

# COP21: Measures to reduce Global Warming

## Table of Contents

I. Draft Document of the Paris Agreement.....	2
II. COP21 -Grouping.....	4
III. Speeches.....	7
III. The Paris Agreement.....	8
IV. Amendments.....	9
V. Lobbying.....	10

## PAMUN XV - COP21 Paris Agreement

1. This Agreement, in enhancing the implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, including by:
  - a. Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change;
  - b. Increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development, in a manner that does not threaten food production;
  - c. Making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate resilient development.

***Additional issues which may be included by delegates:***  
**technological development and transfer, alternatives to fossil energies, inclusion of civil society and regional & local authorities, specific concerns of indigenous peoples and the rising levels of the oceans due to polar cap melting**

2. Prior to 2025, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement shall set a new collective quantified goal from a floor of USD 100 billion per year, taking into account the needs and priorities of developing countries. Developed country Parties shall scale up their level of financial support, with a concrete roadmap to achieve the goal of jointly providing USD 100 billion annually by 2020 for mitigation and adaptation.

**Although the goal of USD 100 billion is explicitly mentioned here, the formulation is vague. Two target dates are mentioned: 2025 & 2020, and the commitment to a “scale-up” and a “concrete road-map” is not explicitly detailed.**

3. In order to achieve the long-term temperature goal set out, Parties aim to reach global peaking of greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible, recognizing that peaking will take longer for developing country Parties, and to undertake rapid reductions thereafter in accordance with best available science, so as to achieve a balance between anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases in the second half of this century, on the basis of equity, and in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty.

**Implicitly, despite the “urge” to reach “global peaking” as soon as possible, it is given to understand (through “second half of the century”, that the target point is 2050. This may be too far away and insufficiently stringent.**

4. Developed country Parties shall continue taking the lead by undertaking economy-wide absolute emission reduction targets. Developing country Parties should continue enhancing their mitigation efforts, and are encouraged to move over time towards economy-wide emission reduction or limitation targets in the light of different national circumstances.

**Is it satisfactory to say that developed countries shall “take the lead” while developing countries are “encouraged to move”?**

5. The least developed countries and small island developing States may prepare and communicate strategies, plans and actions for low greenhouse gas emissions development reflecting their special circumstances.

**What does it mean? SIDs and LDCs have minimum emissions – what kind of “plans & strategies” are they expected to come-up with? Is this an “empty” clause?**

6. Parties are encouraged to take action to implement and support, including through results-based payments, the existing framework as set out in related guidance and decisions already agreed under the Convention for policy approaches and positive incentives for activities relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.
- This clause is rather vague: what are “results-based payments”? What is the “existing framework”? Which “incentives”? Why is this seemingly concerning only deforestation?**
7. Parties are encouraged to take action to implement and support the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks; while reaffirming the importance of non-carbon benefits associated with such approaches; encouraging the coordination of support from, inter alia, public and private, bilateral and multilateral sources, such as the Green Climate Fund, and alternative sources in accordance with relevant decisions by the Conference of the Parties;
- This is the second clause regarding forests and deforestation. Is this wholly necessary, seeing as other issues, such as the oceans and rising sea levels, are absent from the agreement?**
8. A mechanism to contribute to the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions and support sustainable development is hereby established under the authority and guidance of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement for use by Parties on a voluntary basis. It shall be supervised by a body designated by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, and shall aim:
- a. To promote the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions while fostering sustainable development;
  - b. To incentivize and facilitate participation in the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions by public and private entities authorized by a Party;
  - c. To deliver an overall mitigation in global emissions.
- One would expect a “mechanism” to be actually effective. The clause however indicates that the role of the “body” in charge is merely to “promote” and “incentivize”. It also says it shall “deliver” but doesn’t specify how.**
9. Developed country Parties shall provide financial resources to assist developing country Parties with respect to both mitigation and adaptation in continuation of their existing obligations under the Convention.
- Is this a reference to the USD 100 billion? Is this separate and additional?**
10. The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement shall periodically take stock of the implementation of this Agreement to assess the collective progress towards achieving the purpose of this Agreement and its long-term goals (referred to as the “global stocktake”). It shall do so in a comprehensive and facilitative manner, considering mitigation, adaptation and the means of implementation and support, and in the light of equity and the best available science.
- Is it enough to say “in a comprehensive and facilitative manner”? What does it really mean? What are the concrete mechanisms which will be put in place? Which criteria may be set for this procedure?**
11. The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement shall undertake its first global stocktake in 2023 and every five years thereafter, unless otherwise decided.
- This first stocktake will be eight years from now. Why has this date been set so late?**
12. Each Party shall communicate a nationally determined contribution (NDC) every five years relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties are to be informed by the outcomes of the global stocktake.
- This clause seems to link the stocktaking to the communication of the NDC every five years. The whole process seems to be entirely voluntary, with no**

**internationally binding obligations and no sanctions for trespassing.**

13. The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement recognizes the need to strengthen knowledge, technologies, practices and efforts of local communities and indigenous peoples related to addressing and responding to climate change, and thus, establishes a platform for the exchange of experiences and sharing of best practices on mitigation and adaptation in a holistic and integrated manner.

**Why limit this “platform for exchanges” of experiences and knowledge to “indigenous peoples”?**

## **II - COP21 - GROUPING:**

A delegate acts as a representative of a country in a Group. There are three Groups for COP21 where delegates are placed into. Countries are grouped together based on their common interests (however, these do not trump individual sovereign interests) as well as economic development and geographic location. Delegates in Group 1 will be of SIDS or Small Islands Developing States, delegates of Group 2 will be of LDCs or Least Developed Countries. While delegates of Group 3 will represent countries mainly consisting of MDCs and BRICS countries. Delegates will be seated in the committee plenary by group in alphabetical order.

The list of the Groups are given below:

**Group 1:** Small Island Developing Countries (SIDs)

<b>Country Name</b>	<b>Country Name</b>	<b>Country Name</b>	<b>Country Name</b>
Antigua and Barbuda	Fiji	Micronesia	Singapore
Bahamas	Guinea-Bissau	Nauru	Solomon Islands
Bahrain	Guyana	Palau	Suriname
Barbados	Haiti	Papua New Guinea	Timor Leste
Belize	Jamaica	Saint Kitts and Knives	Tonga
Cape Verde	Kiribati	Saint Lucia	Trinidad and Tobago
Comoros	Maldives	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Tuvalu
Cuba	Marshall Islands	Samoa	Vanuatu
Dominica	Mauritania	Sao Tomé and Principe	
Dominican Republic	Mauritius	Seychelles	

**Group 2: Least Developed Countries and Developing Countries**

Country Name	Country Name	Country Name	Country Name
Afghanistan	Democratic Republic of Korea (North)	Libya (OPEC)	Saudi Arabia (OPEC)
Albania	Djibouti	Liechtenstein	Senegal
Algeria (OPEC)	East Timor	Macedonia	Servia
Andora	Ecuador (OPEC)	Madagascar	Sierra Leone
Angola (OPEC)	Egypt	Malawi	Somalia
Argentina	El Salvador	Malaysia	South Sudan
Armenia	Equatorial Guinea	Mali	Sri Lanka
Azerbaijan	Eritrea	Mauritania	Sudan
Bangladesh	Ethiopia	Moldova	Swaziland
Belarus	Gabon	Mongolia	Syria
Benin	Gambia	Montenegro	Tajikistan
Bhutan	Georgia	Morocco	Tanzania
Bolivia	Ghana	Mozambique	Thailand
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Guatemala	Myanmar	Togo
Botswana	Guinea	Namibia	Tunisia
Brunei	Honduras	Nepal	Turkmenistan
Burkina Faso	Indonesia	Nicaragua	Uganda
Burundi	Iran (OPEC)	Niger	United Arab Emirates (OPEC)
Cambodia	Iraq (OPEC)	Nigeria (OPEC)	Uruguay
Cameroon	Jordan	Oman	Uzbekistan
Central African Republic	Kazakhstan	Pakistan	Venezuela (OPEC)
Chad	Kenya	Panama	Vietnam
Columbia	Kuwait (OPEC)	Paraguay	Yemen
Comoros	Kyrgyzstan	Peru	Zambia
Congo	Laos	Philippines	Zimbabwe
Costa Rica	Lebanon	Qatar (OPEC)	

Côte d'Ivoire	Lesotho	Rwanda	
Democratic Republic of Congo	Liberia	Saint Marino	

**Group 3:** Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD + European Union/EU Countries + Unofficial Umbrella Group/Non-EU Countries + Environmental Integrity Group/EIG)

Country Name	Country Name	Country Name	Country Name
Australia	France	Mexico	Switzerland
Austria	Germany	Monaco	Turkey
Belgium	Greece	Netherlands	Ukraine
Brazil	Hungary	New Zealand	United Kingdom
Bulgaria	Iceland	Norway	United States of America
Canada	India	Poland	
Chile	Ireland	Portugal	
China	Israel	Romania	
Croatia	Italy	Russian Federation	
Cyprus	Japan	Republic of Korea (South)	
Czech Republic	Latvia	Slovakia	
Denmark	Lithuania	Slovenia	
Estonia	Luxembourg	South Africa	
Finland	Malta	Spain	

It is pertinent that you, as a delegate, only act in accordance with the policies of the organization or state that you are representing. Having considered this, it is crucial that you research the entity that you are representing, that way you are never called out on erroneous policy, or false statements. As a delegate, you have the right to introduce amendments and take the floor to make speeches. Delegates are the core of debate, in that they are the ones who argue. As a delegate you are also permitted to ask or introduce points of information, points of parliamentary procedure, and motions.

In COP21, a new motion will be introduced - ***motion to move into caucus by groupings***.

In this motion, a delegate of a specific group will raise their placards and request to move into caucus. The Chairs will then ask if there are any objections or seconds by the group from which

the delegate who requested the motion was from.

If there are no objections, then the chairs will ask other two groups if there are any objections or seconds. If, once again, there are no objections, the house will then enter caucus and divide into the three respective groups.

For example, if a delegate from the SIDS raises their placard to move into caucus any time during debate, the Chairs will first ask all the delegates who are a part of the SIDS if there are any objections or seconds. If there are no objections, then the Chairs will proceed to ask Group 2 and 3.

Subsequently, if there are no objections, then the motion will pass and caucus time will be set.

## II. Speeches:

During the plenary session, the listed delegates will have to prepare statements of approximately 2 minutes. However, any other delegate wishing to make a statement or speech should notify the Chairs and if time allows, the Chairs will entertain this. This speech could focus on any angle regarding the issue. It can be a brief statement highlighting the adverse effects of Climate Change being felt by that country and collectively by the world. It could also include the implications of using fossil fuels, calls for cooperation or compromise and could be critical of positions of other countries or groupings.

A brief summary of what problems the Groups are facing are listed below (however, this is described in detail within the Research Report):

- SIDS: Climate Change poses a serious threat to the ecosystems of the Small Island Developing States. Even though SIDS emit negligible amounts of greenhouse gases, they are face the worst of Climate Change. Consequently, the coastal ecosystems are especially under threat.
- LDCs: Least Developed Countries are the most vulnerable to the effects of Climate Change as these countries lack the required resources to adapt. Thus, not only do these countries face “brain drain” but temperatures are rising dangerously high.
- Group 3: These countries produce the majority of greenhouse gases. The capitalist economies in these countries, influence intense economic production which consequently leads to industries with heavy emission rates through the burning of fossil fuels. However, an increased number of developing nations are surpassing MDCs in the GHG emissions as they require their economies to develop.

Delegates to prepare statements:

Country Name	Country Name
Argentina	India
Australia	Japan

Brazil	Philippines
China	Singapore
DR, Korea	Syria
France	Trinidad and Tobago
Germany	United States of America
Haiti	Yemen

### III. The Paris Agreement:

In COP21 committee, the Paris Agreement will be debated and amended. This is not a resolution, but rather, is a convention within the United Nation’s Framework Convention on Climate Change. The difference is described later on in the document.

The UNFCCC is an international, environmental treaty established in June 1992. This convention was adopted and negotiated at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), or the ‘Earth Summit’ in Rio de Janeiro. The original aim of the convention was to stabilize greenhouse gases and reduce emissions. The convention itself does not set any specific, binding agreements for specific countries and does not contain any enforcement mechanisms. The main goal of the COP21 committee is to evaluate and strengthen the UNFCCC. 196 members of the United Nations have ratified this treaty.

On 12th December 2015 at Le Bourget in Paris, the Paris Agreement was created as the Parties reached a consensus, closing the negotiation at the 21st session of the Conference of Parties. The document was 31 pages and it tackled issues such as financing, emission reductions, mitigation, technology development, global stocktake, transparency and capacity-building. At PAMUN, delegates will be debating and amending the Agreement.

For the purpose of debate for, the Paris Agreement has been shortened and restructured for the COP21 committee. The document is now more concise and delegates can add, strike and modify the Agreement easily. Each delegate argues for his individual country and group’s policy towards the conflict or problem. The Paris Agreement consists of:

**Operative Clauses:** Operative Clauses are the core of the Paris Agreement, as they are used in order to make requests, recommendations or call for action. One can have sub clauses in an operative clause in order to specify measures or intentions. In COP21, the way clauses are written will differ from other committees. Usually, operative clauses must begin with a specific phase, however, in COP21, this will not be necessary due to the fact that the UNFCCC is not a resolution, but is a non-binding convention. There can also be multiple sentences utilized in one clause.

A convention is a form of agreement between States and are open for participation by the



international community as a whole, or by a large number of States.<sup>1</sup>

A United Nations resolution (UN resolution) is a formal text adopted by a United Nations (UN) body. This is a document passed in the General Assembly or Security Council.

Therefore, as a convention, the structure of clauses in the COP21 committee is different from a resolution.

An example of an operative clause:

*Ex.* “Each Party shall prepare, communicate and maintain successive nationally determined contributions that it intends to achieve. Parties shall pursue domestic mitigation measures, with the aim of achieving the objectives of such contributions.”

As one can see, operative clauses are geared towards taking measures by the members concerned or in this case “the Parties” concerned. All the members who have signed the UNFCCC are referred to as “the Parties.” In addition, one can see that a specific phrase is not required to begin a clause for COP21, just the thought or idea itself.

#### **IV. Amendments:**

While committees at PAMUN work on a clause-by-clause debate, COP21 is mandated to work on an edited version of the Paris Agreement which was the basis of discussions and negotiations at the actual Climate conference. Clauses can be added, stricken, or modified, through amendments. During Open Debate on a clause one can make amendments, meaning that one can change specific aspects of the clause that are inconsistent with your country or Group’s policy, or that one think would improve the clause. When one submit an amendment (and if the Chair recognizes the amendment and accepts it) one will take the floor and justify it. When the last speaker has spoken, or time has elapsed on the subject, the house votes on the amendment. An amendment requires a simple majority to be integrated into the resolution (i.e. more than 50% of the house must vote in favor of it.) There are several types of amendments:

**Striking:** One can strike any operative clause if it is inconsistent with the policies of your country or Group, or simply outrageously irrational. Striking a clause would cause it to be taken out of the resolution all together. You would do this by sending a note to the Chair writing “Strike clause X from resolution” and then sign it with your country, that way the Chair knows who to call on if they decide to entertain it.

**Adding a Clause:** One can amend the resolution by adding your own clause. You can do this by simply sending a note to the Chair saying “Add clause X which reads: Recommends that all MDC countries must contribute to the Green Climate Fund” and then sign your country and specify where you want the clause to be integrated, that way you are entertained to justify your addition to the resolution.

**Clarifying a clause:** If a clause in resolution is unclear, then one can submit an amendment clarifying the wording. You would send a note to the Chair saying something along the lines of “In clause X, replace the word disarm with demilitarize” and then you would sign your country,

---

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.unicef.org/french/crc/files/Definitions.pdf>

that way one can be called on to justify it.

**Co--signatures:** PAMUN requires delegates to accumulate a certain amount of co--signatures on an amendment before submission. If there are many amendments flooding the Chair, then the Chair can require co--signatures on amendments. You will be expected to get co--signatures during the Lobbying process. For clauses, delegates will require 7 signatures in total. 3 from the Group they are already a part of and 2 from the others. For example, as a minimum, a delegate in Group 1 will require 3 signatures from SIDS, 2 from LDCs and 2 more from Group 3.

In addition, signing a clause does not mean that the delegate agrees with the proposal of the clause. It simply means that the delegate would like to see the clause debated during the conference.

## V. Lobbying in the Groupings:

Each issue will begin with the house going into lobbying process. Delegates from each of the three Groups should prepare clauses to amend/add to the document.

Caucus time will begin where delegates will begin exchanging ideas on their own Individual Groups (SIDS, LDCs and Group 3). Here, delegates can collectively create clauses with other delegates or discuss their own clauses with others to ensure that solutions aim to solve issues which countries are facing collectively.

After delegates have consolidated and worked on clauses with their Group, the lobbying process will commence. Delegates can move between rooms to obtain 3 signatures from the group they are a part of, and 2 from the other group one clause. Meaning, a total requirement of 7 signatures as a minimum, however, there is no maximum limit. Timing is flexible for this process, and will be up to Chairs.