COP26: Key outcomes agreed at the UN climate talks in Glasgow

The UN climate conference, COP26, finally took place in Glasgow, with expectations and tensions running high. Read More
Figure 1 2030 emissions gap between NDC targets and levels consistent with 1.5°C.
What happened at COP26?

1. Pledges and the Paris ratchet
2. The “Glasgow Climate Pact”
3. Completing the Paris “rulebook”
Pledges and the Paris ratchet

- Ratchet: 151 countries updated NDC
- Coal: Vietnam, Indonesia, Poland, South Africa
- Deforestation: Glasgow Declaration; FACT Dialogue
- Global Methane Pledge
Figure 1 2030 emissions gap between NDC targets and levels consistent with 1.5°C.
Progress on near-term and long-term commitments

Warming in 2100 relative to preindustrial. 50th percentile temperature outcomes and uncertainties shown.
Glasgow Climate Pact

1. Not on formal agenda but accepted
2. Science front and centre
3. Faster ratchet “revisit and strengthen” in 2022
4. Glasgow Dialogue on loss and damage finance
5. Glasgow Sharm el-Sheikh work prog on adaptation goal
6. Coal “phase down”; phase out “inefficient” subsidies
20. Reaffirms the Paris Agreement temperature goal of holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels;

21. Recognizes that the impacts of climate change will be much lower at the temperature increase of 1.5 °C compared with 2 °C and resolves to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C;

22. Recognizes that limiting global warming to 1.5 °C requires rapid, deep and sustained reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions, including reducing global carbon dioxide emissions by 45 per cent by 2030 relative to the 2010 level and to net zero around mid-century, as well as deep reductions in other greenhouse gases;

23. Also recognizes that this requires accelerated action in this critical decade, on the basis of the best available scientific knowledge and equity, reflecting common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities in the light of different national circumstances and in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty;
Faster 2022 ratchet

29. *Recalls* Article 3 and Article 4, paragraphs 3, 4, 5 and 11, of the Paris Agreement and *requests* Parties to *revisit and strengthen the 2030 targets* in their nationally determined contributions as necessary to align with the Paris Agreement temperature goal *by the end of 2022*, taking into account different national circumstances;
73. **Decides** to establish the *Glasgow Dialogue* between Parties, relevant organizations and stakeholders **to discuss the arrangements for the funding of activities to avert, minimize and address loss and damage** associated with the adverse impacts of climate change, to take place in the first sessional period of each year of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, concluding at its sixtieth session (June 2024);
Adaptation goal “work programme”

Article 7

1. Parties hereby establish the global goal on adaptation of enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change, with a view to contributing to sustainable development and ensuring an adequate adaptation response in the context of the temperature goal referred to in Article 2.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Text</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 Nov 2021</td>
<td>05:51</td>
<td>Calls upon Parties to <strong>accelerate the phasing-out of coal and subsidies for fossil fuels.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Nov 2021</td>
<td>07:13</td>
<td>Calls upon Parties to accelerate the development, deployment and dissemination of technologies and the adoption of policies for the transition towards low-emission energy systems, including by rapidly scaling up clean power generation and accelerating the <strong>phaseout of unabated coal power</strong> and <strong>inefficient subsidies</strong> for fossil fuels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Nov 2021</td>
<td>08:00</td>
<td>Calls upon Parties to accelerate the development, deployment and dissemination of technologies, and the adoption of policies, to transition towards low-emission energy systems, including by rapidly scaling up the deployment of clean power generation and energy efficiency measures, including accelerating efforts towards the phase-out of unabated coal power and inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, recognizing the need for support towards a <strong>just transition.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Nov 2021</td>
<td>18:00</td>
<td>Calls upon Parties to accelerate the development, deployment and dissemination of technologies, and the adoption of policies, to transition towards low-emission energy systems, including by rapidly scaling up the deployment of clean power generation and energy efficiency measures, including accelerating efforts towards the phase-out of unabated coal power and inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, recognizing the need for support towards a just transition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FINAL AGREED TEXT</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Calls upon Parties to accelerate the development, deployment and dissemination of technologies, and the adoption of policies, to transition towards low-emission energy systems, including by rapidly scaling up the deployment of clean power generation and energy efficiency measures, including accelerating efforts towards the <strong>phasedown of unabated coal power</strong> and <strong>phase-out of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies</strong>, while providing targeted support to the poorest and most vulnerable in line with national circumstances and recognizing the need for support towards a just transition.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Paris “rulebook”: Transparency

“There are no penalties in the climate regime, there’s only naming and shaming...Having a functioning transparency regime is absolutely key to the whole system working.”

– former UK chief negotiator Pete Betts
Faulty data imperils climate plans
### Article 13 of the Paris Agreement: transparency of action and support

**Reporting**

- **All Parties (shall)**
  - National greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory report ([Article 13.7(a)](#))
  - Progress made in implementing and achieving nationally determined contribution (NDC) ([Article 13.7(b)](#))

- **All Parties (should, as appropriate)**
  - Climate change impacts and adaptation ([Article 13.8](#))

**Developed country Parties (shall) and other Parties that provided support (should)**

- Financial, technology transfer and capacity-building support provided and mobilized to developing country Parties under Article 9, 10 and 11 ([Article 13.9](#))

**Developing country Parties (should)**

- Financial, technology transfer and capacity-building support needed and received under Articles 9, 10 and 11 ([Article 13.10](#))

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**Technical expert review**

- **All Parties (shall)**
  - Undergo technical expert review of information submitted under Articles 13.7 ([Article 13.11](#))

- **Developed country Parties (shall) and other Parties that provided support (may)**
  - Undergo technical expert review of information submitted under Articles 13.9 ([Article 13.11](#))

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**Facilitative multilateral consideration of progress**

- **All Parties (shall)**
  - Facilitative, multilateral consideration of progress with respect to efforts under Article 9, and its respective implementation and achievement of its NDC ([Article 13.11](#))

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* The transparency framework shall provide flexibility in the implementation of the provisions of this Article to those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities ([Article 13.2](#)).
* The transparency framework shall recognize the special circumstances of the least developed countries and small island developing States ([Article 13.3](#)).
Paris “rulebook”: Article 6

After years of talks, COP26 finally agreed a deal on Article 6 carbon markets.

Negotiations since 2018 had seen the amount of disputed text [in brackets] ebb and flow.
IX. Avoiding the use of emission reductions by more than one Party

71. Where a host Party has authorized A6.4ERs for use towards the achievement of NDCs pursuant to chapter V.C above (Approval and authorization), \textit{it shall apply a corresponding adjustment} for the first transfer of all authorized A6.4ERs, consistently with decision \textit{-/CMA.3}.^{11}

X. Use of emission reductions for other international mitigation purposes

72. Where a host Party has authorized A6.4ERs for use for other international mitigation purposes pursuant to chapter V.C above (Approval and authorization) above, \textit{it shall apply a corresponding adjustment} for the first transfer of all authorized A6.4ERs, consistently with decision \textit{-/CMA.3}.^{12}
Thanks for listening!

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H. Issuance

57. For the issuance of A6.4ERs, the designated operational entity shall submit to the Supervisory Body a request for issuance with the verification outcome and certification in accordance with the relevant requirements adopted by the Supervisory Body.

58. **Option A** A6.4ERs that are described in paragraphs 43 and 44 above that are authorized and require corresponding adjustments shall be issued as Paris Agreement Adjustment Units. [A6.4ERs described in paragraph 45 that are not authorized and therefore may only be used for other purposes which support the reduction of emissions levels in the host Party shall be issued as Paris Agreement Support Units].

59. If the Supervisory Body decides that the verification, certification and their outcome meet the relevant requirements adopted by the Supervisory Body, it shall approve the issuance of A6.4ERs.

60. The mechanism registry administrator shall, in accordance with the relevant requirements adopted by the Supervisory Body, issue the A6.4ERs into the mechanism registry.

61. **Option A** The mechanism registry shall distinguish A6.4ERs that are authorized for use towards the achievement of NDCs and/or for use for other international mitigation purposes pursuant to chapter V.C, including any specified uses for which the A6.4ERs are authorized.

**Option B** [The mechanism registry shall identify issued A6.4ERs that are authorized by the host Party for international transfer for use towards achievement of NDCs or authorized for other international mitigation purposes, in accordance with the host Party’s approval of the registered Article 6, paragraph 4, activities as referred to in chapter V.C above (Approval and authorization)].
B. **[CER [transition] [use towards [first] NDCs]**

77. Certified emission reductions (CERs) issued under the CDM **may be used towards achievement of the [first or first updated] NDC** by a CDM host Party [or by a participating Party] [in accordance with all of the following conditions:

(a) **[The CDM project activity or CDM programme of activities [was registered on or after [1 January [2013][2016]]][Achieved emission reductions or removals from and after [date] and those emission reductions were issued as CERs [by date]];**

(b) The CERs were issued in respect of emissions reductions or removals achieved prior to or on 31 December 2020;

(c) The CERs are **used towards achievement of the NDC [in accordance with paragraph 78 below] by no later than 31 December [[2023][2025][2030]];**

**{alternative option to (a) - (c) above}**

(d) [Up to a maximum amount per Party, in accordance with a future decision of the CMA.]

78. [CERs that meet the conditions of paragraph 77 above [that are available to the Party for use and that the Party intends to use in with accordance with this chapter XI] shall be transferred to the [reserve] account of that Party in the CDM registry [or Annex I Party registry] established pursuant to decision 3/CMP.1, by no later than [date], in accordance with the process set out in decision X/CMP.16 (CDM).]

79. Where CERs are used pursuant to this chapter XI.B:
7. *Decides* that the objectives of the work programme should be to, inter alia:

(a) Enable the full and sustained implementation of the Paris Agreement, towards achieving the global goal on adaptation, with a view to enhancing adaptation action and support;

(b) **Enhance understanding of the global goal on adaptation**, including of the methodologies, indicators, data and metrics, needs and support needed for assessing progress towards it;

(c) Contribute to reviewing the overall progress made in achieving the global goal on adaptation as part of the global stocktake referred to in Article 7, paragraph 14, and Article 14 of the Paris Agreement with a view to informing the first and subsequent global stocktakes;

(d) Enhance national planning and implementation of adaptation actions through the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans and through nationally determined contributions and adaptation communications;

(e) Enable Parties to better communicate their adaptation priorities, implementation and support needs, plans and actions, including through adaptation communications and nationally determined contributions;

(f) Facilitate the establishment of robust, nationally appropriate systems for monitoring and evaluating adaptation actions;

(g) Strengthen implementation of adaptation actions in vulnerable developing countries;

(h) Enhance understanding of how communication and reporting instruments established under the Convention and the Paris Agreement related to adaptation can complement each other in order to avoid duplication of efforts;
All pathways to 1.5C include very rapid cuts in coal emissions this decade.