGCC could serve as a liaison between scientific institutions and policymakers, translating cutting-edge research into actionable guidance. There was broad consensus on the value and timeliness of establishing the IGCC.

**Nigeria** proposed that the current Global Cooling Pledge leadership should remain in place until the pledge is stable and obtains concrete results and recommended a longer three-year tenure for the IGCC co-chairs to ensure stability and continuity.

**Grenada** proposed that the IGCC co-chair selection process ensure both geographical and economic diversity by alternating between developed and developing countries or regional groupings, to prevent concentration of leadership from similar contexts.

**Singapore** supported the ToR but suggested broadening it to explicitly include non-private stakeholders such as academia, civil society, and industry associations as part of IGCC engagement efforts.

**The Comoros** recommended to extend awareness to the signatory countries own leadership and own populations along with global awareness.

Decision-making is intended to be by consensus where possible, with voting as a fallback. Delegates were invited to submit further comments on the ToR by 17 July, after which a revised draft will be shared for adoption at COP30. The IGCC will depend on extra-budgetary funding, and future activities will be contingent on successful resource mobilization.

Session 4 concluded with broad support for establishing the IGCC as the formal governance body for the Global Cooling Pledge, with delegates invited to provide further written comments on the ToR before finalization and adoption.

## Session 5: Cool Champions for Pledge Implementation

**Mr Graeme Maidment** presented the Cool Champions initiative and the Champions' role in advancing the implementation of the Global Cooling Pledge, building upon the earlier discussion of institutional frameworks, and zoomed in on individual and national leadership mechanisms to foster peer-to-peer exchange, advocacy, and mentorship. He explained that the Cool Champions are envisioned as trusted and visible focal points, nominated by countries and partners, to help accelerate national implementation of the Pledge by acting as bridges between policymakers, technical experts, and communities. Mr Maidment emphasized that the Cool Champions are not intended to replace official government focal points but rather to complement them by providing continuity, expertise, and horizontal coordination across technical and policy domains.

**Ms Marisofi Giannouli**, Communications Lead, UNEP Cool Coalition, provided detailed explanations of the three annual Champion categories (developed country, developing country, and non-affiliated individual), outlined the expected activities and responsibilities for each type, described the nomination and selection process, and addressed questions about reporting, diversity, the “cool-down” rule (no repeat Champions in consecutive years), and the distinction between institutional and individual Champions.

**Grenada** welcomed the initiative but asked for more clarity on who qualifies (country, institution, or individual), and suggested, for the future, Champions could be further categorized (implementation, leadership, innovation) to foster wider engagement. Cautioned against having too many Champions to preserve the initiative’s prestige.



*Figure 9: Uboho Ekpo (Nigeria) provides her intervention on the Cooling Champions ToR*

**Nigeria** requested clear coordination between Champions, Secretariat, and focal points. Recommended prioritizing ministers or senior policymakers as Champions (due to their convening power for high-level events), with reporting lines clear, and supported performance awards for areas such as implementation or advocacy.

**Iraq** sought clarification on whether Champions would receive capacity-building, training, or supporting materials. Secretariat clarified that Champions are primarily for showcasing and recognition, not for capacity building, though field visits and peer exchange may have such benefits.

Additional participants requested clarification on selection criteria, the possibility of appointing more than one Champion per country (e.g., government and civil society), and advocated for alignment of Champions' work with IGCC task forces. Several also called for travel funding to support Champions from low-income countries. The session concluded with strong support for the Cool Champions initiative as a key mechanism to humanize the Pledge, sustain momentum, and demonstrate leadership at all levels. Organizers and participants noted that Champions can help connect global ambition with local action, making implementation more visible and inspiring broader participation.

## Day 1 Closing Remarks

The closing remarks of Day 1 reflected strong momentum, shared purpose, and optimism about the Global Cooling Pledge's future implementation.

**Mr Adalberto Maluf** (Brazil) emphasized the opportunity to elevate cooling within global climate process, highlighting the need for better coordination across initiatives such as CHAMP or the Montreal Protocol. He thanked partners and welcomed the broad support for Brazil's "Beat the Heat in Cities" initiative, seeing COP30 as a milestone for action.

**Ms. Mozah Alnuaimi** (UAE) celebrated the progress since COP28, from the Pledge launch to the development of governance and implementation plans.

**Mr Martin Krause** (UNEP) noted the day's energy and leadership from the participating countries, expressing hope that cooling efforts would move from plans to real-world impact.

**Mr Moritz Weber**, Policy Officer at the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection, closed by recognizing the commitment of participants and the behind-the-scenes teams, underscoring that the meeting's success was the result of a collective effort.

## Day 2: Technical Capacity Building “Enabling environment to unlock finance to implement the Pledge”

**Ms Lily Riahi** welcomed participants and reiterated the significance of the Pledge as a framework for climate mitigation, adaptation, public health protection, and economic resilience. She emphasized that Day 2 was about moving from “what to do” to “how to do it,” with a focus on sharing solutions, surfacing barriers, and identifying concrete next steps.

### Session 1: Tackling Adaptation and Extreme Heat through Sustainable Cooling

The first technical session of Day 2 focused on how sustainable cooling intersects with national adaptation strategies and the growing challenge of extreme heat. Led by **Mr Benjamin Hickman**, Programme Manager at the UNEP Cool Coalition, the session blended policy dialogue and technical case studies, offering a comprehensive look at how countries can integrate passive and nature-based cooling into their development pathways.



*Figure 10: Benjamin Hickman (UNEP Cool Coalition) moderating the session on integrating sustainable cooling into national adaptation strategies and addressing extreme heat.*

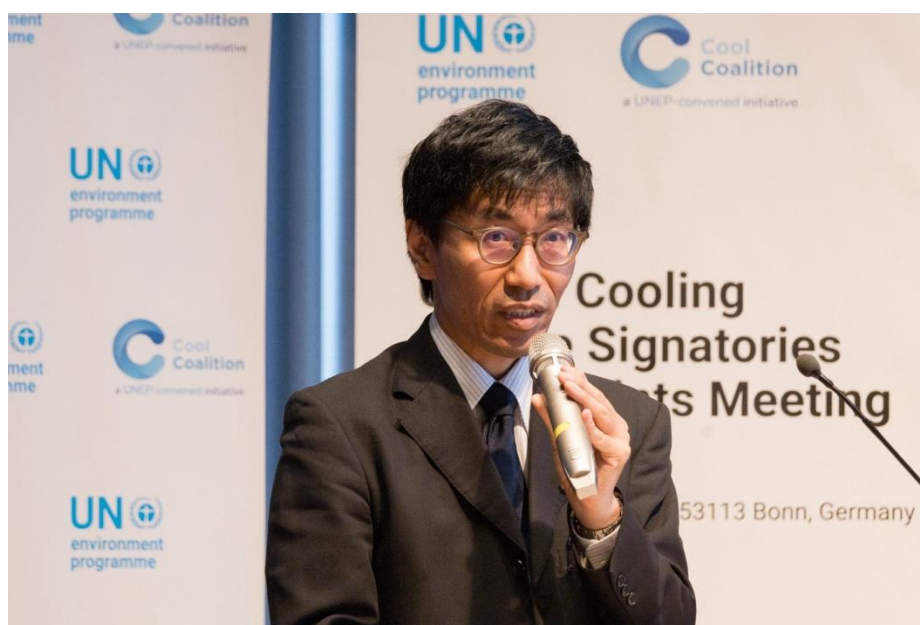
Speaking virtually, **Mr Safi Ahsan Rizvi**, Advisor (Mitigation), National Disaster Management Authority, India, emphasized the urgency of tackling heat-related challenges in India, home to 1.4 billion people regularly exposed to extreme temperatures and other extreme weather events. He



outlined India's dual focus on active and passive cooling, noting that passive strategies are increasingly integrated into government-backed rural housing programs, including ventilation, orientation, and shading techniques. He highlighted the importance of behavioural measures such as avoiding peak sun hours and using head coverings as essential low-tech adaptations during India's three-month heat season. Mr. Rizvi expressed India's strong support for sustainable cooling solution, indicating openness to continued engagement and collaboration with UNEP and other stakeholders.

Also joining online, **Ms Mrinalini Shrivastava**, Director, policy and plans, National Disaster Management Authority, India, underlined India's integrated and institutional approach to extreme heat adaptation, highlighting that heatwaves are now formally recognized as a national hazard eligible for disaster mitigation funding. She detailed the comprehensive Delhi Heat Action Plan, developed collaboratively with UNEP, the Delhi Disaster Management Authority, and over 30 partners, as a benchmark for localizing the global cooling agenda. She affirmed India's commitment to international collaboration and praised the Cool Coalition for providing a global framework for action on the ground at the national and local levels.

**Dr Takuya Nomoto**, Director of Climate Change Negotiation, Ministry of Environment, Japan, outlined Japan's comprehensive climate adaptation strategy, emphasizing the country's escalating heat-related risks and policy responses. He described the record-breaking temperatures in 2023 and 2024, and how Japan's rate of warming exceeds global averages due to the urban heat island effect.



*Figure 11: Dr Takuya Nomoto (Ministry of Environment, Japan) presenting Japan's national climate adaptation strategy and Heat Illness Prevention Action Plan in response to rising heat-related risks.*

Nomoto detailed the nationwide Climate Change Impact Assessment Report, which evaluates climate impacts across sectors including agriculture, health, ecosystems, and economic activities, and is updated every five years. He presented Japan's 2023 Heat Illness Prevention Action Plan, which includes cooling shelters, a national heatstroke alert system, and targeted public awareness campaigns. The plan aims to halve heat-related deaths by 2030. Nomoto explained Japan's efforts to reduce HFCs emissions. He described their efforts in climate adaptation governance, emphasizing inter-ministerial coordination and talked about the integration of adaptation into national policies, Japan's updated NDCs with enhanced targets for 2035 and 2040, and its "Decokatsu" initiative, a national movement promoting lifestyle changes for decarbonization.

**Ghana** said it would seek to collaborate with Japan to overcome persistent challenges in lifecycle refrigerant management.

**Tamil Nadu State, India**, also expressed interest in collaborating with Japan and raised questions about how Japan is attributing deaths to the direct impact of heat-illness.

**The Bahamas** explained how they are cooperating with Japan through a partnership to decarbonize water management and cooling systems.

**Chile** inquired about Japan's use of existing buildings as cooling shelters and the mitigation co-benefits of adaptation measures.

**Nigeria** highlighted difficulties in obtaining reliable HFCs data for BTR1 and asked Japan and the GCP for support to improve future reporting.

**Mr Michael Kleinbub**, Business Scout for Development at GIZ's Rwanda Country Office, presented the Cool White Project, showcasing how applying white reflective coatings on rooftops in Rwanda significantly reduced indoor temperatures. The project promotes low-cost, scalable passive cooling, now expanding to countries like South Africa and Kenya. The presenter encouraged participants to approach GIZ in their territories to inquiry about the implementation of similar programmes adapted to their countries.

Countries raised numerous challenges and questions, including technical barriers, such as lack of design guidance and technical specifications for passive cooling solutions like reflective roofing, thermal massing, or green corridors. Other focal points raised policy and regulatory gaps, data deficiency and lack of institutional coordination.



**Chile** raised concerns about the seasonal effectiveness of white roofs in regions with hot summers and cold winters, to which Mr Kleinbub responded that the programme is being implemented mainly in countries with tempered winters but he said that in his view the heat losses should not be significant in countries with colder winters.

**Mauritius** noted that while cool roof coatings are promising, maintenance can be challenging.

**Panama** inquired about the type of paint used, its features, and cost per square metre to which Mr Kleinbub responded that the cost is \$450 per 100 square metres in case of coloured painting.

**Tamil Nadu** questioned both the effectiveness of cool roofs on multi-storey buildings and potential disorientation effects on birds to which Mr Kleinbub responded that birds were not affected. Concerning the multi-storey buildings, he said that those buildings could also benefit from this technology.

**Grenada** expressed concern about cultural resistance to white roofs due to aesthetics and humidity, and asked about combining cool roofs with insulation.

**Morocco** suggested that producers of roofing materials be engaged to discourage promotion of dark waterproofing membranes.

**Nigeria** raised concerns about the chemical safety of white paints used on roofs, especially where rainwater is harvested for domestic use, to which Mr Kleinbub said that these paintings are not harmful.

**Kenya** talked about the importance of the house as a source of pride and an identity marker for Kenyans and raised the issue of possible social resistance to this type of white roofs.

**The Bahamas** inquired about the particularities of installing white roofs or applying white painting in small islands prone to hurricanes as well as about the added cost of this technology noting that SIDS must import all of their construction products.

**Ms Sudha Ramen**, Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu State Planning Commission, India presented Tamil Nadu's comprehensive, multi-dimensional approach to extreme heat mitigation, framing it as an interconnected crisis affecting health, livelihoods, agriculture, and ecosystems. She highlighted that 59 per cent of the population is exposed to extreme heat, with Chennai recording temperatures above 40°C, and emphasized the compounding risks of wildfires, water scarcity, and vector-borne diseases.



*Figure 12: Sudha Ramen (Tamil Nadu State Planning Commission, India) presenting Tamil Nadu's integrated heat mitigation strategy and the declaration of heat as a state-specific disaster*

The state has adopted UNEP's methodology to develop India's first subnational Heat Mitigation Strategy, leading to the official declaration of heat as a state-specific disaster. This has unlocked access to the Disaster Relief Fund for heat victims and allowed for structured interdepartmental coordination to implement heat action plans.

Tamil Nadu has implemented a wide array of adaptation measures: from passive cooling and blue-green infrastructure assessments to nature-based solutions and the Green Tamil Nadu Mission, which aims to increase forest cover by one-third by 2030. The state has also piloted district cooling systems, issued advisories for vulnerable outdoor workers, and deployed urban heat island analyses across 11 smart cities. Ms Ramen underscored the integration of traditional knowledge with modern technology in developing a passive cooling strategy.

Overall, the session revealed that countries need adaptable design toolkits for passive cooling that consider both formal and informal settlements. Regional collaboration is also needed to align building codes and create economies of scale for passive cooling products.

By contextualizing cooling not just as an energy or environmental issue, but as a public health and resilience imperative, this session helped position sustainable cooling at the core of national and global adaptation strategies.

## Session 2: MEPS and Product Registration

This session focused on strengthening Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) and product registration as key tools to support the implementation of the Global Cooling Pledge. It featured two country presentations from Ghana and the Maldives, highlighting practical experiences in cooling market transformation.

**Ms Soledad Garcia**, Energy Efficiency Specialist at UNEP's United for Efficiency (U4E), presented the role of energy efficiency within the Global Cooling Pledge. She outlined four key energy efficiency-related commitments, enhancing market penetration of high-efficiency ACs, establishing MEPS, updating public procurement policies, and phasing out HFCs. Garcia explained U4E's integrated policy approach, which includes MEPS, labelling, procurement, financial mechanisms, and monitoring/enforcement. Garcia emphasized the importance of tailored support based on market dynamics and promoted regional harmonization of standards, citing work in ECOWAS and East/Southern Africa as examples.

**Mr Hubert Nsoh Zan** from Ghana's Energy Commission presented the EcoFridges GO programme, an innovative financial mechanism that enables salaried workers to acquire energy-efficient appliances at 0 per cent interest over 12 months. The programme is a partnership between UNEP, U4E, BASE, and financial institutions, and is aimed at overcoming high upfront costs. Key aspects included criteria for efficient refrigerants (R32) and three-star efficiency levels, public-private partnerships, vendor-banking models, and public awareness through social media campaigns. Ghana also discussed ambitions to expand the program in the future, including exploring initiatives like AGORA and Article 6 mechanisms, which are in early stages.

**Ms Fathmath Usra** from the Maldives shared insights from a small island context, where tourism and fisheries demand sustainable cold chains and energy-efficient cooling. She outlined the country's energy labelling program, "Hakathari," developed with UNEP and GEF support, covering air conditioners and refrigerators. The Maldives has phased out CFCs and HCFCs ahead of global deadlines and is now advancing energy-efficient technologies and natural refrigerants. She stressed the growing need for passive cooling in dense urban areas, and called for multi-sectoral coordination, increased financing, and public education.



Figure 13: Ms Fathmath Usra (Maldives) presenting on sustainable cold chains, energy-efficient cooling, and the "Hakathari" energy labelling programme.

**Grenada** explained that under the umbrella of the CARICOM, in 2022, the region adopted a regional MEPS but quickly found them obsolete due to rapid technological advancements and is seeking to engage its local standards body to revise them, though the process is just beginning and procedural challenges remain.

The **United Kingdom** expressed interest in applying Ghana's and U4E's guidance on MEPs for commercial refrigeration and data centres to inform its own national cooling strategy.

**Zimbabwe** explained that they have developed MEPs and included them in their new NDCs. Nevertheless, the country is facing challenges with enforcement, regulation of imports, and public awareness on issues like HFCs and energy efficiency.

**Mauritius** described that the country announced new MEPS regulations in March, with enforcement starting after a six-month moratorium in September.

**Togo** relies on ECOWAS regulations for MEPs but faces enforcement challenges due to porous borders, allowing outdated equipment being imported into the country.

**Panama** explains how they are encountering challenges with the flammability risks of low-GWP (Global Warming Potential) refrigerants and the lack of technician certification, and also the country is seeking for best practices on refrigerant destruction.

**Morocco** said they have a MEPS in place and that we are introducing trainings for technicians and industry personnel. They advance that some mechanism for enforcing the law is needed as well as to control the informal sector.

**Bhutan** inquired about the energy efficiency impact of Ghana's EcoFridges programme, particularly regarding equipment replacements and potential incentive schemes. To this, Ghana responded that in their communications they inform the public that the savings for installing eco-fridges would be sufficient to put one child in school.

**Nigeria** described its recent approval of MEPS for ACs, with implementation scheduled to start in December 2026, and noted ongoing training and regional tailoring.

### Session 3.1: Finance Mechanisms and Business Models

The first part of Session 3 focused on unlocking finance for sustainable cooling solutions. **Mr Gennai Kamata** opened by outlining financing barriers, including high upfront costs, lack of awareness, regulatory gaps, and market immaturity in LMICs. He emphasized the importance of designing new business models and financing mechanisms that can scale passive, super-efficient, and nature-based solutions.

**Ms Myriem Touhami** delivered an in-depth presentation on how UNEP catalyses climate finance, especially from private institutions. She shared several replicable mechanisms: the “Pro Sol” model in Tunisia, which used utility bills to repay loans for solar thermal systems without banks, and the “Hipoteca Verde” in Mexico, where green upgrades were integrated into long-term mortgages to minimize costs. She stressed the role of government support in reducing perceived financial risk and facilitating uptake.

Case studies showed how small catalytic grants can unlock substantial co-financing. Questions from participants raised issues of enabling policy, regional procurement, risk management, and passive cooling viability. Touhami highlighted the importance of tailoring approaches to national contexts and emphasized that commercial financing of passive cooling remains challenging due to lack of tangible collateral.

**Ms Fathmath Usra**, International Relations Officer, Ministry of Tourism and Environment, of The Maldives presented the critical role of sustainable cooling in both tourism and fisheries, with extreme temperatures reaching record highs in 2023. The country relies heavily on cooling for comfort, storage, and food safety, and spends a significant share of GDP on fuel for energy. The government has introduced the Hakathari energy labelling programme under the UNEP-GEF LCEI project, promoting low-GWP appliances across the islands.

**The Maldives** stressed the need to mainstream passive and nature-based cooling, but noted significant barriers such as scattered geography, limited finance, scarce land for greenery, and

low public awareness. The government has pledged to plant 5 million trees by 2028. It has also introduced the Hakathari energy labelling programme covering air conditioners, refrigerators, and washing machines. MEPS are not yet in place but are planned for the future.

The conversation looked into demystifying funding channels, such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and the Adaptation Fund, while also discussing practical next steps to increase country readiness and project bankability.

**Peru** explained that they are working in the green taxonomy to incentivize investments and asked what else could governments do. Ms Touhami responded that countries had to identify what sector they wanted to incentivize first and then see if that makes sense financially for the user because otherwise the incentive would not work.

**Ghana** asked if cooling technologies in the cold chain could be included in the SCAF programme. Ms Touhami replied positively, as long as it is a tangible asset, but noted passive cooling isn't eligible.

**Togo** asked for examples or public-private partnerships at the local level to what Ms Touhami answered that the state utilities are a good example or PPPs.

The **United Kingdom** raised pooled procurement and a possible collective certification for super-efficient ACs as discussion points but noted significant challenges for most countries, except in large markets like India where it has worked.

**Morocco** highlighted the challenge of advancing energy efficiency and sustainable cooling due to institutional fragmentation and a lack of functional government buy-in, advocating for pragmatic, private-sector-driven approaches.

**The UAE** raised the issue of financial risk in solar cooling projects and asked about structuring incentives and guarantees, referencing lessons from a past \$240M KfW-backed project in Morocco.

**Grenada** stressed the lack of aligned financial products for consumers and advocated regional pooled procurement to overcome market fragmentation.

**The Comoros** requested advice on overcoming utility resistance and engaging decision-makers in cooling reforms, highlighting a monopoly energy provider and weak private sector.





*Figure 14: Moritz Weber (Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection, Germany) sharing proposals on linking sustainable cooling with carbon markets and regional cooperation.*

**Germany** proposed organizing a dedicated webinar to share country experiences, including Ghana's, on linking cooling with Article 6 carbon markets, and highlighted the initiative Cooling Programme for Southern Africa as a replicable model.

The session concluded with calls for flexible, context-specific models to scale access to cooling finance. It addressed a key implementation bottleneck identified throughout the meeting: the difficulty many countries face in accessing international climate finance to support sustainable cooling solutions.

### Session 3.2: Accessing Climate Finance

The second part of Session 3 explored opportunities and mechanisms for countries to access climate finance to implement sustainable cooling measures.

**Ms Jessica Troni**, Senior Programme Officer responsible for the UNEP-GEF Climate Change Adaptation portfolio, provided an in-depth overview of the GCF and how countries can structure cooling projects to be eligible for funding. She emphasized GCF's focus on projects that deliver tangible impacts within their lifetime and introduced its main investment criteria: impact potential, paradigm shift, and enabling environments. She detailed eligible project types—distinguishing between enabling activities (e.g., policy frameworks) and investment components (e.g., infrastructure or technology deployment)—and explained what qualifies for grant financing versus non-grant instruments such as loans or guarantees. Troni noted that social housing programmes, nature-based solutions, and interventions benefiting vulnerable groups could align



well with GCF priorities. She also addressed country-specific concerns, such as GDP classification, debt levels, and access constraints for SIDS and LDCs.



Figure 15: Jessica Troni (UNEP) presenting pathways for countries to access climate finance for sustainable cooling through the GCF and other instruments.

**Mr Mehul Jain** of the World Bank then presented a forthcoming investment framework aimed at helping countries translate cooling action plans and NDCs into bankable projects. Drawing from the India Cooling Action Plan, Jain outlined a methodology involving needs assessment, multi-criteria prioritization, and development of actionable investment roadmaps. He explained how different financing instruments—from blended finance to de-risking mechanisms and carbon markets—can be structured to mobilize public and private resources effectively. Jain’s framework emphasizes adaptability across various country contexts, and encourages strong data systems to inform decision-making.

Together, these presentations laid a foundation for future financing collaboration under the Global Cooling Pledge, with participants encouraged to continue sharing feedback and country-specific needs in the coming months.

**The Bahamas** raised concerns about their ability to access GCF funding despite high GDP figures, due to structural vulnerabilities across their many islands.

**Ghana** highlighted the lengthy GCF application process, referencing a mitigation project initiated in 2020 that is only expected to conclude in 2025.

**Iraq** called for a revision of the GCF approval process to better align with shifting national priorities and the urgency of climate projects.

**Nigeria** questioned whether renewable energy-based rural cooling projects, especially those benefiting women in agriculture, would meet GCF criteria for impact potential. Ms Troni explained that GCF grant funding for rural cooling projects is possible if the primary focus is on improving climate resilience for subsistence farmers, but the project must justify why communities cannot access credit, and it requires selecting an appropriate accredited financial intermediary.

**Cambodia** expressed strong interest in using GCF funding to scale up nature-based solutions aligned with national climate plans and community resilience goals.

## Session 4: NDCs Cooling and NCAPs Guidelines

The final session of the technical day addressed a core institutional lever for sustainable cooling: embedding it in countries' NDCs and NCAPs. The session showcased examples of integration from across regions and laid out a roadmap for countries to include cooling as part of their formal climate obligations under the Paris Agreement.



*Figure 16: Amr Seleem (UNEP Cool Coalition) calling for countries to integrate concrete cooling targets and investment strategies into their NDCs and long-term development plans.*

**Mr Amr Seleem** introduced the session by highlighting the growing number of countries that are referencing cooling in their updated NDCs. However, he cautioned that most of these references remain high-level and lack specificity in terms of targets, timelines, or investment strategies. He

called on countries to make cooling a “core mitigation and adaptation category” by anchoring it in their long-term low-emissions development strategies and sectoral implementation plans.



*Figure 17: Ben Hartley (SEforALL) highlighting the opportunity to strengthen cooling in 2025 NDC updates to unlock finance and institutional support.*

**Mr Ben Hartley**, Programme Manager of the Cooling for All programme at Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL), emphasized that this is a “moment of opportunity” to influence the NDC updates due in 2025, especially through co-development with the Cool Coalition, UNEP, and regional organizations. He stressed that inclusion in NDCs is not merely symbolic—it opens doors to finance, visibility, and institutional legitimacy.

**Mr. Leslie Smith**, Director, Ministry of Climate Resilience, the Environment and Renewable Energy, **Grenada** detailed Grenada’s progressive efforts to integrate cooling into its national climate commitments, starting with a 2018 GHG inventory that revealed the cooling sector accounted for 29 per cent of national emissions and over 60 per cent of building energy use. Although initial attempts to include HFCs in the first NDC failed, Grenada successfully integrated F-gases into the updated NDC and is now working to embed its NCAP and NDC Cooling Roadmap into NDC 3.0. The roadmap takes an all-of-society approach involving technicians, importers, and government leadership on policy. Notably, Grenada has implemented tax exemptions for equipment using natural refrigerants and plans to ban HFC-based units under two refrigeration tonnes.

**Ms Uboho Ekpo**, Principal Scientific Officer, National Council on Climate Change Secretariat, **Nigeria**, explained that they had integrated cooling into its revised NDC through a project on

scaling up energy efficiency, placing HFC mitigation under the IPPU (Industrial Processes and Product Use) sector due to their high global warming potential. Looking ahead to NDC 3.0, the country aims to mainstream cooling across agriculture, buildings, and construction, leveraging existing energy efficiency policies and GCP commitments. Their objective is to create an ambitious, yet bankable NDC that can attract investment.

**Mr Le Ngoc Tuan**, Deputy Director General, Department of Climate Change, Ministry of Agriculture and Environment, explained that **Viet Nam** included the cooling sector for the first time in its 2022 updated NDC, recognizing its significant mitigation potential. Calculations showed that from 2020 to 2022, cooling accounted for roughly a quarter of the country's total energy consumption, with emissions projected to reach 91.7 million tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e by 2030 under a business-as-usual scenario. This evidence prompted the Ministry to integrate cooling measures into both the energy and industrial sectors of the updated NDC, as well as the national climate change strategy post-COP26 in view of achieving net zero emissions by 2050.

The session made it clear that integrating cooling into NDCs and NCAPs is both necessary and feasible with the right support. Countries were urged to take proactive steps in aligning national cooling actions with global climate commitments to secure finance, institutionalize efforts, and achieve measurable results. The Cool Coalition and UNEP pledged to continue offering hands-on support as countries head toward the 2025 NDC update deadline.

## Day 2 Closing Remarks

**Ms Lily Riahi** concluded the first Global Cooling Pledge Signatories Focal Points Meeting in Bonn remarking that the two-day meeting was a critical turning point both from high-level commitment to operational implementation. Convened at a moment of intensifying climate impacts and surging global demand for cooling, the event highlighted the dual urgency and opportunity that cooling presents for both mitigation and adaptation. Ms Riahi noted that countries moved beyond framing challenges to sharing concrete strategies, tools, and mechanisms to accelerate sustainable cooling transitions. The launch of the EPIC financing facility, discussions on integration into NDCs, and the development of governance platforms like the IGCC reflect a growing institutional architecture around the Pledge. Technical sessions provided practical pathways on MEPS, passive cooling, financing models, and data readiness, responding to the real-world constraints countries face.

Key themes that emerged were: the need for context-sensitive solutions; the value of aligning cooling with broader development goals such as health, housing, and resilience; and the importance of peer exchange and leadership at multiple levels. The meeting laid the groundwork for COP30 to become a moment of global convergence on sustainable cooling anchored in inclusive governance, catalytic finance, and measurable progress.

What began as a Pledge is now evolving into a platform for transformation. With clear political will, growing technical capacity, and new tools on the table, countries are poised to make cooling not just a climate priority but a development imperative.

## ANNEX

### A. Agenda

#### Day 1: Enhanced Pledge Implementation and Inclusive Governance

Time	Agenda Item	Speakers
08:30 – 09:00	Registration and Welcome Coffee	
09:00 – 09:30	High Level Opening	<p><b>Welcome remarks</b> by the Co-hosts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dr Silke Karcher</b>, Deputy Director-General Circular Economy, the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Climate Action, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety of Germany (BMUKN)</li> <li>• <b>H.E. Ahmed Al Kaabi</b>, Assistant Undersecretary for Electricity, Water and Future Energy Sector at the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure of the United Arab Emirates (Co-Chair)</li> <li>• <b>Mr Alessandro Guerri</b>, Director General, Ministry of Environment and Energy Security of Italy [Virtual]</li> </ul> <p><b>Opening remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr Martin Krause</b>, Director of Climate Change Division, UNEP</li> </ul> <p><b>Special remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>H.E. Adalberto Maluf</b>, Vice Minister, the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change of Brazil (Co-Chair)</li> </ul>
09:30 – 09:40	<b>Group Photo</b>	
09:40 – 10:40	<p><b>Session 1: Setting the Scene “From Commitments to Implementation”</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation on Global Cooling Pledge progress, updates, and announcements, by Cool Coalition Secretariat</li> <li>• Discussion and feedback</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>H.E. Ahmed Mohamed Al Kaabi</b>, Assistant Undersecretary for Electricity, Water and Future Energy Sector at the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure of the United Arab Emirates</li> <li>• <b>Ms Lily Riahi</b>, Head, Cool Coalition Secretariat, UNEP</li> </ul>
10:40 – 11:00	Coffee Break	
11:00 – 13:00	<p><b>Session 2: Pledge Implementation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation on 2030 Implementation Strategy, progress tracking, priorities, and challenges updates, including the launch of Enabling Pledge Implementation for Cooling (EPIC)</li> <li>• Discussion and feedback</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>H.E. Adalberto Maluf</b>, Vice Minister, the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change of Brazil</li> <li>• <b>H.E. Ahmed Mohamed Al Kaabi</b>, Assistant Undersecretary for Electricity, Water and Future Energy Sector at the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure of the United Arab Emirates</li> <li>• <b>Ms Myriem Touhami</b>, Head of Finance Unit, UNEP</li> <li>• <b>Mr Asher Lessels</b>, Head, GEF Climate Mitigation Unit, UNEP</li> </ul>



## Day 1: Enhanced Pledge Implementation and Inclusive Governance

Time	Agenda Item	Speakers
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr Amr Seleem</b>, Country Engagement and Climate Policy Lead, Cool Coalition Secretariat, UNEP</li> </ul>
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch Break	
14:00 – 15:30	<b>Session 3: COP30 Priorities and Outcomes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation on COP30 cooling roadmap, priorities and potential outcomes including the Annual Ministerial</li> <li>• Discussion and feedback</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>H.E. Adalberto Maluf</b>, Vice Minister, the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change of Brazil</li> <li>• <b>H.E. Ahmed Mohamed Al Kaabi</b>, Assistant Undersecretary for Electricity, Water and Future Energy Sector at the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure of the United Arab Emirates</li> <li>• <b>Mr Martin Krause</b>, Director of Climate Change Division, UNEP</li> <li>• <b>Mr Gennai Kamata</b>, Associate Programme Officer, Buildings and Urban Energy, UNEP</li> </ul>
15:30 – 16:30	<b>Session 4: Intergovernmental Committee on Cooling (IGCC)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation by the Co-Chairs: Brazil and the UAE on IGCC Terms of Reference</li> <li>• Discussion and feedback</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms Mozah Alnuaimi</b>, Director of Productivity and Demand Management Department, Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure, United Arab Emirates</li> <li>• <b>Ms Gulnara Roll</b>, Chair of the Cool Coalition Secretariat, UNEP</li> <li>• <b>Mr Graeme Maidment</b>, Lead Technical Adviser, UK Department for Energy Security and Net Zero</li> <li>• <b>Mr Hubert Nsoh Zan</b>, Assistant Manager, Energy Commission Ghana</li> </ul>
16:30 – 16:45	Coffee Break	
16:45 – 17:20	<b>Session 5: Cool Champions for Pledge Implementation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cool Champions Overview</li> <li>• Proposed New Terms of Reference</li> <li>• Discussion and feedback</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr Graeme Maidment</b>, Lead Technical Adviser, UK Department for Energy Security and Net Zero</li> <li>• <b>Ms Gulnara Roll</b>, Chair of the Cool Coalition Secretariat, UNEP</li> </ul>
17:20 – 17:30	<b>Closing Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summary of key takeaways and next steps</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>H.E. Adalberto Maluf</b>, Vice Minister, the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change of Brazil</li> <li>• <b>Ms Mozah Alnuaimi</b>, Director of Productivity and Demand Management Department, Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure, United Arab Emirates</li> </ul>
18:30 – 20:30	Reception and dinner	<a href="#">Bundeskunsthalle</a>



## Day 2: Technical Capacity Building - “Enabling environment to unlock finance to implement the Pledge.”

Delivered by UNEP in collaboration with Cool Coalition partners

Time	Agenda Item	Speakers
08:30 – 09:00	Registration and welcome coffee	
09:00 – 09:15	<b>Session 0: Bringing it all together</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comprehensive and integrated action on sustainable cooling &amp; extreme heat</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Ms Lily Riahi</b>, Head, Cool Coalition Secretariat, UNEP</li> </ul>
09:15 – 11:15	<b>Session 1: Tackling Adaptation and Extreme Heat through sustainable cooling</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation on policies and strategies for passive cooling (nature, cool roofs, building codes), and cold chain</li> <li>Breakout discussion and reporting back</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Mr Benjamin Hickman</b>, Programme Manager, Cool Coalition, UNEP</li> <li><b>Mr David Beritault</b>, Program Officer-Energy Access, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA</li> <li><b>Mr Safi Ahsan Rizvi</b>, Advisor (Mitigation), National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), India</li> <li><b>Ms Mrinalini Shrivastava</b>, Director, policy and plans, National Disaster Management Authority, India</li> <li><b>Dr Takuya Nomoto</b>, Director of Climate Change Negotiation, Ministry of Environment, Japan</li> <li><b>Mr Michael Kleinbub</b>, Business Scout for Development, GIZ</li> <li><b>Ms Sudha Ramen</b>, Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu State Planning Commission, India</li> </ul>
11:15 – 11:30	Coffee Break	
11:30 – 12:15	<b>Session 2: MEPS and Product Registration</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation on Strengthening MEPS and Product Registration for Market Transformation</li> <li>Discussion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Ms Soledad Garcia</b>, Project Coordinator and Energy Efficiency Specialist, United for Efficiency, UNEP</li> <li><b>Mr Hubert Nsoh Zan</b>, Assistant Manager, Energy Commission Ghana</li> </ul>
12:15 – 13:15	Lunch Break	
13:15 – 14:45	<b>Session 3.1: Finance Mechanisms and Business Models</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation on fund and financing mechanisms for sustainable cooling</li> <li>Country case studies</li> <li>Discussion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Mr Gennai Kamata</b>, Associate Programme Officer, Buildings and Urban Energy, UNEP</li> <li><b>Ms Myriem Touhami</b>, Head of Finance Unit, UNEP</li> <li><b>Mr Hubert Nsoh Zan</b>, Assistant Manager, Energy Commission Ghana</li> <li><b>Ms Fathmath Usra</b>, International Relations Officer, Ministry of Tourism and Environment, The Maldives</li> </ul>
14:45– 15:00	Coffee Break	

## Day 2: Technical Capacity Building - “Enabling environment to unlock finance to implement the Pledge.”

Delivered by UNEP in collaboration with Cool Coalition partners

Time	Agenda Item	Speakers
15:00 – 16:30	<b>Session 3.2: Accessing Climate Finance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation on access to climate finance (GCF, Global Adaptation Fund)</li> <li>• Discussion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr Gennai Kamata</b>, Associate Programme Officer, Buildings and Urban Energy, UNEP</li> <li>• <b>Ms Jessica Troni</b>, Head, Climate Change Adaptation Unit, UNEP</li> <li>• <b>Mr Mehul Jain</b>, Senior Disaster Risk Management Specialist, World Bank</li> </ul>
16:30 – 18:25	<b>Session 4: NDCs Cooling and NCAPs Guidelines</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrating cooling into NDCs</li> <li>• Global scale up: applying the NCAP Methodology</li> <li>• Country case studies</li> <li>• Reporting back</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr Amr Seleem</b>, Country Engagement and Climate Policy Lead, Cool Coalition Secretariat, UNEP</li> <li>• <b>Mr Ben Hartley</b>, Programme Manager, Cooling for All, SEforALL</li> <li>• <b>Ms Ubobo Ekpo</b>, Principal Scientific Officer, National Council on Climate Change Secretariat, Nigeria</li> <li>• <b>Mr Leslie Smith</b>, Director, Ministry of Climate Resilience, the Environment and Renewable Energy Grenada</li> <li>• <b>Mr Le Ngoc Tuan</b>, Deputy Director General, Department of Climate Change, Ministry of Agriculture and Environment, Vietnam</li> <li>• <b>H.E. Pak Sokharavuth</b>, Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Environment, Cambodia</li> <li>• <b>Dr Mouna Benmabrek</b>, Head of Gas Emissions Service - Department of Sustainable Development, Ministry of Energy Transition &amp; Sustainable Development</li> </ul>
18:25 – 18:30	<b>Closing Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key takeaways and next steps</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms Lily Riahi</b>, Head, Cool Coalition Secretariat, UNEP</li> </ul>

## B. List of participants

### I. Countries

Country	Participant	Position
<b>Armenia</b>	Nona Budoyan	Head of the Climate Policy Department, Ministry of Environment
<b>The Bahamas</b>	Charles Hamilton	Climate Advisor, Office of The Prime Minister
<b>The Bahamas</b>	Denzel Collie	Climate Change Officer, Climate Change and Environmental Advisory Unit (C <sup>2</sup> EAU), Office of the Prime Minister
<b>The Bahamas</b>	Norlesha Martin	Emission Officer, National Emission Registry
<b>Belgium</b>	Laura De Sutter	Policy Officer, Ozone and F-gases, Climate Change Department, DG Environment
<b>Bhutan</b>	Sonam Tashi	Environment/National Ozone Officer, Environment Assessment and Compliance Division, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources
<b>Brazil (Co-Chair)</b>	H.E. Adalberto Maluf	National Secretary for Urban Environment, Water Resources and Environmental Quality, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change
<b>Burkina Faso</b>	Marthe Baro KY	Officer, Department for the Coordination of International Conventions, Ministry of Environment, Green Economy, and Climate Change
<b>Cambodia</b>	Pak Sokharavuth	Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Environment
<b>Cambodia</b>	Lun Lido	Policy and Coordination, Ministry of Environment
<b>Chad</b>	Oumar Gadji Soumaila	General Director, Environment Special Fund (FSE)
<b>Chile</b>	Camila Labarca	Head of Mitigation and Transparency Department, Ministry of Environment
<b>Comoros</b>	Aicha Haribou	Environmental Specialist, Directorate General for the Environment and Forests
<b>Côte d'Ivoire</b>	Mollé Bian Donatien	Director of Climate Change Department, Ministry of Construction, Housing and Urban Planning
<b>Djibouti</b>	Gouled Mohamed	Director of Energy, Ministry of Energy
<b>Dominican Republic</b>	Federico Grullón	Head of Technical Department, National Council for Climate Change and the CDM
<b>El Salvador</b>	Maria Isabel Dada	Specialist on International Affairs, Technical Unit, Ministerial Office
<b>Eswatini</b>	Mandla Vilakati	Principal Energy Officer, Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy
<b>Ethiopia</b>	Simret Terefe Leggese	Lead, Policy and Planning Division, Ministry of Planning and Development
<b>Germany (Co-Host)</b>	Dr. Silke Karcher	Deputy Director-General, Circular Economy, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUKN)
<b>Germany (Co-Host)</b>	Moritz Weber	Technical Officer, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection
<b>Ghana</b>	Hubert Nsoh Zan	Assistant Manager, Energy Efficiency Inspection & Enforcement, Energy Commission
<b>Grenada</b>	Leslie Smith	Director, Ministry of Climate Resilience, the Environment and Renewable Energy
<b>Guatemala</b>	Andrea Fión	Director of Climate Change, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN)

<b>India (Non-Signatory)</b>	Mrinalini Shrivastva	Director, National Disaster Management Authority
<b>Iraq</b>	Ali Abdulhussein Kadhim	Head of Mitigation Department, Climate Change Directorate, Ministry of Environment
<b>Iraq</b>	Ghaith Mahdi Hamdi	Head of Paris Agreement Department, Climate Change Directorate, Ministry of Environment
<b>Italy (Co-Host)</b>	Annalidia Pansini	Official, Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (Virtual)
<b>Japan</b>	Takuya Nomoto	Director of Climate Change Negotiation, Ministry of Environment
<b>Kazakhstan</b>	Dana Aldabergenova	Officer, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources
<b>Kenya</b>	Peter Rimba Maneno	Assistant Director, Climate Change, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry
<b>Kiribati</b>	Joseph Bautaake	Senior Project Officer, Ministry of Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy (MISE)
<b>Nigeria</b>	Adedoyin Lasisi	Deputy Director, Ministry of the Environment, Lagos State Government
<b>Maldives</b>	Fathmath Usra	International Relations Officer, Ministry of Climate Change, Environment and Energy
<b>Mauritius</b>	Nawsheen Sooruth	Senior Engineer, Energy Efficiency, Energy Efficiency Management Office
<b>Micronesia</b>	Natasha Nakasone	Deputy Assistant Secretary for Natural Resources and Gas Unit, Division of Environment and Sustainable Development, DECEM
<b>Morocco</b>	Mouna Benmbarek	Head of Air Quality Unit, NCAP Focal Point, Ministry of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development
<b>Nepal</b>	Parashuram Poudel	Under Secretary, Ministry of Forests and Environment
<b>Nigeria</b>	Uboho Ekpo	Principal Scientific Officer, National Council on Climate Change
<b>Panama</b>	Kevin Moises Polo	Climate Change Analyst, Ministry of Environment
<b>Peru</b>	Jimena Mora	Acting Director of GHG Mitigation, Ministry of Environment
<b>São Paulo, Brazil (City)</b>	Pedro Battagin Balieiro Miraldo	Architect and Urban Planner, Implementation, Projects and Works Division
<b>Singapore</b>	Hijanah Mohd Jailani	Assistant Director, Energy & Climate Policy, Ministry of Sustainability and Environment (MSE)
<b>Solomon Islands</b>	Richard Bapo	Senior Government Officer, Energy Division, Ministry of Mines, Energy and Rural Electrification
<b>Federal Republic of Somalia</b>	Abdifatah Abshir	Director of Energy, Ministry of Energy and Water Resources
<b>Sri Lanka</b>	Leel Randeni	Director, Climate Change Secretariat, Ministry of Environment
<b>Tamil Nadu, India (State)</b>	Sudha Ramen	Member Secretary (FAC), HOD (LU), Tamil Nadu State Planning Commission
<b>Togo</b>	Mery Yaou	Director of Environment, Ministry of Environment and Forestry Resources
<b>United Arab Emirates (Co-Chair)</b>	H.E. Ahmed Mohamed Al Kaabi	Assistant Undersecretary, Electricity, Water and Future Energy Sector, Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure
<b>United Arab Emirates</b>	Mozah Mohamed Alnuaimi	Director, Productivity and Demand Management Department, Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure
<b>United Kingdom</b>	Graeme Maidment	Technical Lead, Cooling, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
<b>Uruguay</b>	Camila Morales	Officer, Energy Demand, Access, and Efficiency Department, National Energy Directorate, Ministry of Industry, Energy, and Mining

Vietnam	Le Ngoc Tuan	Deputy Director General, GHG Emission Reduction and Ozone Layer Protection, Department of Climate Change, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
Zimbabwe	Milward Kuona	Project Technical Coordinator, Ministry of Environment

## II. Partner Organizations and Media

Organization	Participant	Position
BASE	Thomas Fuhr	Sustainable Finance Specialist
ClimateWorks Foundation	Axum Teferra	Senior Associate Director, Clean Cooling Collaborative
GIZ	Lydia Ondraczek	Climate Change Policy Advisor
GIZ	Claudia Alvarez	Project Manager, Proklima
GIZ	Carola Venegas	Junior Finance Manager
GIZ	Clemens Link	Advisor
GIZ	Juliette Noppe	Advisor
ICLEI	Kobie Brand	Regional Director, Africa Office
ICLEI	Maryke van Staden	Director, carbonn Climate Center; Director of Business Development
IRENA	Sina Tabrizi	Chief of Outreach, Stakeholder Engagement & Events
RCREEE	Mostafa Hasaneen	Sustainable Energy Expert
SEforALL	Ben Hartley	Programme Manager, Cooling for All programme
UNEP	Asher Lessels	Head of GEF Unit
UNEP	Martin Krause	Director, Climate Change Division
UNEP	Myriem Touhami Kadiri	Head of Finance Unit
UNEP	Lily Riahi	Head of Cool Coalition Secretariat
UNEP	Rocio Soledad Garcia	Project Coordinator and Energy Efficiency Specialist at United for Efficiency (U4E)
UNEP	Vitor Pinheiro	Acting Senior Programme Officer, Brazil Office
UNEP	Amr Seleem	Country Engagement and Climate Policy Lead, Cool Coalition Secretariat
UNEP	Anya Magotra	Governance and Partnership Support, Cool Coalition Secretariat
UNEP	Benjamin Hickman	Programme Manager, India Portfolio
UNEP	Chloé Rosset	Partnerships and Engagement Lead, Cool Coalition Secretariat
UNEP	Gennai Kamata	Associate Programme Officer, Buildings and Urban Energy
UNEP	Priscah Osir	Programme Management Support
UNEP	Jessica Troni	Head, Climate Change Adaptation Unit
Media – 10billionSolutions	Mariana Castaño Cano	Founder and CEO
Media – 10billionSolutions	Chris McMorro	Video Producer
Media – 10billionSolutions	Christophe Rousse	Finance and Operations
Media – 10billionSolutions	Rosa Castañeda Prado	Photographer and Videographer

C. IGCC Terms of Reference (Attached)

D. Cool Champions Terms of Reference (Attached)