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COP 21 in Paris

A historic breakthrough in global climate policy

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CONTEXT: WHY PARIS? WHY A NEW AGREEMENT?

- UNFCCC: Adopted at Rio Earth Summit in 1992.
Ultimate objective: Stabilization of GHG concentrations “at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system”, BUT: No quantification (temperature, pathways, individual action)
- Kyoto-Protocol: Adopted in 1997. QELROs for developed countries, BUT: No targets for developing countries, US never ratify
- World has changed considerably over the past 20 years, strong growth in emissions in the developing world, all countries must act to address climate change





PROCESS: ROAD TO PARIS

- First attempt to negotiate a new agreement began in 2007 (“Bali Roadmap”). COP 15 in Copenhagen in 2009 fails to deliver on expectations
- New Process since 2011 (“Durban Mandate”) with the aim of reaching a new global agreement applicable to all, step-wise approach to build momentum towards COP 21
- Agreement to submit national climate actions (INDCs) ahead of the Paris COP – 187 countries have submitted INDCs to date, a strong commitment from all Parties





HISTORIC BREAKTHROUGH!





PARIS OUTCOME: OVERVIEW

- New global, legally binding Paris Agreement as part of a wider package of decisions, including key implementing decision 1/CP.21
- Outcome includes long-term goals, national contributions, an ambition mechanism, transparency rules, a new goal for climate finance by 2025,
- a global goal on adaptation, loss and damage, a recurring global stocktake on all issues, and much more ...



WHY HISTORIC?

The Paris Agreement is

- *strong on science*: referencing 2°C und 1,5°C
- *comprehensive*: all Parties have to submit NDCs
- *dynamic*: NDCs to be updated every five years, „global stocktake“ to align contributions with long-term goal(s)

There is more substance than in all previous climate agreements, mistakes from the Kyoto Protocol were avoided. Best possible basis for further work in the coming years





LONG-TERM GOAL(S)

Several elements in the Paris Agreement and in 1/CP.21:

- Hold increase in global average temperature to well below 2 °C and pursue efforts to limit the increase to 1.5 °C
- Parties aim to reach global peaking of GHG emissions as soon as possible and to undertake rapid reductions thereafter so as to achieve a balance between emissions and sinks in the second half of the century
- IPCC invited to provide a special report on 1.5°C and related emission pathways in 2018



NATIONAL CLIMATE ACTION (NDCs)

- Each Party shall prepare and communicate an NDC every five years
- Successive NDCs will represent a progression beyond a Party's then current NDC and reflect its highest possible ambition. DCs encouraged to move over time towards economy-wide QELROs
- Parties can act jointly with a single NDC (EU) and cooperate, including through the use of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes
- Results of global stocktake to inform Parties in updating their NDCs and support for DCs





TRANSPARENCY

To know whether contributions are being fulfilled transparency (accounting, reporting, review) is important:

- Enhanced transparency framework established
- All Parties to regularly publish a national inventory report and information to track progress on achieving NDCs
- Additional reporting on adaptation and support
- Technical expert reviews for all reports





SUPPORT: CLIMATE FINANCE

- Area with least amount of “systemic changes”, a lot of substance not in Paris Agreement, but in 1/CP.21
- Developed country Parties to provide financial resources to assist developing country Parties, other Parties encouraged to provide support voluntarily
- Developed country Parties strongly encouraged to scale up financial support, with a concrete roadmap to achieve the USD 100 billion goal per year by 2020
- Prior to 2025, Parties are to set a new collective quantified goal from a floor of USD 100 billion





DIFFERENTIATION

- One of the trickiest topics in the negotiations. Search for a constructive compromise between existing bifurcation of the world on the one hand and a complete elimination of differentiation on the other
- Solution: Different approaches to the issue throughout the Agreement: Self-differentiation (NDCs); common rules with flexibility for DCs (transparency); differentiation to be determined through implementing decisions; and a “dynamic” bifurcation between developed and developing countries (finance)



WHAT NEXT?

- Paris is the end of a multi-year negotiations marathon, at the same time it marks the start of an intense implementation process
- New Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement established, will prepare (together with SBs) a package of implementing decisions for adoption by the first session of the Conference under the Agreement
- High-level signature ceremony for the Paris Agreement on 22 April in New York
- Entry into force: 55 Parties to the UNFCCC accounting in total for at least an estimated 55 percent of global GHG emissions

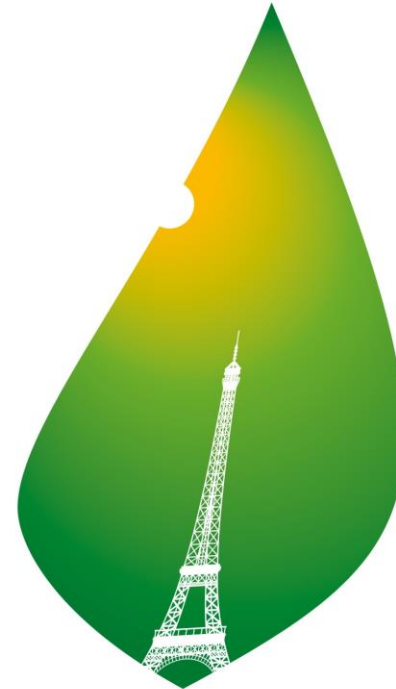




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Thank you

for your attention



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