

Historic Climate Change COP21 Paris 2015: the results

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Sources

- This presentation is based on information from UN official sources

Bottom line

- 195 Nations Set Path to Keep Temperature Rise Well Below 2 Degrees Celsius: an historic agreement to combat climate change and unleash actions and investment towards a low carbon, resilient and sustainable future was agreed by 195 nations in Paris on December 12, 2015.

Specific targets

- The Paris Agreement for the first time brings all nations into a common cause based on their historic, current and future responsibilities.
- The universal agreement's main aim is to keep a global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius and to drive efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

French President Francois Hollande:

- "You've done it, reached an ambitious agreement, a binding agreement, a universal agreement. Never will I be able to express more gratitude to a conference. You can be proud to stand before your children and grandchildren."

Laurent Fabius (French Minister for Foreign Affairs), President COP21

- “The Paris Agreement allows each delegation and group of countries to go back home with their heads held high. Our collective effort is worth more than the sum of our individual effort. Our responsibility to history is immense” .

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon:

- “We have entered a new era of global cooperation on one of the most complex issues ever to confront humanity. For the first time, every country in the world has pledged to curb emissions, strengthen resilience and join in common cause to take common climate action. This is a resounding success for multilateralism.”

Christiana Figueres, Executive Secretary of UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

- “One planet, one chance to get it right and we did it in Paris. We have made history together. It is an agreement of conviction. It is an agreement of solidarity with the most vulnerable. It is an agreement of long-term vision, for we have to turn this agreement into an engine of safe growth.”
- “Successive generations will, I am sure, mark the 12 December 2015 as a date when cooperation, vision, responsibility, a shared humanity and a care for our world took centre stage,” .

The Paris Agreement and the outcomes of the UN climate conference (COP21) cover all the crucial areas identified as essential for a landmark conclusion: see next slide

Key areas

- Mitigation – reducing emissions fast enough to achieve the temperature goal
- A transparency system and global stock-take – accounting for climate action
- Adaptation – strengthening ability of countries to deal with climate impacts
- Loss and damage – strengthening ability to recover from climate impacts
- Support – including finance, for nations to build clean, resilient futures
- As well as setting a long-term direction, countries will peak their emissions as soon as possible and continue to submit national climate action plans that detail their future objectives to address climate change.

Ms. Figueres:

- “The Paris Agreement also sends a powerful signal to the many thousands of cities, regions, businesses and citizens across the world already committed to climate action that their vision of a low-carbon, resilient future is now the chosen course for humanity this century.” .

Agreement Strengthens Support to Developing Nations

- The Paris Agreement underwrites adequate support to developing nations and establishes a global goal to significantly strengthen adaptation to climate change through support and international cooperation.
- The already broad and ambitious efforts of developing countries to build their own clean, climate-resilient futures will be supported by scaled-up finance from developed countries and voluntary contributions from other countries.

Joint effort

- The Paris landmark agreement was reached against the backdrop of a remarkable groundswell of climate action by cities and regions, business and civil society.

Cities, sub-national states and regions

- Over 7,000 cities, including the most vulnerable to climate change, from over 100 countries with a combined population with one and a quarter billion people and around 32% of global GDP.
- Sub-national states and regions comprising one fifth of total global land area and combined GDP of \$12.5 trillion.

Business sector

- Over 5,000 companies from more than 90 countries that together represent the majority of global market capitalization and over \$38 trillion in revenue.
- Nearly 500 investors with total assets under management of over \$25 trillion

Action and support

- The agreement includes a robust transparency framework for both action and support. The framework will provide clarity on countries' mitigation and adaptation actions, as well as the provision of support. At the same time, it recognizes that Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States have special circumstances.

Signing the Paris Agreement

- Following the adoption of the Paris Agreement by COP 21, it will be deposited at the UN in New York and be opened for one year for signature on 22 April 2016-- Mother Earth Day.
- The agreement will enter into force after 55 countries that account for at least 55% of global emissions have deposited their instruments of ratification.