



## IMPLEMENTING THE PARIS AGREEMENT – PROGRESS MADE AT COP24 IN KATOWICE, POLAND

The COP 24 international climate change meeting in Katowice took place at the beginning of December 2018. Hailed as a great success by some stakeholders, and decried by others as lacking in ambition, the conference has at least made progress on implementing some areas of the 2015 Paris Agreement.

A key disappointment was the deferral until November 2019 of a decision on creating a new emissions trading framework to take over from the Kyoto Protocol mechanisms which operate until the end of 2020. Considerable work will be required to design an appropriate new mechanism. This further delay gives concern as to whether an agreed design and orderly implementation can be achieved before 2021.

Aside from a new emissions trading framework, some key elements of the Paris Rulebook (the rules for implementing the Paris Agreement) were agreed. Key among items agreed include:

- *Developed country funding of a minimum US\$100 billion per year up to 2025 for mitigation and adaptation:* Decisions were made to begin talks to agree the actual amount of funding in November 2020; and that these talks should 'consider' the aim of strengthening the global response to climate change threats.
- *5-yearly Global Stocktake to be used to track progress towards the actions seen as needed to keep temperature rises to below 2°C or 1.5°C:* Decisions were made on funding for developing countries, on the specific sources of information to be used for the global stocktake, and on areas to be assessed (including in relation to reporting on barriers and challenges to implementation).
- *Updating of Nationally Determined Contributions ("NDCs", mitigation efforts to be made by each participating nation):* Further guidance was agreed on how NDCs should be updated (the first update is needed by 2020). In particular, the guidance seeks to make NDCs clear, transparent and more consistent. Over time, this should allow respective efforts to be compared more easily. There was also agreement that NDCs should apply a common time frame (to be decided).

Other areas of progress include:

- New guidance on how parties should track progress in GHG mitigation under their NDCs.
- Agreement on design of the NDC public registry.
- Agreement on the framework for technology development and transfer, to build up the resilience of developed countries to the effects of climate change.

The next COP meeting (COP 25) is planned to take place in November 2019.

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