



1st Report – Leading up to the UN Climate Change Conference COP30 10th – 21st Nov. 2025 Belém, Brazil



Over the next two weeks, around **50,000 delegates** are expected to gather in the heart of the Amazon to discuss international agreements on climate action. (*Read more at unfccc.int.*) The Amazon rainforest, often described as the **lungs of the planet**, is under severe threat. According to the latest scientific findings, **35% of the forest has already been lost or damaged**, and the entire Amazon ecosystem may soon cross critical **tipping points**. In his opening speech at the Climate Summit in Belém, **UN Secretary-General António Guterres** warned that “the failure to limit global heating to 1.5°C is a moral failure and deadly negligence.” In one of his strongest statements yet, he condemned the oil, gas, and coal industries for making record profits from climate devastation, while spending billions on lobbying, deceiving the public, and obstructing progress.

At such a **crucial moment** for the future of our planet, the presence of the Brahma Kumaris team and our spiritual contribution are more important than ever. We are among the 4,000 accredited observer organisations and have received **tremendous support** from the Brahma Kumaris family in Brazil, especially in **São Paulo and Salvador**. [Meet the team](#)



*Burhan,
Francis,
Carolin,
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Luciana,
Nonie,
Madalena.
Jose Ricardo,
Thomas,
Alex, Goreth,
Golo, Sonja,
Patricia,
Ananya*

This Climate Conference seems to be different

From the very beginning, Brazil has poured a wide-ranging diplomatic effort into forging connections and fostering climate networks, drawing on the Indigenous practice of the Mutirão. Mutirão “refers to a community coming together to work on a shared task, whether harvesting or supporting one another”, said André Corrêa do Lago, the COP30 president.

Brazil’s President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva wanted social issues to be high on the agenda, so his Environment Minister, Marina Silva, launched an initiative called the Global Ethical Stocktake (GES), which focuses on advancing climate justice. Bringing together Indigenous peoples and vulnerable communities, the GES aims to ensure fairness and equity in policies.

Here you can read [Brahma Kumaris' statement to COP](#) and [Reflections on Ethical Stocktake](#).

Belém was founded in 1616 by the Portuguese as a colony to defend the Amazon River, which made it the first European settlement in the region. The city later became a major center during the Amazon rubber boom in the 19th century and has since evolved into the capital of Pará and a gateway to the Amazon.



Part of the BK team is accommodated in a flat next to the famous Basilica of Our Lady of Nazareth of Exile.

Exhibition



Our COP30 Exhibition will serve as a hub for dialogues and meetings, as well as for distributing blessing cards and leaflets for the coming week. The exhibition is a collaboration between four organisations - The Brahma Kumaris, Co-applicant: Faith Association of the Rehabilitation of Street Children and Orphans (Ghana), Global Peace Initiative of Women (US), and International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations (Switzerland). The setup was done on Sunday evening, and everything looks good!



Registration done by Alex, Goreth, Ananya, Nonie, Sonja and Golo. It is a tropical climate with high temperatures and humidity.



Pre COP Events

A unique feature of this COP conference is the many events held before it, known as pre-consultations. Here is a snippet of such events that the BK Brazil participated in:



São Paulo HORIZONS 2025 Forum, August 2025, Ken O'Donnell speaking on: The Heart of Innovation: Human Values Driving Sustainable Progress

Fortaleza Pre COP Event. Sept. 2025, participation of BK's Silvania Braga and Benedita de Souza.



Online talk for the **Mentes Verdes channel** with the theme Sustainability from the inside out by BK Francis Coviello.

BK Events prior to COP



OUR POWER - OUR PLANET - Earth regeneration through reconnection with my inner world. On September 20th and 21st, a retreat with friends and representatives from several NGOs took place at the BK retreat centre in Serra Negra. On Saturday afternoon, we held an open session for the local community. The Serra Negra environmental secretary and his wife were present, along with local producers of organic products, essential oils, and other guests. We took the opportunity to discuss the questions and reflections from the Global Ethical Stocktake.

Salvador 5-6 Nov.



Healthy Mind, Healthy Planet lecture on 5 Nov. by Golo and Sonja. Hosted by Alex and Goreth from Pituba BK Center.



Peace No Matter What program in Barissa BK Center by Sonja, Golo and Alex.

Rio de Janeiro 5-6 Nov.

Guest Lecture at the State University of Rio de Janeiro



Professor Simone Evangelista invited Carolin to present on the theme of "**Active Hope for the Planet**" in her Communication Theory class at the University of the State of Rio de Janeiro. Carolin shared her experimental work on transformative communication spaces at UN Climate Change Conferences (COPs), focusing on how to shift communication culture and foster more meaningful encounters and collaborations among diverse and sometimes conflicting stakeholders. The session concluded with a guided meditation led by Augusto, which

all students participated in wholeheartedly.



Carolin met with **renowned biologist Mario Moscatelli**, Carolina Moscatelli, and Daniela at one of Mario's renaturation project sites. Mario shared the compelling story of a lagoon's transformation from a heavily polluted body of water—where sewage discharge had driven away birds and caused recurring mass fish deaths—to a recovering ecosystem



Session at University of Rio with Professor Michelle Sampaio

Carolin was invited to present to her sustainable development class, opening the seminar to the public as well. The two-hour session, titled "Active Hope for the Planet," explored how current efforts to address climate change are based on a misunderstanding that root causes are purely external. Carolin introduced the emerging scientific field of inner transformation in sustainability, which shifts response approaches from exclusively outer solutions to include inner dimensions of change. Students were highly engaged throughout the presentation, leading to rich interaction and discussion afterwards. Augusto concluded the session with a meditation, in which everyone participated with focus and genuine interest.

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