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Belém Mission to 1.5°C

Submission by We Mean Business Coalition

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About We Mean Business Coalition

The We Mean Business Coalition works with the world's most influential businesses to accelerate the energy transition and take action on climate change. The Coalition is a group of seven non-profit organizations (BSR, CDP, Ceres, Corporate Leaders Groups, Climate Group, The B Team and WBCSD) and 50+ network partners working together to catalyze business and policy action to halve global emissions by 2030 and accelerate an inclusive transition to a net-zero economy. Over 23,00 companies of all sizes are taking climate action through the Coalition and partners' initiatives.

The companies we work with support the implementation of the Paris Agreement, recognizing that with the right policies, investment in the energy transition and electrification can bring economic and security benefits while making progress towards the achievement of the 1.5°C goal. But this can only be achieved through accelerated implementation and collaboration among stakeholders and a common vision to accelerate climate action.

Through policy engagement, business mobilization and practical implementation initiatives, we work with governments, businesses and other stakeholders to help translate climate ambition into investment and delivery.

This submission draws on that experience, including our work on Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), clean electrification, the transition away from fossil fuels, just transition, and partnerships that accelerate implementation.

Executive Summary

WMBC welcomes the launch of the **Belém Mission to 1.5** and its focus on enabling ambition and accelerating implementation.

It comes at a pivotal moment for the Paris Agreement. Following the first Global Stocktake, many countries have announced new Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) that are shaping climate action in this critical decade of delivery. At the same time, there is growing recognition that the challenge is no longer only to strengthen ambition, but to ensure that ambitious commitments are translated into practical action and policies that unlock the economic and security benefits that can arise from investments in electrification and the transition away from fossil fuels.

Belém Mission to 1.5 provides an important opportunity to help bridge this gap by supporting countries to translate climate commitments into investible implementation plans, strengthening international cooperation around delivery and creating the conditions to unlock business investment at scale. In doing so it can help accelerate delivery of the Paris Agreement while supporting sustainable economic growth, competitiveness and resilience.

From Ambition to Implementation

The Paris Agreement has entered a new phase.

Over the past decade, the international community has made significant progress in strengthening climate ambition. The next phase will increasingly be judged by implementation.

Success will depend on creating the enabling conditions that allow governments, business, finance and wider society to accelerate the energy transition and deliver ambitious climate plans together. This means translating climate commitments into investible implementation plans, providing long-term policy certainty, strengthening enabling policy and regulatory frameworks, mobilizing investment and creating practical partnerships that allow climate solutions to scale.

Business is ready to invest and deliver. Across the global economy, companies are already investing in clean technologies, electrification and industrial transformation because they strengthen competitiveness, improve productivity and increase energy security. The opportunity now is to unlock business investment for implementation by creating the policy conditions that allow these solutions to scale.

Drawing on WMBC's work with businesses, governments and partners around the world, this submission identifies three priorities where the Belém Mission to 1.5 can help accelerate implementation.

Summary of Recommendations

WMBC welcomes the Belém Mission to 1.5 as an important opportunity to accelerate implementation of the Paris Agreement. Drawing on our work with businesses, governments and partners, we recommend the following actions to help Parties and the wider international community translate climate ambition into delivery.

1. Translating Climate Commitments into Investible Implementation Plans

Parties should translate existing NDC commitments into credible, investible implementation plans that provide clear delivery pathways, enabling policy and regulatory frameworks, and long-term certainty for business investment.

2. Accelerate clean electrification

Governments and business should work together to advance electrification as a central implementation pathway that exploits the benefits of cheap clean electricity and facilitates the transition away from fossil fuels. This means creating the enabling policy, regulatory and investment frameworks needed to unlock business investment, strengthen competitiveness and improve energy security.

3. Strengthen international cooperation for implementation

Governments, businesses, financial institutions and other stakeholders should support practical implementation partnerships between governments, business, finance and wider society, building on the evolving Action Agenda and complementary voluntary collaborations that accelerate investment, innovation and knowledge sharing while reinforcing the multilateral process.

Priority Areas for Accelerating Implementation

1. Translating Climate Commitments into Investible Implementation Plans

The first Global Stocktake marked an important shift for the Paris Agreement. As countries move from updating their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to delivering them, **the priority must now be translating climate commitments into credible, investible implementation plans.**

Investible implementation plans translate climate commitments into clear delivery pathways, enabling policy and regulatory frameworks, investment priorities and practical partnerships that give business the confidence to invest.

Ambitious NDCs alone will not deliver emissions reductions. Governments, businesses and investors need greater clarity on how those commitments will be implemented through sectoral transition pathways, enabling policy and regulatory frameworks, investment strategies and practical partnerships. Together, these implementation pathways create the conditions needed to unlock private investment at the scale required to deliver the Paris Agreement.

For business, long-term policy certainty remains one of the strongest drivers of investment. Companies are ready to invest in clean technologies, infrastructure and industrial transformation where governments provide predictable policy frameworks, stable regulation and clear market signals. Conversely, policy uncertainty delays investment decisions, increases costs and slows implementation.

WMBC's work supporting governments and businesses throughout successive NDC cycles has consistently demonstrated the value of structured engagement with business, not only during the development of NDCs but throughout their implementation. Businesses of all sizes, including SMEs, can help identify practical barriers to delivery, highlight investment opportunities and provide insight into the policy frameworks needed to accelerate deployment of climate solutions.

Looking ahead, the success of the Paris Agreement will increasingly be judged by countries' ability to translate climate commitments into investment-ready implementation. Countries that combine ambitious NDCs with credible implementation plans, clear policy frameworks and meaningful engagement with business will be best placed to unlock private capital, accelerate deployment and strengthen competitiveness.

Recommendation

Parties should translate existing NDC commitments into credible, investible implementation plans that set out clear delivery pathways, enabling policy and regulatory frameworks, and long-term certainty for business investment.

2. Accelerate Clean Electrification

Clean electrification is one of the clearest examples of how governments can translate climate ambition into implementation.

Powered by clean electricity, electrification can facilitate the transition away from fossil fuels while strengthening competitiveness, improving productivity, increasing energy security and reducing exposure to volatile fossil fuel prices. Increasingly, businesses see electrification as a strategic investment that supports long-term economic resilience, as well as being a climate solution.

The opportunity now is to unlock business investment by creating the enabling conditions that allow electrification to scale.

Through **Electric Advantage**, WMBC is identifying the practical policy conditions needed to accelerate electrification across economies. Our experience shows that many of the technologies needed to decarbonize transport, buildings and industry are already available. The principal barriers are increasingly policy, infrastructure and market-related rather than technological.

Building on this work, WMBC recently published its **10 Policy Principles to Seize the Electric Advantage**, providing governments with a practical framework for accelerating electrification through modern electricity systems, long-term policy certainty, investment in enabling infrastructure and supportive market design.

Business support for this agenda is both broad and growing. **New global polling** conducted by WMBC, E3G and the Global Renewables Alliance across eighteen countries found that 91% of businesses expect electrification to strengthen energy security, 88% expect it to improve competitiveness, and 90% expect to have largely electrified their operations by 2035.

This confidence is increasingly being matched by action. Through **Electric Advantage**, WMBC has documented businesses electrifying manufacturing, industrial heat, freight and logistics across multiple sectors and geographies. These examples demonstrate that businesses are ready to invest today where enabling policy frameworks exist.

Read here for stories of business action on electrification: Company Stories: The Electric Advantage in Action.

This growing momentum is reflected in the recent **Global Business Statement on Electrification**, supported by more than 110 companies representing over **USD 1.5 trillion** in annual revenue, calling on governments to establish electrification as a central pillar of economic strategy. It also aligns closely with the COP31 Presidency's ambition to increase electricity's share of global final energy consumption to **35% by 2035**, recognizing electrification as a critical enabler of both climate and economic objectives.

Recommendation

Parties, working closely with business and financial institutions, should make clean electrification a central pathway in the implementation of their NDCs by creating the enabling policy, regulatory and investment frameworks needed to unlock business investment and accelerate deployment.

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3. Strengthening International Cooperation for Implementation

The next phase of the Paris Agreement will require an evolution in international cooperation.

As countries move from setting climate targets to delivering them, international cooperation should increasingly focus on helping Parties overcome implementation barriers, unlock investment and accelerate practical action. While ambition remains essential, greater attention must now be given to how governments, business, finance and wider society work together to deliver it.

The Belém Mission to 1.5 reflects this shift. By focusing on enabling ambition and accelerating implementation, it provides an important opportunity to strengthen collaboration around the practical challenges of delivery and to encourage greater alignment between national governments and the wider community of actors responsible for implementing climate action. It also provides an opportunity to recognize progress being made outside of the Paris Agreement process, such as through the Santa Marta conference on the transition away from fossil fuels.

The continued evolution of the UNFCCC Action Agenda will be central to this effort. For more than a decade, it has provided the principal platform through which businesses, cities, regions and other non-state actors have demonstrated climate leadership and contributed to implementation of the Paris Agreement. As climate cooperation enters an implementation era, the Action Agenda has an opportunity to evolve further by fostering practical collaboration around shared implementation priorities, mobilizing investment and supporting delivery of ambitious national climate plans.

WMBC's own experience demonstrates the value of this approach. During SB64, together with the COP31 Presidency, the Australian Presidency of Negotiations and the Global Renewables Alliance, we convened an informal high-level dialogue on clean electrification, bringing together governments, businesses and international organizations to explore practical pathways for implementation. The discussion highlighted the growing appetite for implementation-focused dialogue that complements the formal negotiations by helping identify common challenges, share practical experience and strengthen collaboration around delivery.

Implementation will also require greater recognition of the role that voluntary partnerships can play in accelerating progress. Collaborative initiatives that bring together governments, business, financial institutions and other stakeholders can help mobilize investment, build confidence, share expertise and accelerate deployment of practical solutions. Importantly, these partnerships should not be viewed as alternatives to multilateralism, but as complementary mechanisms that support implementation while reinforcing the collective objectives of the Paris Agreement.

WMBC has seen the value of this collaborative model through initiatives such as the Beyond Alliance, which brings together businesses and partners to strengthen high-integrity market-based climate action and mobilize additional investment in support of national climate objectives.

As implementation becomes the defining challenge of the Paris Agreement, international cooperation should increasingly be judged not only by the agreements it reaches, but by its ability to help countries deliver them. Strengthening practical collaboration between governments, business, finance and wider society will be essential to achieving this.

Recommendation

To support implementation of the Paris Agreement, Parties, businesses, financial institutions and other stakeholders should strengthen practical implementation partnerships that accelerate investment, innovation and knowledge sharing. This should include continued evolution of the UNFCCC Action Agenda, stronger public-private collaboration and complementary voluntary initiatives that help countries overcome implementation barriers while reinforcing the multilateral process.

Conclusion

The Paris Agreement has entered an implementation era.

The next phase of climate ambition will be defined not only by the commitments countries make, but by their ability to translate those commitments into practical action. Achieving this will require ambitious and investible implementation plans, enabling policy frameworks that unlock business investment, and stronger partnerships that bring governments, business, finance and wider society together around shared implementation objectives.

WMBC welcomes the Belém Mission's focus on enabling ambition and accelerating implementation. By helping countries create the enabling conditions for delivery, strengthening practical international cooperation and recognizing business as a strategic implementation partner, the Mission can become an important catalyst for translating the ambition of the Paris Agreement into real-world outcomes.
