The Convention and the Paris Agreement

→ Brief History

→ Principles

→ Key Articles & Obligations



United Nations Climate Change



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BRIEF HISTORY

1979	> 1988	1990	1992	1994	1995	1997	2001
	IPCC established	IPCC FAR and 2 nd WCC: call for global treaty on climate change	UNFCCC tex adopted and opened for signature (Rio Summit	UNFCCC enters into	COP 1 Berlin Mandate; IPCC SAR	COP 3 Kyoto Protocol text adopted	COP 7 Marrakesh Accords; IPCC TAR
2005	> 2007	2010	2012	> 2014	2015	2016	2018
Kyoto Protocol enters into force; CMP1, AWG-KP Dialogue (LCA)	COP 13 Bali Action Plan; IPCC AR4	COP 16 Cancun Agreements	COP 18 Doha Amendment to the KP	COP 20 Lima Call for Action (INDCs); IPCC AR5	COP 21 Paris Agreement text adopted	Nov, 4: Paris Agreement enters into force	COP 24 Katowice Climate Package



THE CONVENTION (UNFCCC) – Structure

Introductory Articles Substa comm

Preamble

- 1. Definitions
- 2. Objective
- 3. Principles

Substantive elements and commitments

- 4. Commitments
- 5. Research and systematic observation
- 6. Education, training and public awareness

Institutional arrangements

- 7. Conference of the Parties (COP)
- 8. Secretariat
- 9. SBSTA
- 10. SBI
- 11. Financial Mechanism

Procedures

- 12. Communication of information; 13. Resolution of questions regarding implementation;
- 14. Settlement of disputes; 15. Amendments to the Convention;
- 16. Adoption and amendment of annexes to the Convention; 17. Protocols;
- 18. Right to vote; 19. Depository; 20. Signature; 21. Interim arrangements;
- 22. Ratification, acceptance, approval or accession; 23. Entry into force;
- 24. Reservations; 25. Withdrawal; 26. Authentic texts.

Annexes

Annex I Annex II



THE CONVENTION (UNFCCC) - Objective

Article 2 Objective

The ultimate objective of the Convention is;

 \rightarrow to achieve stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would **prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system**.

\rightarrow within a time frame sufficient to;

- > allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change,
- > ensure that food production is not threatened and
- > enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner.



THE CONVENTION (UNFCCC) – Principles

Article 3 Principles

- Protect the climate system for the benefit of present and future generations on the basis of equity (inter-generational equity) and in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities (CBDRRC)
- Full consideration to be given to **specific needs and special circumstances of developing country** Parties
- **Precautionary** measures to be taken; policies and measures to deal with climate change should be cost-effective; efforts may be carried out cooperatively
- Right to **sustainable development**
- **Cooperation** to promote a supportive and open international economic system



THE CONVENTION (UNFCCC) – Annexes



UNFCCC Parties (197)

Annex I Parties

Group of 43 developed countries, that were part of the OECD in 1992, and countries with economies in transition (EITs)

Annex II Parties

Group of 24 highly developed countries (subset of Annex I)

Non Annex I Parties

Remaining 154 Parties, mostly developing countries



THE CONVENTION (UNFCCC) – Commitments

Article 4 Commitments of all Parties

Develop national GHG inventories	Formulate mitigation and adaptation measures	Cooperate in transfer of technologies to reduce GHGs
Promote to conserve and enhance sinks	Take CC into account in development planning	Cooperate in research and systematic observation
Cooperate in exchange of relevant information	Cooperate in education, training and public awareness	Communicate to COP information related to implementation (as per Art.12)



THE CONVENTION (UNFCCC) – Commitments

Article 4 Commitments of different Party groups

Annex I

- Take the lead in reducing GHG emissions + KP targets
- Submit regular national communications and biennial reports
- Submit annual national inventory reports

Annex II

- Provide new and additional financial and other resources to developing countries for mitigation and adaptation
- Facilitate the transfer of climate-friendly technologies

Non Annex I

- Report on adaptation and mitigation actions
- Submit national communications and biennial update reports



PARIS AGREEMENT – Structure

General Articles

Preamble

- 1. Definitions
- 2. Purpose
- 3. NDCs

Substantive elements and commitments

4. Mitigation

- 5. GHG sinks, reservoirs and REDD+
- 6. Cooperative approaches
- 7. Adaptation
- 8. Loss and damage
- 9. Finance
- 10. Technology development and transfer
- 11. Capacity building
- Climate change awareness and education

Reporting, review and compliance

- 13. Transparency of action and support
- 14. Global stock-take
- 15. Facilitating implementation and compliance

Institutional arrangements

- 16. Conference of the Parties (CMA)
- 17. Secretariat
- 18. SBI and SBSTA
- 19. Other bodies and institutional arrangements

Final Articles

- 20. Signature and ratification
- 21. Entry into force
- 22. Amendments to the Agreement
- 23. Adoption and amendment of Annexes
- 24. Dispute settlement
- 25. Voting
- 26. Depository
- 27. Reservations
- 28. Withdrawal
- 29. Authentic texts



PARIS AGREEMENT - Purpose and Landscape





PARIS AGREEMENT - NDCs

Art.3 Nationally determined contributions (NDCs)





PARIS AGREEMENT - NDCs

Art.4 Mitigation component of NDCs

All Parties

- Prepare, communicate and maintain successive NDCs and pursue domestic mitigation measures to achieve the objectives of their NDCs
- Successive NDCs will present a progression and reflect highest possible ambition
- Mitigation co-benefits from adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans can contribute to mitigation outcomes
- Provide information necessary to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding
- Communicate NDCs every 5 years
- Account for their NDCs (emissions and removals corresponding to their NDCs)
- May anytime adjust existing NDC to enhance its ambition

Developed Country Parties

 continue taking the lead by undertaking economy-wide absolute emission reduction targets

Developing Country Parties

- continue enhancing their mitigation efforts and encouraged to move towards economy-wide emission reduction or limitation targets in the light of different national circumstances
- Support shall be provided to developing country Parties for implementing mitigation actions

LDCs and SIDS

 may prepare and communicate strategies, plans and actions for low GHG emissions development reflecting their special circumstances



PARIS AGREEMENT – Sinks/REDD+ & Cooperative Approaches

Art.5 GHG sinks/reservoirs & REDD+

All Parties

- Should take action to conserve and enhance sinks and reservoirs of GHGs, including forests
- Encouraged to take action to implement and support policies and incentives to reduce emissions from;
 - Deforestation and forest degradation
 - Conservation and sustainable management of forests
 - Enhancement of carbon stocks

Art.6 Cooperative Approaches

All Parties

- May choose to pursue voluntary cooperation in the implementation of their NDCs to allow for higher ambition in their mitigation and adaptation actions
- If these approaches involve use of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes (ITMOs) → promote SD, ensure environmental integrity, apply robust accounting, prevent double counting
- Establishes a mechanism to promote mitigation of GHGs and support sustainable development
- Defines a framework for non-market approaches to sustainable development



PARIS AGREEMENT – Adaptation & Loss and Damage

Art.7 Adaptation

All Parties

- Should strengthen cooperation on enhancing action on adaptation;
 - □ Sharing of information
 - □ Strengthen institutional arrangements
 - Assist developing countries in identifying needs, priorities, support provided/received
 - □ Improve effectiveness and durability of adaptation action
- Shall engage in adaptation planning and implementation
- Should submit and update adaptation communications
- International support shall be provided to developing countries

Art.8 Loss and Damage

All Parties

- recognize the importance of averting minimizing and addressing loss and damage
- Should enhance understanding, action and support with respect to loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change



PARIS AGREEMENT – Means of implementation

Art.9 Finance

- Developed countries shall provide financial resources to both mitigation and adaptation
- Others are encouraged to do so, voluntarily
- Developed countries should continue to take lead on mobilizing climate finance
- Calls for a balance between adaptation and mitigation funding
- Developed countries shall biennially communicate;
 - □ ex-ante information, &
 - Ex-post reporting of provided & mobilized support

Art.10 Technology

- <u>Technology mechanism</u> (TEC & CTCN)
- <u>Technology Framework:</u> Themes:
 - innovation, implementation, enabling environment and capacity building, collaboration and stakeholder engagement, support
- Support shall be provided to developing country Parties to cooperate on technology development and transfer

Art.11 Capacity Building

- All Parties should cooperate to enhance capacity of developing countries to implement Paris Agreement
- Developed countries should enhance support for CB actions in developing countries
- Paris Committee on Capacity Building (PCCB)

Art.12 Awareness& education

 Parties shall cooperate to enhance CC education, training, public awareness& participation



PARIS AGREEMENT – Enhanced transparency framework

Article 13 of the Paris Agreement: transparency of action and support





* The transparency framework shall provide flexibility in the implementation of the provisions of this Article to those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities {*Article 13.2*};

* The transparency framework shall recognize the special circumstances of the least developed countries and small island developing States {Article 13.3}.

PARIS AGREEMENT – Global Stocktake

Purpose

To periodically take stock of the implementation of Paris Agreement to assess the collective progress towards achieving the purpose of the Agreement and its long-term goals

Principles

In a comprehensive and facilitative manner

Considering mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation and support

In the light of equity and the best available science

Timing Starting from 2023, and every 5 years thereafter

Outcome

Inform Parties in updating and enhancing, in a nationally determined manner, their actions and support, as well as enhancing international cooperation for climate action







Thank you!

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