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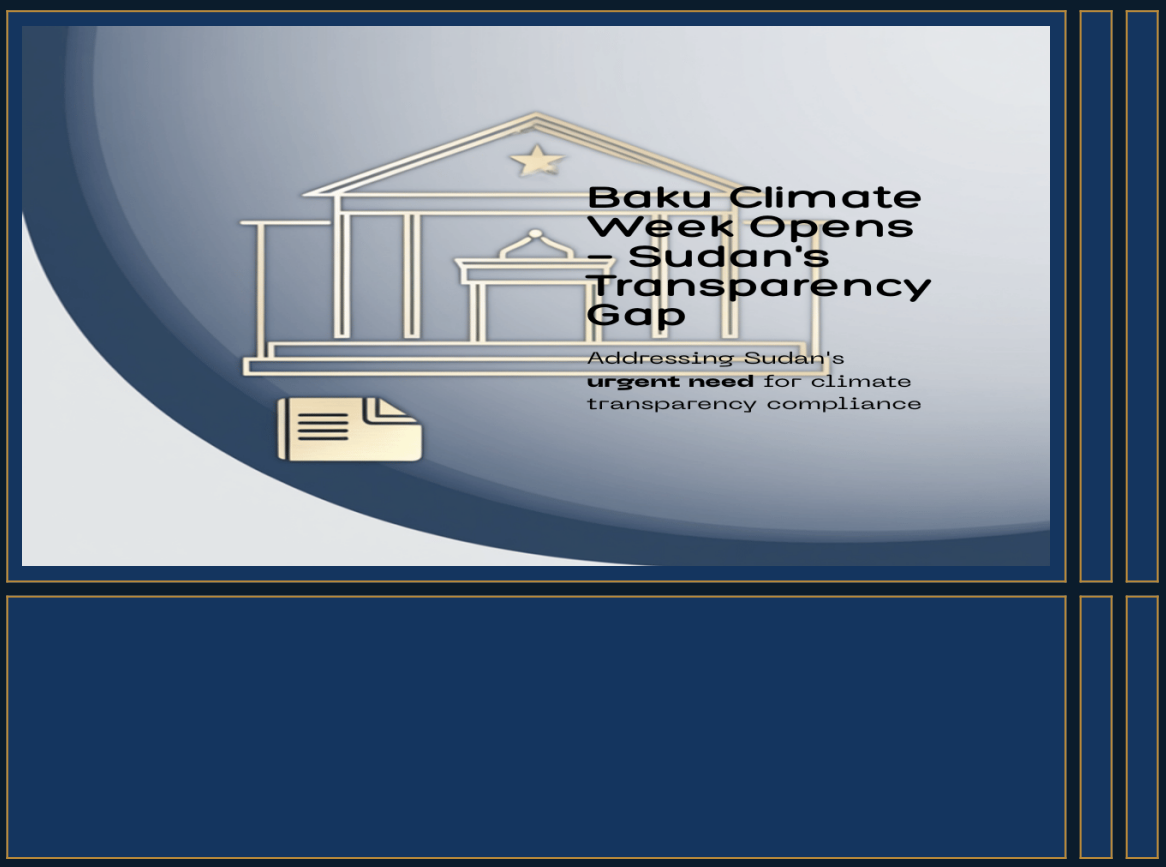

Baku Climate Week Opens on a Transparency Deadline Sudan Hasn't Met

Research Team

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UNFCCC Climate Week 4 opened today in Baku with transparency reporting as its lead theme. Sudan has yet to file its first Biennial Transparency Report — a deadline that passed twenty-one months ago.

3Bi Research Team | 7 September 2026

Headline Fact

The UN's fourth Climate Week opened today in Baku, Azerbaijan, built around a single pressure point: getting the world's governments to file the climate-reporting paperwork that increasingly decides who gets climate finance and who doesn't. Sudan, based on the public UNFCCC record reviewed for this report, has not filed the first round of that paperwork — a deadline that passed twenty-one months ago (UNFCCC, Climate Week Baku programme, 7 September 2026).

Timeline

7 September 2026 — Climate Week 4 (CW4) opens in Baku, running through 11 September, convened by the UNFCCC. The day's centerpiece is a high-level dialogue titled "Stepping Up ETF Implementation," referring to the Paris Agreement's Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) (UNFCCC, Climate Week Baku; Indico.UN event page).

8–10 September 2026 — Technical workshops run under the banner "The Final Mile: Advancing BTR Preparation for Submission in 2026," organized jointly by UN Climate Change, UNEP, UNDP, FAO and the Baku Transparency Platform under the "#Together4Transparency" initiative. The goal is to help countries — particularly least-developed and conflict-affected states — finish their second-round Biennial Transparency Reports (BTR2) before the 31 December 2026 deadline (UNFCCC Climate Week Baku programme; search coverage via EnviroNews Nigeria, 2026).

9–10 September 2026 — The Climate Week's Implementation Forum convenes, the open segment where governments, civil-society groups and financial institutions present progress and gaps (UNFCCC, Climate Week Baku).

Background — 31 December 2024 — The first-round BTR deadline for all Paris Agreement parties. As of this review, Sudan does not appear among the roughly 130-plus countries — including regional peers Egypt, Nigeria and Saudi Arabia — whose first BTRs are listed on the UNFCCC's public reporting pages (UNFCCC, First Biennial Transparency Reports). Sudan's most recent transparency filing found in UNFCCC records is a Biennial Update Report (BUR) from January 2022, submitted under the pre-Paris reporting system that the BTR is replacing (UNFCCC document repository).

What We Know / What We Don't

We know: Climate Week 4 opened today with transparency reporting as its lead theme, and that the UNFCCC has built an entire technical-assistance track this week specifically to help lagging countries close their BTR gap before the December deadline. We know the first BTR deadline (December 2024) has already passed, and that Sudan's most recent transparency submission on the public UNFCCC record predates the Paris Agreement's current reporting system.

We don't know: Whether Sudan has a BTR in preparation that simply has not yet been published to the UNFCCC portal, whether Sudanese technical staff are participating in this week's Baku workshops (remotely or in person), or how Sudan's ongoing conflict has affected the data-collection capacity — emissions inventories, adaptation tracking, finance-needs reporting — that a BTR requires. As a least-developed country, Sudan retains some flexibility under the Paris Agreement's built-in flexibility provisions on the scope and timing of its reporting; that flexibility is not the same as an exemption, and 3Bi could not confirm from public sources whether Sudan has formally invoked it.

Do-No-Harm Note

This report deals only with a government's public international-reporting record, not with individuals or communities, and names no person. 3Bi reviewed the item against its do-no-harm checklist and found no risk of identifying, endangering, or misrepresenting a named individual or community; no generalization of identifying details was required.

Why It Matters

Climate funds and bilateral donors increasingly treat a country's transparency record — did it file, is the data credible — as a proxy for institutional capacity when deciding where multi-year climate finance is safe to commit. A widening reporting gap does not just cost Sudan a compliance checkbox; it risks quietly moving Sudan further down the list when the next round of adaptation and mitigation finance is allocated, at the same moment neighboring states are using their own BTRs to unlock exactly that finance.

What to Watch

Whether the UNFCCC's Baku Transparency Platform publishes a country-by-country BTR2 readiness list before 31 December; whether any Sudanese government or civil-society delegation is confirmed at this week's Implementation Forum; and whether COP31 (Antalya, 9–20 November 2026) features a dedicated session on transparency support for conflict-affected LDCs.

Sourcing & Next Update

Primary sources: UNFCCC Climate Week Baku programme page and Indico.UN event registration pages (accessed 7 September 2026); UNFCCC First Biennial Transparency Reports listing; Sudan's 2022 Biennial Update Report and 2021 updated First NDC, both in the UNFCCC document repository. 3Bi will note any correction if a Sudanese BTR filing is identified after publication, and will follow up if Sudan's participation in Climate Week 4 is confirmed.

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