



WWF EXPECTATIONS PAPER FOR COP24

November 2018

Introduction

Momentum is building towards COP24 through a series of initiatives and moments throughout 2018. The One Planet Summit, the Global Climate Action Summit (GCAS), the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action (MPGCA), and the UNFCCC's technical examination of measures and policies for mitigation and adaptation, have all promoted sectoral and other bottom up initiatives and actions that can accelerate climate action on both mitigation and adaptation. The Green Climate Fund (GCF) launched its first replenish process, which should result in substantially scaled up finance through that channel. The Talanoa process, the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF) Virtual Summit and many national processes are building towards improved Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) by 2020.

In October the IPCC released its Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C, that put the challenge in stark terms: without rapid and deep cuts to global greenhouse gas emissions, which go far beyond the aggregate pledged in current NDCs by 2030, we will fail to implement the Paris Agreement and will see more catastrophic climate impacts. Reaching the 1.5°C goal will require very rapid change in our energy and land systems, as well as behavioural changes such as dietary shifts, that will only get harder the longer we wait. Acting immediately will allow us to protect natural areas and biodiversity and ensure forests and the land sector make their important contributions to mitigation and adaptation, through practices like sustainable agriculture and forest restoration.

This December, the world's nations meet in Katowice, Poland, for the COP24 climate change talks. The outcome could be decisive in determining whether the world still has a chance to fully implement of the Paris Agreement and so protect humanity and nature from the worst impacts of climatic disruption. Five years ago, at COP19 in Warsaw, the concept of Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (iNDCs) was created. This became the Paris Agreement's NDCs, its centerpiece. Essential to the concept of NDCs is that they evolve progressively over time. Most NDCs were put forward in a context where the terms and rules of the Paris Agreement, as well as the level of effort of all countries, were a work in progress. Now a more concrete picture is coming into view of what is needed to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement. A successful outcome of COP24 (A Katowice Package) should include clear commitments and guidelines for the improvement and successful implementation of NDCs.

WWF Recommendations: The following outcomes must be captured in decision text:

- Need for urgent efforts by parties and all actors to scale up action and support before 2020, to build trust and confidence and set the stage for accelerated action after 2020;
- Finalization and adoption of a comprehensive Paris rulebook that enhances the transparency of all countries' actions to address climate change and leads to greater accountability and ultimately greater ambition of countries' NDCs;
- A renewed recognition, drawing on the IPCC special report, that the cumulative effect of current NDCs is insufficient to fully implement the Paris Agreement, and an indication of what is necessary, including better integration of nature-based solutions to climate change;
- Building on the Talanoa Dialogue process, a commitment from Parties to update and resubmit improved NDCs by 2020 that will put the world on a path to a future free from dangerous climatic interference.

The “Katowice Package”

While some have focused almost exclusively on the Paris Agreement Work Programme (i.e. the Paris rulebook) as the single indispensable outcome from COP24, in fact three sets of outcomes (described below) are required for it to succeed. Without this full Katowice Package of (1) a commitment to improving NDCs (2) commitments to scaled-up urgent action and corresponding finance and other support and (3) finalization and adoption of the Paris rulebook, this COP will fall well short of expectations and make it virtually impossible for the world to avoid overshooting 1.5°C warming.

1. A commitment to improving NDCs

Science is clear. The IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C highlights that holding warming to 1.5°C with little or no overshoot requires reductions in global net CO₂ emissions of around 45% below 2010 levels by 2030, and reaching net-zero by around 2050. The IPCC special report confirmed that current NDCs mitigation targets are inadequate as they put the world on a pathway to 3°C or more warming. Moreover, it highlights the need to maximize the contribution of the land sector to preventing climate change, as well as to adaptation. COP24 must provide a clear direction that countries revisit their NDCs and put forward their strongest possible efforts by 2020.

Decision 1/CP.21 called for Parties to communicate or update their NDCs by 2020, informed by the Talanoa Dialogue (then called the facilitative dialogue), and the IPCC special report, and be in accordance with relevant provisions of the Rulebook to be agreed this year.

Much has happened since most Parties submitted their first NDCs--both in the policy-making realm and in the real economy--that can help Parties recalibrate the national goals that will inspire and guide their countries' transition towards low-carbon, climate-resilient societies during the next decade. The inputs to the Talanoa Dialogue attest to this, as does the experience by Parties, and non-Party stakeholders on the ground.

In light of these obligations and opportunities, many governments¹ are already actively discussing how to improve their NDCs, including their 2030 emissions targets. The preparatory phase of the Talanoa Dialogue is already fulfilling its promise to be a constructive, facilitative and transparent process for sharing solutions which can inform near-term target setting and action for Parties and non-Parties alike.

At the political phase of the Talanoa Dialogue during COP24, the international community must send a clear signal that all countries will look at their NDCs anew and do everything in their power to adjust them to be in line with the Paris Agreement climate goals and other provisions. The outcomes of COP24 can inform the UN Secretary General's planned summit in September 2019 where Heads of State and Government will have the opportunity to report on progress and future plans to improve and accelerate implementation of their NDCs and climate actions.

WWF recommends that:

- The IPCC scientists and findings be given a prominent role at COP24, both in the Talanoa Dialogue and processes such as SBSTA and the COP itself.
- Decision text captures and provides for actions based on the IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C and the Talanoa Dialogue, as well as previous decisions related to updating and communicating NDCs by 2020.
- Parties take into account the findings of the IPCC and assessments of their fair share contribution in revising their NDCs by 2020.
- Support for developing countries in implementing their NDCs be assured, including, inter alia, through the first GCF replenishment which will cut across the pre-2020 period and the initial years covered by the NDCs.

¹ Governments that have committed to revise their NDCs include Argentina, Ecuador, Fiji, and Norway, and the Climate Vulnerable Forum countries.

2. Commitments to scaled-up urgent action and corresponding finance

Global greenhouse gas emissions must peak by 2020 and decline rapidly thereafter if we are to limit global temperature rise to 1.5°C. Accelerating near-term climate action and support is critical to reaching this global milestone and setting the foundation for an effective and just transition to low-carbon climate-resilient societies. Developed countries in particular must make every effort to achieve and where possible substantially overachieve their 2020 targets and objectives. They must also redouble efforts to scale up finance, technology, and capacity building support for developing countries.

Parties coming to COP24 should show their commitment to urgent climate action by:

- Ratifying the Doha Amendments to the Kyoto Protocol, establishing the second commitment period (KP2). To date, 121 Parties, representing all negotiating groups, have ratified it, but KP2 is still 23 Parties short from entering into force;
- Scaling up climate action and support (particularly by developed countries) to meet and exceed current commitments and narrow the equity gap by 2020;
- Renewed recognition to developed country leadership in the fight against climate change.
- Signaling they are aiming to at least double contributions to the GCF compared to the initial period, in line with needs and anticipated pipeline, and in particular through scaled up public finance contributions. The recently launched replenishment process for the GCF is an important opportunity to provide increased finance;
- Scaling up public finance (by developed countries) to meet the \$100 billion commitment by 2020.

3. Finalization and Adoption of the Paris Rulebook

At COP24 Parties must adopt a comprehensive set of rules and guidance, the Paris rulebook, reflecting all elements of the Paris Agreement Work Program. Central to this framework of rules is an effective Ambition Mechanism to strengthen countries' NDCs.

The Ambition Mechanism includes:

- The Global Stocktake of implementation and collective progress every five years; and
- The submission of updated and progressively more ambitious NDCs from each country every five years, along with corresponding support, informed by the Global Stocktake. This year's Talanoa Dialogue marks the first opportunity to collectively ratchet up ambition of NDCs and climate action by 2020.

The entire package of rules, guidelines and provisions included under the Paris Agreement will support the Ambition Mechanism by ensuring transparency, accountability and progressively stronger climate action. For WWF, the following expected outcomes, related to Paris Agreement Work Programme items as well as other negotiating tracks, are particularly critical for COP24 to be a success:

	PARIS AGREEMENT WORK PROGRAMME	OTHER NEGOTIATING TRACKS
Time frames	Agreement on common time frames of five years for new NDCs that would start in 2030	
Enhanced transparency framework (Article 13)	A single enhanced transparency framework for all countries, with flexibility for those developing countries with a need for it, and an agreed transition timeline prior to the first Global Stocktake. Agreement that countries will use the most recent available IPCC guidance for national inventories.	
Market measures (Articles 6.2 and 6.4)	Clear rules to prevent double counting through corresponding adjustments for all internationally transferred mitigation outcomes (ITMOs), including those transferred and used by airlines for compliance with the UN International Civil Aviation Organization's Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (ICAO CORSIA).	
Finance	Agreement on at least a start date for negotiating the post-2025 financing goal. Agreement on modalities for ex-ante finance reporting (Art 9.5). Agreement on key elements of ex-post accounting, including calculation of grant-equivalence of loans, and how to account for climate relevant finance. Progress towards a "Matching Facility" under Article 6.8 to leverage international resources additional to the \$100 billion commitment to support scaled up emissions reductions in developing countries, including ambitious conditional targets.	Pave the way for a new work program on implementation of Art 2.1c, in order to make finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development.
Adaptation	Clear guidance on adaptation communications as a component of NDCs, to ensure increased adaptation ambition and forward-looking actions with support.	Decision on operationalization of the Global Goal on Adaptation, with clear process laid out. Finalize governance and institutional arrangements to enable the Adaptation Fund to serve the Paris Agreement.
Loss and Damage (L&D)	Full integration of L&D in the Global Stocktake by establishing a dedicated workstream of L&D.	Drawing on the results of the Suva Expert Dialogue, agreement on a finance roadmap for L&D and decision on institutionalizing the financing mechanism by COP25, in conjunction with the review of Warsaw Mechanism on L&D (WIM).

Conclusion

WWF believes that the "Katowice Package" can be a strong and inspiring political response to the IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C as well as a crucial step on the road to 2020 and beyond.

The outcomes of COP24 must consolidate the momentum created in 2018, and lay the groundwork for a successful UN Secretary General's Summit in 2019 and the enhanced climate commitments and actions the world needs for its survival.

	<p>Why we are here</p> <p>To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.</p> <p>panda.org/climateandenergy</p>
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