

SWECC at the Africa Youth Climate Assembly and the Second Africa Climate Summit

Event Report | Addis Ababa, Ethiopia | 5–10 September 2025



Youth delegates at the Africa Youth Climate Assembly (AYCA 2025) in Addis Ababa.

In September 2025, Somali Women in Environment and Climate Change (SWECC) joined Africa’s leading climate gatherings in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. **Hani Asad Yasin** represented SWECC at the Africa Youth Climate Assembly (AYCA 2025) and the Second Africa Climate Summit (ACS2), bringing the experience of Somali women and youth into conversations that shape Africa’s climate agenda.

At a Glance

Events	Africa Youth Climate Assembly (AYCA 2025) and the Second Africa Climate Summit (ACS2)
Dates	AYCA: 5–6 September 2025 ACS2: 8–10 September 2025
Venue	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Organisers	AYCA: Youth Cluster of the Non-State Actors Committee, with the Nairobi Summer School on Climate Justice (NSSCJ). ACS2: African Union Commission and the Government of Ethiopia, with UNDP, PACJA, AACJ, YALAP and other partners
Represented SWECC	Hani Asad Yasin
Participation	In person, at both events

Africa Youth Climate Assembly (5–6 September)

AYCA 2025 brought young climate leaders, policymakers and development partners together ahead of the summit. SWECC took part in the full programme, including the official opening, plenaries and thematic sessions.

An intergenerational dialogue linked youth leaders with decision-makers, and thematic tracks covered climate finance and investment, climate justice, food systems transformation, nature-based solutions, and youth-led clean energy and a just energy transition.

The Assembly produced two concrete outcomes: a **Youth Policy Paper** and a **Climate Scorecard**. Both were designed to carry African youth perspectives directly into the summit's outcomes.

Second Africa Climate Summit (8–10 September)

At ACS2, SWECC followed sessions closely linked to its work on women, resilience and community adaptation:

Session	Host	Focus
Advancing NDC Ambition through the Climate Promise 2025	UNDP	Strengthening national climate plans (NDCs) through youth-driven, inclusive approaches
Women-Led Climate Resilience	PACJA	How women and girls are leading resilience and health-focused climate solutions
Localizing Resilience to Climate Change	PACJA	Grassroots solutions that are scaling adaptation and innovation
Operationalizing Article 6 in Africa	UNDP	Building fair and transparent carbon markets
Locally-Led Adaptation and Peacebuilding	YALAP	The role of youth in addressing climate-induced conflict
Community-Led Adaptation in Practice	AACJ	Lessons from community-based approaches in vulnerable settings

SWECC's Voice at the Summits

- **Raised Somalia's climate realities** in side-event discussions, with a focus on recurring drought, climate-driven displacement and community adaptation.
- **Spoke for Somali women and youth**, highlighting how they experience climate shocks first and how they are already leading local solutions.

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- **Shared lessons on resilience in fragile states** with partners from UNDP, PACJA, AACJ and YALAP.
 - **Opened a South–South conversation** with Marcela Oliveira, Youth Climate Champion of the COP30 Brazil Presidency, on how Somali youth can share lessons from fragile contexts and take part in COP30 youth processes, and on closer ties between African and Latin American youth movements.

What We Took Away

- Youth are recognised as essential actors in Africa's climate response, not observers, and AYCA's Youth Policy Paper gives them a structured route into summit outcomes.
- Gender-responsive and inclusive approaches are central to climate resilience, which strengthens SWECC's case for women's leadership.
- Adaptation works best when communities lead it; locally-led initiatives showed the clearest results.
- Carbon markets under Article 6 can bring opportunities to Africa, but only if they are built with integrity, transparency and safeguards for communities.
- In fragile settings like Somalia, climate action and peacebuilding must go together, and youth can connect the two.

SWECC's Priorities Going Forward

Building on these engagements, SWECC will advocate for:

- Making AYCA a permanent platform that feeds directly into every Africa Climate Summit.
- Direct climate finance windows for youth-led and grassroots organisations, with equitable financing for women-led initiatives.
- Women's leadership mainstreamed across climate programmes in Somalia and the region.
- Greater support for community-led and locally driven adaptation that has proven results.
- Youth-led peacebuilding integrated into African Union and COP processes, especially for fragile and conflict-affected states.
- Transparent African participation in Article 6 carbon markets, with safeguards for communities.
- Stronger South–South collaboration between African and Latin American youth movements in the run-up to COP30.

Partners and Networks Engaged

Name	Role
Marcela Oliveira	Youth Climate Champion, COP30 Brazil Presidency
Faith Ngige	National Coordinator, PACJA Kenya
Winnie Khaemba	Adaptation Strategies Analyst, Climate Analytics
Rahma Kiriwe	Member, YOUNGO Migration Working Group

Photo Gallery



Hani Asad Yasin representing SWECC at AYCA 2025.



At the Second Africa Climate Summit, 8–10 September 2025.



A side event in progress at ACS2.



With fellow youth climate advocates.

SWECC thanks the organisers and partners of AYCA 2025 and ACS2 for creating space for Somali women and youth in Africa's climate conversations. We will carry these lessons into our work at home and into the road to COP30.