Glasgow COP 26 beyond the headlines: An international perspective

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Cop26 ‘literally the last chance saloon’ to save planet - Prince Charles

Prince of Wales urges G20 to set aside differences and build sustainable economy

John Kerry says Glasgow COP26 is the last best hope for the world

COP26: Boris Johnson to warn world leaders of climate countdown as summit gets under way - 'it's one minute to midnight'

At the COP26 opening ceremony, the prime minister will say humanity has 'long since run down the clock on climate change', warning that if we don't get serious today, 'it will be too late for our children to do so tomorrow'.

As it happened: ‘If Glasgow fails, whole thing fails’, says Johnson

COP26: Sir David Attenborough warns world leaders must act now or 'it'll be too late' for planet

The veteran broadcaster has been a vocal critic of those who deny climate change, and warned world leaders ahead of Glasgow’s climate conference that they must act.

COP26: 'Moment of truth' as world meets for climate summit
A dose of realism

• Challenging context: Covid-19, geopolitics
• Limits to the role of the COP
• Consensus decision-making

“If it is a good negotiation, all the parties are uncomfortable”. John Kerry
(Relatively) positive & collegiate atmosphere
I. Science and urgency

3. *Expresses alarm and utmost concern* that human activities have caused around 1.1 °C of warming to date, that impacts are already being felt in every region, and that carbon budgets consistent with achieving the Paris Agreement temperature goal are now small and being rapidly depleted;

5. *Stresses* the urgency of enhancing ambition and action in relation to mitigation, adaptation and finance in this *critical decade* to address the gaps in the implementation of the goals of the Paris Agreement;
Key role of U.S. engagement
Paris Agreement “ratchet mechanism” is starting to work
Wave of net zero targets

Around Glasgow: India (2070), Nigeria (2060), Vietnam (2050), Nepal (2045), Brazil (2050), Saudi Arabia (2060), Russia (2060), Turkey (2053)
Sharpening focus on methane

Launch by United States, the European Union, and Partners of the Global Methane Pledge to Keep 1.5°C Within Reach

37. Invites Parties to consider further actions to reduce by 2030 non-carbon dioxide greenhouse gas emissions, including methane;
Critical role of finance & support

- Towards the missed $100 billion
- New collective finance goal for 2025
- Loss and damage “funding arrangements”
- Ending of international support for fossil fuels, redirection of funds to cleaner energy
- “Bespoke”, targeted arrangements (eg South Africa)
- Opportunities under Article 6 & its market mechanisms
Delivering on the Glasgow “wins”

• Financial package (100 billion; new 2025 goal; loss and damage)
• Encouraging countries with weak 2030 emission targets to “revisit” these by COP 27
• Following through on side-declarations: methane, ending international fossil fuel financing; deforestation ++
• Key role for U.K. & U.S. diplomacy…
• …founded on DOMESTIC ACTION