Annotated Agenda

0900 – 1000 hrs	**Registration**
1000 – 1120 hrs	**World Climate Readiness Summit 2026 Inaugural Session** **Welcome Address** - **Shri Ashwajit Singh**, Managing Director and Founder, IPE Global - **Shri Shishir Priyadarshi**, President, Chintan Research Foundation **Context Setting Address** - **Shri Abinash Mohanty**, Director & Global Sector Head – Climate Change & Sustainability(CCS), IPE Global **Special Address** - **H.E. Jean-Eric Paquet**, Ambassador and Head of the Delegation of the European Union to India* - **H.E. Jagnnath Sami,** High Commissioner of the Republic of Fiji to India - **H.E. Ali Murat Ersoy**, Ambassador of the Republic of Türkiye to India, Embassy of Turkey - **Shri Shyam Saran**, President, India international Centre and Former Special Envoy and Chief Negotiator on Climate Change to Prime Minister of India* - **Shri Mrutyunjay Mohapatra**, Director General – Meteorology, India Meteorological Department - **Shri Amitabh Kant,** Former G20 Sherpa and Former CEO NITI Aayog***** **Keynote Address** - **Dr. Deborah Mlongo Barasa**, Minister-cum-Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry, Govt. of Kenya - **Shri Jitendra Singh**, Minister of Earth Sciences and Science and Technology, Government of India*
1120 – 1130 hrs	**Tea Break**
1130 – 1230 hrs	**Session 1: Why are some regions/states leading, and some are catching up*?*** Climate readiness across regions and states depends on institutional capacity, climate governance, access to finance, and the ability to translate commitments into scalable action. **What enables some states to advance climate action while others struggle to keep pace, and how can successful approaches be replicated across diverse contexts?** The session will explore the role of gender-responsive planning, inclusive governance and innovative climate finance in bridging implementation gaps, mainstreaming climate priorities into development planning and scaling locally led solutions that strengthen resilience and deliver equitable outcomes across the Global South. **Context setting: Santosh Kumar,** Associate Director & Lead – CRA, CCS-IPE Global **Chair: Ousmane Ndiaye,** Director General, African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) **Moderator: Abinash Mohanty,** Director & Global Sector Head, CCS-IPE Global - **Pushpendra Rana IFS**, Special Secretary, Himachal Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh - **Mridula Pandey,** Senior Manager – Climate, Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF) - **Somabha Mohanty**, Programme Officer (cooperation), Delegation of the European Union to India* - **Myron Mendes,** Executive Director, INECC - **Tobias Nauruki,** President and CEO, Africa International Policy Research Centre (AIRPC)
1230 – 1330 hrs	**Session 2: Navigating the Low-Carbon Transition - Strategies for Transformation** **How can countries in the Global South accelerate decarbonisation while balancing development needs, industrial competitiveness and a just transition?** Anchored in the Paris Agreement and countries' Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), this session will examine how carbon markets, circular-economy approaches, sustainable food systems, and private-sector innovation can advance low-emission development. Panellists will explore the policy frameworks, market mechanisms, and cross-sectoral partnerships needed to translate climate commitments into commercially viable and equitable pathways for transformation. **Context setting by: Meghna Vinodan,** Low Carbon Pathways Specialist, CCS-IPE Global **Chair: Kolluru Krishan,** Chair of the Energy, Green Economy & Climate Working Group of the BRICS Business Council and Chairman, CVC India Infrastructure Private Limited **Moderator: Siddharth Gautam,** Founder, Enersider - **Jui Joshi,** Senior Partner, Climate Collective Foundation - **Jai Kumar Gaurav,** Senior Advisor- Climate Change and Circular Economy, GIZ India - **Rozita Singh**, Head of Policy, The Good Food Institute India - **Rahul Bagdia,** Chairman and Managing Director, pManifold

1330 – 1430 hrs	**Networking Lunch**
1430 – 1440 hrs	**MoU signing w/Climate Collective Foundation and TERRABLU**
1440 – 1515 hrs	**Session 3: Young Leaders, Local Action: Building Climate Readiness** As climate impacts intensify, building climate readiness requires action that connects global commitments with local realities. How can communities move from climate vulnerability to resilience, and how the youth is helping to drive this transition? This session will explore youth leadership, intergenerational equity, and locally led adaptation in strengthening community resilience. It will examine how youth can shape climate governance, mobilise grassroots action and advance inclusive, people-centred solutions that embed climate resilience into development priorities across the Global South. **Context setting : Kumar Rajnish**, Lead–Special Initiatives, CCS- IPE Global **Chair: Arpit Sharma**, Chief Executive Officer, Skill Council for Green Jobs **Moderator: Sarthak Kaushik**, Radio Jockey-cum-Producer, HT Media Group - **Garima Rajpal**, Youth Delegate at UNCCD COP 17, Mongolia - **Abhiir Bhalla,** Youth Advisor – Governing Board, Commonwealth Human Ecology Council (CHEC) - **Hina Saifi,** Champion of Women Climate Collective (WCC), Women Climate Collective
1515 – 1615 hrs	**Session 4: De-risking investment, mobilising private capital and building bankable climate solutions for the Global South** The scale of climate investment required across the Global South far exceeds the resources currently available, particularly for adaptation and resilience in climate-vulnerable contexts. How can climate finance be made more accessible, investment risks reduced and capital channeled towards solutions with measurable impact? Against the backdrop of the Paris Agreement and the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance (NCQG), this session will examine the structural barriers to climate investment, the importance of equitable access to finance and the mechanisms needed to convert climate priorities into bankable projects and scalable outcomes. **Context setting: Rajat Shubhro Mukherjee,** Lead – Climate Finance, CCS- IPE Global **Chair: Atul Bagai, Former Head,** United Nations Environment Programme, India **Moderator: Ria Sinha**, Senior Fellow - Centre for Climate Change and Energy Transition, Chintan Research Foundation - **David White,** Director – Advocacy, Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure - **Rajat Sindhu**, Global Climate Initiatives Programme Officer, Oak Foundation - **Amitesh Ahir**, Senior Vice President – Reinsurance (Climate Risk), Howden Insurance Brokers Limited - **Subhanjoy Mohanty,** Associate Professor – Astrophysics, Imperial College London
1615 – 1715 hrs	**Session 5: From Climate Ambition to Climate Outcomes: Road to COP 31** The session will explore how global climate ambition can be translated into tangible, measurable outcomes as the world prepares for COP31. It will examine the key gaps between climate commitments and implementation, with a focus on accelerating climate action, strengthening international cooperation, and mobilising the means of implementation. The discussion aims to identify practical pathways for turning pledges into progress, while ensuring that climate action remains equitable, development-oriented, and responsive to the priorities of the Global South. **Context Setting: Akanksha Jain,** Research Associate – Centre for Climate Change and Energy Transition, Chintan Research Foundation **Chair: R. R. Rashmi,** Distinguished Fellow, The Energy and Resources Institute **Moderator: Debajit Palit,** Centre Head – Climate Change and Energy Transition, Chintan Research Foundation - **Shubhashis Dey,** Founder and Council Member, Global South Sustainability Foundation - **Archana Chaudhary,** Associate Director, Climate Trends - **Anandajit Goswami,** Research Lead & Senior Research Fellow, Ashoka Centre for People Centric Energy Transition, Ashoka University - **Upasana Sharma**, Associate Professor – School of Public Policy, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi
1715 – 1815 hrs	**Valedictory Session** **Special Address** - **Shri Krishna Vatsa**, Member & Head of Department, National Disaster Management Authority* - **Shri Arpit Sharma**, Chief Executive Officer, Skill Council for Green Jobs - **Shri Jesper Hornberg,** Chief Executive Officer, Global Resilience Partnership - **Shri N. Vinod Chandra Menon**, Founder Member, National Disaster Management Authority, India **Keynote Address** - **Dr. Pradeep Kumar Panigrahy,** Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha - **H.E. Erik Solheim**, Former Minister of Climate and the Environment of Norway and Former Executive Director United Nations Environment Programme - **H.E. Minister Gata Kitoko Ngoulou**, Minister of Women and Early Childhood, Republic of Chad **Vote of Thanks** - **M K Padma Kumar**, Chief Operating Officer, IPE Global Limited **Moderator: Kartiki Negi,** Lead- Climate Impacts, Climate Trends
1815 – 1900 hrs	**Networking High Tea**