United Nations Climate Change Conference

Glasgow, Scotland
31st October – 12th November, 2021

26th session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP)
16th session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP)
5th session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA)

The COP, CMP and CMA are the decision-making bodies in relation to the implementation of the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol, and the Paris Agreement, respectively.

Overview of the meeting venue

The conference venue will comprise of the SSE, Hydro, the SEC Armadillo and the SEC Centre and other temporary structures, which will all be connected by enclosed walkways.

The SEC Centre is Scotland’s largest exhibition centre and will form the body of the COP26 venue ‘blue zone’. The ‘green zone’ for the public with parallel activities and NGO exhibitions will be located in the Glasgow Science Centre across the River Clyde.

One of the temporary structures at the SEC will contain the Media Centre including an International Broadcast Centre (IBC) in which facilities to meet the needs of Television and Radio Broadcasters and Press News Agencies are provided.

Orientation

Plenary 1, Cairn Gorm and Plenary 2, Pen y Fan, are located at the crossroads of the Atrium area, in close proximity to the Media Centre.

Press Conference Room 1, Giant’s Causeway, is also in close proximity to the Media Centre.
Press Conference Room 2, Durdle Door is off the main Causeway of the SEC. Follow signs adjacent to the rolling staircase opposite Hall 5 & the Deli Bakery.

The Action Hub is located in the middle of the OVO Hydro near the Main Entrance.

Media Arrangements

General rules for both accredited media and country press corps support

Visual media are permitted to film, record interviews and take photos in all public areas of the conference venue unless otherwise restricted for security reasons. Generally, all open meetings of the Conference are accessible to the print media, subject to the availability of space.

Access for visual media and photographers to the Plenary Halls will only be permitted ‘under escort’. Please contact the International Broadcast Centre Manager, Mr. Tim Davis, Tel: +44 7933 818453

All those with ‘Media’ badges have free access to all Press Conferences.

Please note: No access will be granted to any media representatives to enter closed meetings of the Conference or office areas.

There will be 3 Openings at COP 26.
1. Opening of the Conference – 10am 31st October 2021
2. Opening of the World Leader’s Summit – 12pm 1st November 2021
3. Opening of the High-Level Segment – 3pm Tuesday 9th November 2021

The Opportunities normally available at a COP are limited this year due to Covid-19 protocols which impact set capacities of meeting rooms and are further reduced due to ‘social distancing’ requirements.

The UNFCCC Communication and HMG Press Teams would seek your understanding in this regard and would request that instructions given are followed at all times.

The visuals of all pools will be captured by the Host Broadcaster and will be available to follow, record or download to all those who have workspace in the Media Centre. They will also be available live on webcast at: https://unfccc-cop26.streamworld.de/live

Pool 1: 10am Procedural Opening; Sunday 31st October, 2021

On Sunday 31st October 2021, the Procedural Opening of COP26 will be formally opened in Plenary 1, Cairn Gorm.
Due to the aforementioned limitations the UNFCCC Communication and HMG Press Teams have pre-selected those to be in the pool. Notifications will be sent in good time.

Prior to the opening, the selected pool of television crews and still photographers will have the opportunity to capture establishing shots inside Plenary 1 from a stanchioned area at the front of the Plenary.

They will then briefly be given the opportunity to capture those on the podium prior to the start of the meeting.

Television crews will be required to leave the Plenary Hall when asked to do so. Still photographers may remain to take pictures of the speakers on a one-by-one basis, under guidance. At the end of the Opening Ceremony all those in the pool must leave the Plenary.

Those in the pool need to be at the Media Meeting Point, (located adjacent to the Stand-Up positions in the Atrium outside the Plenary Halls) at 9am. Supplementary badges will be required which will be distributed from the Media Meeting Point.

Agenda for the procedural opening:

- Opening Statement by H.E. Ms. Carolina Schmidt, President, COP 25/CMP 15/CMA 2
- Handover of the Presidency from COP25 President to COP26 President
- Statement by H.E. Mr. Alok Sharma President COP 26/CMP 16/CMA 3
- Statement by Ms. Patricia Espinosa, UNFCCC Executive-Secretary
- Statement by Dr. Hoesung Lee, Chair of IPCC
- Statement by Ms. India Logan-Riley, representative of indigenous peoples

A limited number of seats (10) will be available in Plenary 1 for the opening ceremony for print media and text news agencies. These seats will be located at the rear of the Plenary Hall. Supplementary badges will be required to enter the hall. Those interested are invited to submit their names at the Media Information Desk on the Mezzanine Level of the Media Centre and collect their badges on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Pools 2 & 3: VIP Informal Arrivals; Monday 1st November, 2021**

The UNFCCC Communication and HMG Press Teams have pre-selected those to be in the pools.

This will offer the opportunity to film or take pictures of the Heads of State, Presidents and other VIP’s as they exit from their vehicles and walk into the VVIP Area. They will not be greeted at this point, and will be escorted by Protocol Officials.

Due to the number of VIP’s arriving there will be 2 positions at which the arrivals will take place concurrently. The pools will be split
Those in the pools need to be at the Media Meeting Point (located at the exit door from the corridor towards Press Conference Room 1) at 6:45am. From there the media will be escorted to the vantage point, which is an external covered position. Dress appropriately. The first arrival is expected at 08.00am. Those in the pool will have to stay in position until the last VIP has arrived at approx. 12pm noon. Toilet facilities will be available, but if refreshments are required these will need to be carried with.

**Pool 4: VIP Meet & Greet; Monday 1st November, 2021**

The UNFCCC Communication and HMG Press Team have pre-selected those to be in the pool.

This will offer the opportunity to film or take pictures of the Heads of State, Presidents and other VIP’s as they are welcomed to the COP by the Secretary General, António Guterres, and the Prime Minister of UK, Rt Hon. Boris Johnson.

Those in the pool need to be at the Media Meeting Point (located at the exit door from the corridor towards Press Conference Room 1) at 06:45am. From there the media will be escorted to the vantage point. The first greeting is expected to take place at 8am and will continue until approx. 12pm noon.

**Pool 5: Opening of the High-Level Summit; Monday 1st November, 2021**

On Monday 1st November 2021, the World Leaders Summit will be formally opened in Plenary 1, Cairn Gorm. Details of the opening session is available at: [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Message%20to%20Parties%20%20WLS%20and%20List%20of%20Speakers.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Message%20to%20Parties%20%20WLS%20and%20List%20of%20Speakers.pdf)

There will be cultural performances followed by Speeches given by:
- Rt Hon. Boris Johnson – Prime Minister of the UK
- Mr. Mario Draghi – Prime Minister of Italy
- Mia Amor Mottley – Prime Minister of Barbados
- Sir David Attenborough
- António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations
- HRH Prince Charles

**TV/Photo opportunity:**

Due to the Covid-19 limitations, the UNFCCC and HMG Communication Teams have pre-selected those to be in the pool. Notifications will be sent in good time.
Prior to the opening, the selected pool of television crews and still photographers will have the opportunity to capture establishing shots inside Plenary 1 from a stanchioned area at the front of the Plenary.

They will then briefly be given the opportunity to capture those on the podium prior to the start of the Meeting.

Television crews will be required to leave the Plenary Hall after Rt Hon Boris Johnson’s speech. Still photographers may remain to take pictures of the speakers on a one-by-one basis, under guidance. At the end of the Opening Ceremony all those in the pool must leave the Plenary.

Those in the pool need to be at the Media Meeting Point, (located adjacent to the Stand-Up positions in the Atrium outside the Plenary Halls) at 11:15am. Supplementary badges will be required which will be distributed from the Media Meeting Point.

**Press Opportunity**

A limited number of seats (10) will be available in Plenary 1 for the opening ceremony for print media and text news agencies. These seats will be located at the rear of the Plenary Hall. Those interested are invited to submit their names at the Media Information Desk on the Mezzanine Level of the Media Centre where Supplementary badges will be given on a first-come, first-served basis.

The full list of events taking place over the 1st & 2nd November 2021 are as follows:

**Monday 1st November 2021**

08:00 – 12:00 VVIP Arrivals 01  
08:00 – 12:00 VVIP Arrivals 02  
08:00 - 12:00 VVIP Formal Arrivals  
12:00 – 13:00 WLS Opening Plenary 1 Cairn Gorm  
14:00 – 17:00 National Statements Plenary 1 Cairn Gorm  
14:00 – 17:00 National Statements Plenary 2 Pen y Fan  
14:30 – 16:30 UK Event: Ambition: Meeting Room 03

**Tuesday 2nd November 2021**

08:30 – 09:30 Launch of infrastructure for resilient island states Room 04 Area F Ground Floor  
To announce the launch of IRIS, introduce what IRIS has to offer to a global audience, and showcase the experience of SIDS  
**Host: India + 9x Heads of State + the UNSG**  
09:00 – 13:00 National Statements Plenary 1 Cairn Gorm  
09:00 – 13:00 UK Event Forests Plenary 2 Pen y Fan  
10:00 – 12:00 Water and Climate Coalition Leaders ‘Committing to an integrated Global Water and Climate Agenda’ Room 15 Area F Ground Floor
Water and Climate Leaders will present the objective of the coalition and which activities and ways of working together are needed to pursue an integrated water and climate agenda in support of national mitigation and adaptation actions, as well as sustainable development.

Host: WMO + Hungary & Tajikistan + ES & COP 26 President

11:15
Forests Family Pict VVIP Formal Arrival Area

11:15 – 12:15 Building Back Better Action Room 2. Area F Ground Floor
Host: USA + G7 Countries & 15 Country leaders

13:00 – 14:00 Launch of Global Methane Pledge Room 04 Area F Ground Floor
The Global Methane Pledge is an international initiative co-convened by the EU and the USA that aims at catalysing global methane emission reduction efforts as a significant short-term contribution to climate action. It seeks to eliminate over 0.2 degrees Centigrade of near-term warming by cutting global methane at least 30 percent by 2030, and substantially improve public health and agricultural productivity by reducing the ground-level ozone pollution that methane exacerbates.
Host: USA & EU + 36 Heads of State & Governments

13:00 – 14:00 High Ambition Coalition Leaders Meeting Room 14, Area F Ground Floor
To identify and agree shared priorities for ambitious outcome at COP, across the pillars of mitigation, adaptation and finance.
Host: Republic of the Marshall Islands hosted by Denmark & other Heads of State and Governments

13:00 – 14:30 Round Table on advancing Climate Change Education Meeting Room 2 Car Park 7 Ground Floor
Elevating the climate change education agenda to the level of Heads of State and Government (leading to the prioritization of the topic and increasing the prospects for measures implementation)
Host: Romania + 9x Heads of State and Governments

14:15 – 16:30 UK Event Innovation Plenary 2 Pen y Fan
16:00 Innovation Reception VVIP Formal Arrival Area
15:00 – 19:00 National Statements Plenary 1 Cairn Gorm

**Pools for Side Events**

Those interested in attending any of the meetings listed above for 2nd November 2021 are to register their interest at the Media Meeting Point at least 2 hours ahead of the meeting scheduled start time. Numbers will be limited by capacity according to room size. Such advice will be given at the Media Meeting Point and those in the pool will be escorted to the meeting room 45mins ahead the meeting start time. The same applies for those interested in attending the UK ‘Ambition’ meeting at 14:30 on 1st November, 2021.

The Media Meeting Point will be located adjacent to the Stand-Up positions in the Atrium outside the Plenary Halls.
National Statements

National Statements will commence in Plenary Hall 1 & 2 from 14:00hrs on Monday, 1st November, 2021 and will continue on Tuesday 2nd November 2021.

For the list of speakers please visit Appendix ‘A’ at: https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Message%20to%20Parties%20II%20-%20WLS%20and%20List%20of%20Speakers.pdf

Those who wish to capture individual National Statements whether Media or Delegation Media (film cameras or photographers) can do so under guidance from the IBC Manager. Please visit the IBC Manager’s Office (at the entrance to the Media Centre) or the Media Meeting Point (located adjacent to the Stand-Up positions in the Atrium outside the Plenary Halls) to record your interest. You will be escorted into the Plenary Hall with sufficient time to set up ahead of the National Statement to be captured. On completion of the National Statements the escorted Media must leave the Hall.

Pool Signals

Television and radio broadcasters will receive ‘live’ pool feeds provided by the host broadcaster. Pool signals will be provided to all workstations and cubicles in the International Broadcasting Centre (IBC). The format of the pool feed is HD PAL16:9 delivered through SDI BNC connections with embedded audio. For Radio Broadcasters the feed will be delivered through XLR connections.

Correspondents who cannot be accommodated in the Plenary will be able to follow the proceedings on the closed-circuit television (IPTV) monitors throughout the Conference venue.

Writing Press Area

This area can be located on the Mezzanine floor of the Media Centre.

The area offers a total of 220 work spaces equally split into 3 areas.
(i) empty working area (for use by those who bring your own laptop and connect to the internet via Wi-Fi)
(ii) hard wired internet access (for use by those who bring their own laptops and to connect to internet via an RJ45 connection)
(iii) working area with computers (PC’s) provided, hard wired connected to the internet.

All areas are provided with desks, chairs, lighting and power.

Internet

The COP 26 site is being fed by a 40gb/s internet connection. The network has been configured in such a way so that all users have access to the full incomer and there is no throttling or segregation of that connection.
As such we will not be selling bandwidth segments and dedicated internet connections will be available as standard at all cubicles/edit booths, stand-up positions and studios.

All internet connections will be capable of a minimum 10mb/s u/d and burstable up to 100mb/s u/d.
There will be site-side WiFi, shared by all users at the event. Additional cell towers are being installed to give increased coverage across the networks EE, Vodaphone and O2. This will provide 3G and 4G coverage.

**Media Information Desk**

The Media Information Desk is located on the Mezzanine level in the Media Centre adjacent to the Open Writing Press Area. Here guidance will be offered to a selection of Conference documents accessible on the Internet as well as to the Daily Programme, UNFCCC press releases and publications, the texts of speeches as provided by delegations, as well as the daily Earth Negotiations Bulletin (which summarizes the daily proceedings).

The UNFCCC Secretariat pursues a PaperSmart policy, consequently this information will be provided electronically on the web at [https://unfccc.int/documents](https://unfccc.int/documents) and through the Negotiator app, (which is designed for iPhones and iPads). Official documents can also be accessed via the Internet at terminals in the print press area.

Proceedings in Plenary 1, Plenary 2 and all Press Conference rooms can be followed on monitors in the writing press area. The meetings schedule will also be on display. Headphones are available in the Writing Press Area to listen to translations. Correspondents may also follow proceedings of the conference through live webcast at [https://unfccc-cop26.streamworld.de/live](https://unfccc-cop26.streamworld.de/live)

**International Broadcast Centre (IBC)**

An International Broadcasting Centre (IBC) is situated in the Media Centre designed specifically to serve television and radio broadcasters and International Press Agencies. The facility will provide the Host Broadcasters’ live video and audio pool feeds and will have the facility for the retrieval of meetings in .mp4 or similar encoded digital format.

All the **Open-Plan Workstations** for TV and radio broadcasters are equipped with basic furniture, an IPTV monitor to follow proceedings, the Host Broadcaster’s audio and video feeds from Plenary 1, Plenary 2, the 2 Press Conference rooms and the Action Hub. Each workstation is only equipped for one person (due to Covid-19)

For those TV and radio broadcasters who do not have workspace within the IBC and need to use the facilities on a temporary basis please contact the IBC Manager, Tim Davis, Tel: +44 7933 818453 or visit his office in the IBC.
The Press Agency Cubicles are provided with chairs, desktops, electrical sockets, an IPTV monitor and wired internet connections designed to accommodate 5 journalists.

The International Broadcast Centre will be available for use from Sunday 31st October 2021 from 8:00am until the end of the Conference scheduled for 6pm on 12th November, 2021. The IBC will be open 24 hours a day, with limited services between 6:00pm and 8:00am. On the final day of the Conference, all media areas will remain operational for approximately 4 hours after the formal conclusion of the conference.

Television Coverage

Live pool coverage of the proceedings in Plenary 1, Plenary 2, the 2 Press Conference rooms is available for local and overseas television and radio broadcasters free of charge and free-for-use (copy-right free).

Please note: It is not possible for individual television crews to record proceedings from inside Plenary 1 and Plenary 2. There are, however, limited possibilities throughout the Conference and, in particular, during the World Leaders Summit and the High-Level Segment for individual television crews to record plenary statements by country representatives. Prior arrangements for any unilateral coverage must be made with the IBC Manager, Tim Davis Tel: +7933 818453 or visit his office in the IBC.

All those with Media Badges have access to all events held in the 2 Press Conference rooms. 10x Audio feeds in Floor and English languages will be available from XLR distribution units for television and radio journalists on a first-come-first-served basis.

Radio Coverage

Audio feeds of the Floor & English languages are available from XLR distribution units in Press Conference Rooms 1 & 2. For use of this facility on a temporary basis the feeds are also available in the Press Writing Area of the IBC.

Online, social media and mobile services

Over and above the information available on the UNFCCC website the secretariat is offering the mobile version of the UNFCCC website https://unfccc.int/ through the official ‘Negotiator’ App for the conference.

Using the NEW version of the mobile application ‘Negotiator’, users can:
• Get logistical information about the conference (directories, venue maps, etc.);
• See all events in a consolidated calendar and create your personal events calendar
• Receive push-notifications for your events
• See the meetings rooms schedule in real-time
• View the live webcast videos
• Read the latest documents, agendas and meeting information;
• View the latest YouTube videos and photos from the conference;
• Participate in the conference via the Facebook and Twitter channels.

Please note: The ‘Negotiator’ can be downloaded for FREE at https://unfccc.int/news/download-unfccc-negotiator-app

Social media tools, such as Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, Instagram and Flickr, will allow participation in and response to the conference in Glasgow.

Please note: Media may address questions to the Executive Secretary, Ms. Patricia Espinosa, using Facebook or Twitter during the UNFCCC press conferences.

**Photo Coverage**

A limited number of requests for non-flash photo access whilst plenary meetings are in session, will be dealt with on an ad hoc basis. Contact the IBC Manager who will arrange an escort by appointment.

**Press Conferences/Briefings**

Regular press briefings by the United Nations, by National Delegations and Intergovernmental Organizations will be held in Press Conference Room 1 Giants Causeway, close to the Media Centre. Press briefings by Non-Governmental Organizations representing environmental and business interest groups will be held in Press Conference Room 2, Durdle Door located off the main Causeway of the SEC, opposite Hall 5.

Be advised that some press conferences may be restricted. This may be at the request of those hosting the Press Conferences or for logistical and security reasons. Please accept the situation when faced with it.

All Press Briefings will normally be limited to 30 minutes. See the Daily Programme for details – this is available on the IPTV network of monitors and online.

The COP President will give press briefings on a regular basis summarising the progress made at the Conference, between 1.45 – 2.15 p.m. in Press Conference room 1.

Please note: While regular press briefings will be included in the press section of the unfccc.int website, many other briefings will be announced at short notice on the IPTV programme monitors only.
**Interviews**

The Press information desk will assist journalists, upon request, to contact delegates for arranging interviews.

Requests for interviews with the UNFCCC Executive Secretary should be addressed to Press@unfccc.int. Please note that the Executive Secretary is available for a limited number of one-on-one interviews at the COP.

**Live and On-Demand Streaming on Internet**

For the duration of the conference, all official meetings and press conferences can be followed live and on demand. On-demand files will be available shortly after the close of each meeting. Please check https://unfccc-cop26.streamworld.de/live for the date and time of webcast sessions.

A comprehensive web index provides ready access to information on recorded events. Each recording is classified by date, agenda item and type of meeting. "Video anchors" will allow direct access to discussions of a particular agenda item. A timetable, meetings listing, is automatically generated and posted to the website throughout the day to provide information on additions or changes in the programme schedule.

**Media Coordination and Support**

The UNFCCC Media Team offices as well as the offices of the Host Country Media Team can be found in the International Broadcast Centre.

**Virtual participation**

All accredited media will be able to participate virtually during press conferences and briefings using COP26 Platform – a tool made to support your COP experience. More information about the registration process and connecting can be found here https://unfccc.int/cop26/virtual

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**PLEASE NOTE:**
Details on the Ministerial part of the HLS of the Conference in week 2 will be announced in a later Note to Correspondents.