

Global Cooling Pledge Assembly 2026

15-18 September 2026 (4 days) | Location: Singapore

Updated 13 July 2026

Background

The [Global Cooling Pledge](#), launched at the 2023 UN Climate Change Conference (COP28), addresses extreme heat risks and sustainable cooling demand through a triple strategy: passive cooling, super-efficient technologies, and climate-friendly refrigerants to cut sectoral emissions by 68% by 2050. Reinforced at [COP29's inaugural Annual Cooling Ministerial Meeting](#), the Pledge [prioritizes equitable access to sustainable cooling to protect nations](#) from the impacts of extreme heat, while aligning with the Paris Agreement and biodiversity.

The first [Global Cooling Pledge Signatories Focal Points Meeting](#), held in June 2025, co-hosted by Germany, Italy, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), co-chaired by Brazil and the UAE, created an initial space for signatories to engage on practical implementation issues, governance arrangements, and priority capacity-building needs. It also helped identify common challenges and opportunities related to national policy integration, financing, data, and delivery. At COP30 in Belém, signatory countries came together for the [2nd Annual Cooling Ministerial](#), where they formally adopted the establishment of the Intergovernmental Committee on Cooling (IGCC) as the governing body to track and guide the delivery of the Pledge. A core outcome of this Ministerial was the adoption of the [Belém Communiqué on Extreme Heat](#). To move forward, the [Beat the Heat Implementation Drive](#) and the [EPIC Facility](#) are recognized as the mechanisms for early-stage technical assistance and subnational action.

Building on this momentum, the Global Cooling Assembly 2026 will convene Pledge signatory countries, cities, industry leaders, development finance institutions, and technical partners to accelerate the deployment of sustainable cooling solutions and strengthen collaboration across the global cooling ecosystem. The Assembly recognizes that delivery of the Global Cooling Pledge requires the combined force of intergovernmental commitment and all Cool Coalition members. Hence, it will serve as a platform to strengthen collaboration across the cooling ecosystem and showcase practical delivery pathways for scaling sustainable cooling. The Assembly will also introduce the [Cool Champions initiative](#) to showcase leadership and concrete implementation, strengthening the global visibility of sustainable cooling and reinforcing its role as a priority sector for climate action and resilience. The Global Cooling Pledge Focal Points Meeting will take place within the Assembly, as the first formal meeting of members of the Intergovernmental Committee on Cooling (IGCC). This dedicated meeting will allow signatory governments to take stock of progress, strengthen coordination, and advance implementation of Pledge commitments.

The Global Cooling Assembly aims to bridge the gap between commitment and delivery by connecting governments with industry, financing, and implementation partners. It will do so by advancing implementation of the Global Cooling Pledge and Beat the Heat, facilitating access to technical and financial support mechanisms (including the EPIC Facility), and showcasing scalable solutions and delivery.

Objectives

- Review and take stock of progress under the Global Cooling Pledge and the 2030 Pledge Implementation Strategy; discuss and agree on possible updates on the strategy; and enhance readiness of the Pledge signatory countries for effective utilization of the EPIC Facility for early-stage technical assistance.
- Accelerate delivery of country-led cooling actions by strengthening links between national priorities and city-level implementation through the Beat the Heat Implementation Drive.
- Strengthening the technical and institutional capacity of focal points on priority areas (including investment planning, passive and nature-based cooling, and efficient technologies), while mobilizing the Cool Coalition ecosystem, including governments, industry, manufacturers, and finance partners, to accelerate implementation and enhance global visibility through initiatives such as Cool Champions.

Expected Outcomes

- Updated 2030 Implementation Strategy with priority action areas, and coordinated support areas agreed by signatories
- Improved readiness of focal points to access and utilize implementation mechanisms (including EPIC Facility), reflected in country priorities, structured requests, and strengthened coordination.
- Strengthened pipeline of country-driven actions, with linkages between national priorities and subnational implementation under the Beat the Heat Implementation Drive.
- Enhanced technical and institutional capacity of focal points in key areas such as national cooling and investment planning, passive and nature-based cooling, and energy-efficient technologies.
- Increased engagement of industry, manufacturers, finance institutions, and partners, resulting in strengthened collaboration to support implementation at scale.
- Elevated visibility of sustainable cooling as a priority climate and development sector through the Cool Champions, showcasing leadership.
- Consolidated strategic inputs to inform the 3rd Annual Cooling Ministerial, and contributions to the Global Stocktake 2.0 under the Paris Agreement

Target Audience

- Focal Points of Signatory Countries
- Beat the Heat Cities and Partners
- Cool Coalition Members

Day 1

Setting Priorities for Cooling Action

This day will bring together countries, cities, partners, and experts to explore the latest science on extreme heat and cooling, identify regional priorities, and exchange experiences on advancing implementation. Through regional dialogues, implementation roundtables, and Beat the Heat training sessions, participants will discuss practical pathways for integrating cooling and heat resilience into national and local action.

The programme will conclude with a site visit showcasing urban cooling and heat resilience solutions in practice, helping to connect policy discussions with real-world implementation and setting the stage for the Assembly's high-level discussions and outcomes.

Time	Agenda item		
09:00 – 10:00	Registration & Refreshments		
10:00 – 10:30	Welcome Remarks		
	Plenary		
	- Host Country - IGCC Co-Chairs		
10:30 – 11:30	Science and the Future of Cooling Action: Extreme Heat, Health and Cooling Nexus		
	High-level Panel Discussion		
	- Discuss emerging science on extreme heat, cooling demand and impacts on health, cities and vulnerable populations - Discuss science-based priorities shaping the future of sustainable cooling action and policy - Featuring leading scientists and academic experts, including Winston Chow and Singapore-based research institutions and academia		
11:30 – 12:00	Overview of the Assembly Sessions, Formats & Site Visits Briefing		
	Plenary		
	- Overview of the Assembly journey and how discussions across the week will inform IGCC outcomes and next steps for Pledge implementation. - Site visit briefing		
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch Break		
13:00 – 14:30	<i>Regional Dialogues: Shaping Priorities for Cooling Action</i>		
	Africa Dialogue	Asia Dialogue	Latin America & Caribbean Dialogue
	Regional Roundtable	Regional Roundtable	Regional Roundtable
14:30 – 14:45	Coffee Break		
14:45 – 16:15	Session 1A - National Planning for Cooling (i.e., NCAPs, NDCs, NAPs)	Session 1B - Transforming the NCAP into Investment and Implementation Pathways	Session 1C - Urban Heat Planning and Integration into Policy Frameworks
	Implementation Roundtable	Implementation Roundtable	Beat the Heat Training
16:15 – 16:45	Transportation to Site 1		
	Participants gather at the meeting point (bus bay). Transportation is arranged as part of the tour.		
16:45 – 17:45	Site Visit 1: Urban Cooling and Heat Planning and National-to-Subnational Governance		
	Beat the Heat Site Visit (For Countries and Cities)		
17:45 – 18:15	Transportation to Hotel		

Day 2

Scaling Sustainable Cooling Solutions

This day will focus on practical solutions and implementation pathways for sustainable cooling and heat resilience. Through implementation roundtables and Beat the Heat training sessions, participants will explore strategies for passive cooling, equitable access to cooling, market transformation, renewable-based cooling, and financing approaches.

The programme will conclude with a series of site visits showcasing passive cooling, nature-based design, and efficient cooling infrastructure in practice, providing participants with tangible examples of how cooling solutions can be deployed and scaled.

Time	Agenda item		
09:00 – 10:30	Session 2A - Passive Cooling Solutions and Nature for Cooling Implementation Roundtable	Session 2B - Renewable-based Cooling Solutions and Demand Response Implementation Roundtable	Session 2C - Implementing Nature-Based and Passive Cooling Solutions Beat the Heat Training
10:30 – 10:45	Coffee Break		
10:45 – 12:15	Session 3A - Scaling Super-Efficient Cooling Appliances and Market Transformation Implementation Roundtable	Session 3B - Inclusive Access to Cooling: Service-Based Delivery Models Implementation Roundtable	Session 3C - Financing Urban Heat and Cooling Resilience Beat the Heat Training
12:15 – 13:15	Lunch Break		
13:15 – 13:45	Transportation to Site 2		
13:45 – 15:00	Site Visit 2: Passive Cooling and Nature-Based Design Beat the Heat Site Visit (For Countries and Cities)		
15:00 – 15:30	Transportation to Site 3		
15:30 – 16:45	Site Visit 3: Efficient Cooling Systems and Infrastructure Beat the Heat Site Visit (For Countries and Cities)		
16:45 – 17:15	Transportation to Hotel		
17:15 – 17:30	Coffee Break		
17:30 – 18:00	Implementation Insights Plenary Reflections from the morning sessions and how they relate to the cooling solutions showcased during the site visits		

Day 3

High-Level Segment & Intergovernmental Committee on Cooling (IGCC) Meeting:
Pledge Progress and Delivery

This high-level segment focuses on advancing political momentum, industry engagement and implementation partnerships for the sustainable cooling transition. The Intergovernmental Committee on Cooling (IGCC) meeting brings together Global Cooling Pledge Focal Points as the governance body to guide implementation of the Pledge. The meeting is open to all Assembly participants.

Time	Agenda item
	High-level Remarks
09:00 – 09:30	H.E. Grace Fu Hai Yien, Minister of Sustainability and Environment, Singapore H.E. Hiroshi Ishikawa, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Singapore H.E. UAE H.E. Italy Martin Krause, Director of Climate Change Division, UNEP
	Cool Champions Awards
09:30 – 10:30	Awards Ceremony & High-level Panel Discussion Presentation of awards (ministers, CEOs) followed by a high-level discussion with award recipients on implementation, innovation and scaling impact
	Group Photo
10:30– 10:45	Coffee Break
	Session 1 - Progress of the Global Cooling Pledge Delivery
10:45– 12:15	Plenary Participation: GCP Focal Points (speakers); non-state actors (observers) - Key insights from the Global Cooling Watch 2025 and the Pledge Progress Report 2025 - Discussion on progress of delivery mechanisms and implementation support (EPIC and Beat the Heat): GEF-8 Nature for Cooling Challenge; BeCool India and Africa Expected Outcome: Identification of implementation successes and lessons learned as well as support needs to inform the IGCC Workplan 2027
12:15 – 13:00	Lunch Break
	Session 2 - Pathways to Implementation for 2030
13:00– 14:30	Plenary Participation: GCP Focal Points (speakers); non-state actors (observers) - Review and discuss the updated 2030 Pledge Implementation Strategy with a view to scaling the delivery mechanisms - Discussion on scaling Delivery Mechanisms (EPIC & EPIC Deploy, Beat the Heat) Expected Outcome: Refined updated 2030 Pledge strategy, including priority action areas and emerging areas of cooperation and the IGCC Workplan 2027
14:30 – 14:45	Networking Break
	Session 3 - Financing the Pledge Implementation and Sustainable Cooling
14:45 – 16:15	Plenary Participation: GCP Focal Points (speakers); non-state actors (observers) - Identify approaches to finance EPIC's project pipelines and access to finance under Paris Agreement Article 6 - Discuss access to finance for implementation of NDCs and NCAPs Investment Roadmaps - Country Presentations on successful modalities Expected Outcome: Agreed partnerships and modalities for financing EPIC's projects with carbon markets under the Paris Agreement Article 6 and GEF-9 programme; and NDC/NCAP's Investment Roadmaps implementation
16:15 – 16:30	Coffee Break
	Session 4 – Acting Together on Extreme Heat and Sustainable Cooling
16:30 – 18:00	Plenary Participation: GCP Focal Points (speakers); non-state actors (observers) - Discuss modalities to tackle cooling, heat and health as a shared agenda - Agree on advancing Beat the Heat Implementation Drive as a mechanism of the Pledge Delivery through interlinking HAPs and NCAPs

- Incorporating a shared agenda on extreme heat and cooling within Global Stocktake 2.0 dialogues and related climate processes (e.g. GEF, GCF) as well as regional convenings (NDC and Peer-to-Peer)

Expected Outcome: Recognition of the need for cross-ministerial and multi-level government coordination on extreme heat and cooling, with a common understanding of how integrated HAPs and NCAPs, supported by regional peer-to-peer networks, can advance Beat the Heat implementation.

18:00 – 18:30

Day 1 Reflections and Outlook for Day 2 of the Assembly

Plenary | Participation: GCP Focal Points (speakers); non-state actors (observers)

Day 4

Shaping the Next Phase of Cooling Action

This day will focus on consolidating the outcomes of the Assembly and strengthening partnerships to accelerate the sustainable cooling transition. Discussions will bring together governments, cities, industry leaders, and implementation partners to reflect on progress, advance market transformation, and align priorities ahead of COP31.

The programme will culminate in the endorsement of Assembly outcomes, including updates to the Global Cooling Pledge implementation strategy and workplan, while providing space for bilateral engagement and partner coordination to support delivery in the years ahead.

Time	Agenda item
	Kigali +10 years and Industry Leadership Dialogue & Manufacturing Platform
	High-level Panel Discussion
09:00 – 10:00	• Reflect on 10 years of the Kigali Amendment and implications for the sustainable cooling transition • Introducing the Manufacturing Platform
	Featuring IGCC Signatories, Beat the Heat Cities, implementation partners and manufacturers
10:00 – 10:30	Elevating Cooling in Global Climate Action: Fireside chat with the COP troika
	Plenary
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee Break
	Outcomes of the Global Cooling Pledge Assembly and IGCC Closure
	Plenary Participation: GCP Focal Points (speakers); non-state actors (observers)
11:00 – 13:00	• Consolidate key inputs and recommendations emerging from Assembly Implementation Roundtables (assigned Rappatour's notes of each Implementation Roundtables and cities trainings) • Review updates to the 2030 Pledge implementation strategy and Workplan 2027, and next steps towards coordinated engagement and political messaging for COP31 cooling ministerial • Outline next steps for the IGCC, signatories and partners moving forward toward COP31 and COP32
	Expected Outcome: Endorsed Singapore Assembly outcomes document, including an updated 2030 Pledge Implementation Strategy and agreed IGCC Workplan 2027, with all signatories, cities, and partners aligned on priorities, shared political messaging, and the forward agenda through COP31 and COP32.
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch Break
14:00 – 15:30	Informal Networking Activity
	Beat the Heat Roundtable
	Closed-door Meeting
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee Break
16:00 – 17:00	Bilateral Engagements and Partner Coordination Meetings
	Closed-door Meetings
18:00 – 20:30	High-level Reception (Hosted by the Minister H.E. Grace Fu)