



**Council conclusions on Preparations for
the 20th session of the Conference of the Parties
to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate
Change and the 10th session of the Meeting of the Parties
to the Kyoto Protocol
(Lima, 1 - 12 December 2014)**

**Environment Council meeting
Luxembourg, 28 October 2014**

The Council adopted the following conclusions:

*"The Council of the European Union,
Urgency and need for global action*

1. NOTES with concern the latest findings of the Working Groups of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC); UNDERLINES that global warming is unequivocal and that it is extremely likely that human influence has been the dominant cause of the observed warming since the mid-20th century; LOOKS FORWARD to the Synthesis Report of the Fifth Assessment Report of the IPCC to further assist informed and science-based decision-making.
2. REITERATES that, in line with the IPCC's findings, global greenhouse gas emissions need to peak by 2020 at the latest and be reduced by at least 50% by 2050 compared to 1990 and continue to decline thereafter in order to stay below 2°C; STRESSES that all Parties need to take bold action and that, according to the IPCC, delaying action will substantially increase costs and reduce options as well as increase impacts; UNDERLINES the increasing evidence that actions to cut greenhouse gas emissions can also improve economic performance, spur investment, create jobs and have positive co-benefits in areas such as health and energy security in all types of economies.
3. EMPHASISES the importance of agreeing an ambitious legally binding agreement under the UNFCCC in Paris in 2015, applicable to all Parties, and the importance of the Lima outcome in our progress towards that.

EU and Member States' action

4. REITERATES that the EU and its Member States are already applying the Doha amendment to the Kyoto Protocol; STRESSES the determination of the EU and its Member States to complete the process of ratification of the Doha amendment as early as possible in 2015; in this context, UNDERLINES the need for adopting the implementation rules for the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol at the Lima Conference, including those already agreed in Warsaw.

5. REITERATES that the EU and its Member States will jointly overachieve their reduction targets for the first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol and are projected to overachieve their targets for the second commitment period; LOOKS FORWARD to the first multilateral assessment of progress in achieving 2020 targets at the Lima Conference which will contribute to understanding mutual efforts and building trust and transparency among Parties as part of International Assessment and Review and in view of International Consultations and Analysis.
6. REAFFIRMS the EU objective, in the context of necessary reductions according to the IPCC by developed countries as a group, to reduce emissions by 80-95% by 2050 compared to 1990; REFERS to the conclusions of the European Council of 23-24 October 2014 on the EU's 2030 climate and energy policy framework , in particular the endorsement of a binding domestic emission reduction target of at least 40% by 2030 compared to 1990; CONFIRMS that the European Union and its Member States will communicate their intended nationally determined contribution to the 2015 agreement by the first quarter of 2015, in accordance with the timeline agreed at the Warsaw Conference, and URGES all other Parties, in particular major economies, to communicate their intended nationally determined contributions by the first quarter of 2015 in a manner that facilitates transparency and clarity.
7. REITERATES the commitment by the EU and its Member States to continue providing support for the domestic preparation of intended nationally determined contributions in countries that need such support.
8. REAFFIRMS that the EU and its Members States have committed to scaling up the mobilisation of climate finance in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency of implementation, in order to contribute their share of the developed countries' goal to jointly mobilise USD 100 billion per year by 2020 from a wide variety of sources public and private, bilateral and multilateral, including alternative sources of finance; in this context, REFERS to the submission on this issue by the EU and its Member States to the UNFCCC of 29 September 2014 as well as to its forthcoming conclusions on climate finance.

Lima deliverables

9. IS DETERMINED to work towards a balanced package of decisions in Lima, including strengthening the implementation of decisions taken in the past years as well as advancing work under the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action by: Reaching a decision on upfront information requirements and a process for the communication and subsequent consideration and analysis of intended nationally determined contributions; agreeing the key elements of a draft negotiating text for the 2015 agreement; and closing as quickly as possible the gap in the pre-2020 level of mitigation ambition.

Ex-ante and ex-post processes for intended nationally determined contributions

10. STRESSES the need to adopt a decision in Lima on upfront information requirements for intended nationally determined contributions to ensure that they are transparent, quantifiable and comparable, enabling Parties to set out their level of ambition well in advance of the Paris Conference; EMPHASISES that the upfront information requirements should request all Parties to explain why their intended contribution is fair and ambitious; UNDERLINES that mitigation should be at the core of all countries' intended nationally determined contributions and represent a progression from previous levels of ambition and scope over time.
11. UNDERLINES the need to agree in Lima arrangements for an international process to consider and analyse well in advance of the Paris Conference the fairness and ambition of intended nationally determined contributions in light of the below 2°C objective.

12. RECOGNISES that intended nationally determined mitigation contributions are a way to operationalise the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities in a manner that takes into account evolving circumstances and economic realities.

2015 agreement

13. EMPHASISES the crucial importance to agree in Lima the key elements for a draft negotiating text of a legally binding agreement applicable to all in order to make the text available by May 2015.
14. REITERATES that action on adaptation must be a central part of a balanced agreement since all countries need to undertake actions to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change; CALLS for the 2015 agreement to reinforce the commitment of all Parties to plan, prepare for and respond to the adverse impacts of climate change in order to achieve climate-resilient sustainable development and to strengthen monitoring and reporting in order to increase effectiveness of adaptation actions; UNDERLINES that the agreement should contribute to assisting all countries, especially the particularly vulnerable ones, to achieve climate-resilient sustainable development.
15. HIGHLIGHTS that the 2015 agreement should be made to last and provide a long-term vision of the needed transformation towards a low-emission and climate-resilient economy, with in-built flexibility and capacity to respond dynamically to evolving scientific and technological knowledge, circumstances, responsibilities and capabilities, and enable broad and effective participation; CALLS for regular international assessment of progress made by all Parties towards achieving the below 2° C objective and review of mitigation ambition under this agreement; PROPOSES that this international assessment should inform consultations and simplified procedures for the renewal and upward adjustment of mitigation commitments under the agreement.
16. UNDERLINES that the 2015 agreement must provide for a robust rules-based regime, including MRV and accounting rules applicable to all Parties, while recognising that their application will differ according to commitment types which reflect Parties' capabilities and national circumstances; STRESSES that this regime should provide for the use of common metrics, respect the most recent IPCC guidelines and build on experience gained under the UNFCCC.
17. HIGHLIGHTS that the 2015 agreement should provide for transparent accounting and reporting rules for emissions and removals for the land use sector for all Parties, which promote sustainable land management, building on existing relevant decisions under the UNFCCC.
18. STRESSES that the agreement should allow for the international use of markets, subject to the application of robust common accounting rules which ensure that the environmental integrity and the integrity of the mitigation commitments are maintained and double counting is avoided; and provide for market mechanisms which promote scaled-up and cost-effective mitigation action entailing a net contribution to global mitigation efforts and contributing to sustainable development.
19. STRESSES that the agreement needs to send signals that aim at transforming development pathways of countries towards low-emission and climate-resilient economies; EMPHASISES that for this purpose all countries need to mainstream climate in policies and enhance enabling environments for safe and sustainable low-carbon investments in line with their capabilities and circumstances.
20. STRESSES the importance of a compliance regime which promotes and facilitates timely and effective implementation by all Parties, enhances trust and confidence that all Parties are doing their share and ensures legal certainty and predictability.

21. STRESSES its ongoing commitment to a gender-sensitive approach to climate change; and RECOGNISES its importance for effective mitigation and adaptation.
22. UNDERLINES the importance of policies aimed at raising public awareness on climate change and stimulating education in this regard.

Pre-2020 mitigation ambition

23. STRESSES that all Parties need to act in order to close the pre-2020 mitigation gap; UNDERLINES the actions by the EU and its Member States with other countries, intergovernmental organisations, civil society and the private sector, to increase global pre-2020 mitigation ambition in a number of areas of high mitigation potential, such as energy efficiency, renewables, REDD+, short-lived climate pollutants, HFCs and fossil fuel subsidy reforms.
24. WELCOMES the Technical Expert Meeting process under the UNFCCC, in particular the participation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations and the private sector; and EMPHASISES the need to build on these through further detailed discussions to develop practical propositions that can deliver enhanced mitigation action and be implemented.
25. STRESSES that the Lima Conference should recognise the role and enhance the visibility of international initiatives and subnational action in increasing mitigation ambition, capture results from the ongoing process to examine opportunities for actions with high mitigation potential and agree to continue the workplan on enhancing mitigation ambition beyond 2015.

Climate Summit

26. WELCOMES the positive momentum generated by the UNSG's Climate Summit of 23 September 2014; WELCOMES the pledges to the initial resource mobilisation of the Green Climate Fund; UNDERLINES the commitment by Leaders to follow the timeline agreed in Warsaw in order to adopt the 2015 agreement at the Paris Conference in December 2015 and pursue actions and initiatives that can contribute to enhancing pre-2020 mitigation ambition; also WELCOMES the significant positive contribution of wider society to the event.

Other processes

27. RECALLS the importance of international aviation and maritime transport in terms of climate action; REITERATES the need for timely and ambitious outcomes in both ICAO and IMO.
28. CALLS for the launch of negotiations on a global phasedown of the production and consumption of HFCs at the 26th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (Paris, 17-21 November 2014) while noting that emissions accounting and reporting remain under the UNFCCC.
29. STRESSES that the overarching post-2015 agenda should reinforce the international community's commitment to poverty eradication and sustainable development and should also be consistent with and supportive of international commitments, goals and targets, including on climate change."