

Agenda of COP 24 – Key issues

COP24 will be held from 2 to 14 December 2018 in Katowice, Poland. It will be an essential milestone in the pursuit of two major objectives: the effective implementation of the Paris Agreement on the one hand, and the enhancement of States' ambition by 2020 on the other. Its success will be based on the following key results:

- the **finalisation of the Paris work programme** and the adoption of the rules for the implementation of the Agreement, in accordance with the decision taken at COP22 in Marrakech in 2016;
- **the results of the Talanoa dialogue**, which, through an exchange of good practices between States and civil society, should lay the foundations for an upward revision of nationally determined contributions (NDC) by 2020, with a view to achieving the objectives of the Paris Agreement;
- in conjunction with the Talanoa dialogue, recognition of the main scientific **results of the IPCC Special Report on 1.5°C global warming**;
- the continued **mobilization of all stakeholders** through the Agenda for Action;
- progress in **climate finance**.

Finalization of the working agenda of the Paris agreement

At COP22, the Parties to the Climate Convention **agreed on the need to adopt the rules for implementing the Paris Agreement by the end of 2018**, i.e. at COP24. The adoption of the rules for implementing the Paris Agreement in Katowice must constitute a reaffirmation of this commitment in a context where **climate urgency is strongly highlighted by the IPCC Special Report** and extreme weather events, but at the same time global emissions are on the rise again and political support for the fight against global warming is showing signs of erosion

The **implementing rules** must allow the full implementation of the Paris Agreement. Unlike the Paris Agreement (barely 16 pages long), the Katowice results will probably total about 150-200 pages in total, given the technical nature of the decisions to be finalized.

During the first week, discussions will take place under the Subsidiary Bodies on Implementation (SBI) and Scientific and Technical Advice (SBSTA) and the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (ABS) at the level of experts and heads of delegation. These discussions will begin on Sunday afternoon, December 2 and end on Saturday, December 8.

During the second week, discussions will continue on all topics under the aegis of the Polish COP Presidency, which will have to involve ministers in the negotiations on the major political issues that could not be resolved, **so that the Parties can adopt on Friday 14 December the package of rules for the implementation of the Paris Agreement**

The Talanoa dialogue

The Talanoa dialogue, formally called the "2018 Facilitation Dialogue", was designed to collectively assess progress made in implementing the Paris Agreement's long-term objective of limiting temperature increases well below 2°C or even 1.5°C, and to inform the preparation of nationally determined contributions (NDC) to be submitted by 2020.

This dialogue, launched at COP23 by the Fijian Presidency, is based on three questions: "Where are we at?" "where are we going?" and "how are we going?" The first technical and international phase of this dialogue was held during the intersessional period in Bonn, while regional or national dialogues were held throughout the year.

The political phase will see the restitution of the results of the IPCC report on the 1.5°C target and the holding of ministerial round tables in small format (10 ministers and 2 civil society representatives per round table) on solutions for the transition.

The political phase of the dialogue will take place in Katowice on Tuesday morning, 11 December (opening and ministerial round tables) and Wednesday afternoon, 12 December (closing).

This dialogue will also constitute the main "general public" showcase for this important but technical COP, so it is essential to successfully communicate its results. The **question of the form of these outcomes** in the Katowice outcomes - a **declaration by the presidency, recognition in the main decision of the conference ("1/CP.24" decision) or a combination of both** - therefore arises, bearing in mind the enormous work that must be done in the time available in Katowice and the negotiating time that a negotiated outcome would represent even if it is requested by some developing countries.

Annex : Other events on COP24

Other events on the Ministerial level

a) The assessment on the pre-2020 action

As decided at COP23 following the request of developing countries, a review of the pre-2020 action will take place at COP24 and 25. This assessment will take the form of a **dialogue at the level of experts and heads of delegation during the first week**, followed by a ministerial dialogue on Monday morning, December 10. The challenge for the European Union will be to demonstrate its progress in climate action, the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (it has already over-achieved its target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 20% by 2020 compared to 1990) and the mobilisation of climate finance to help developing countries organise their transition towards sustainable societies.

(b) The ministerial dialogue on finance

The issue of **climate finance will undoubtedly be one of the most sensitive issues at COP24**. The announcement of the United States' withdrawal from the Paris Agreement and the reduction in its climate financing has raised concerns about the prospect of mobilizing the \$100 billion promised by developed countries by 2020. In particular, the COP will have to consider the future of the adaptation fund, the predictability of funding, and pre-2020 claims related to developed countries' commitments [100 billion roadmap]. A ministerial dialogue on climate finance, held biennially under the UNFCCC, will take place on Monday afternoon, December 10.

Events related to the Action Agenda

As every year, the **progress of the action agenda**, ecosystems of partnerships involving States and non-state actors, will be highlighted at various events. This sequence of the action agenda will be opened by a high-level event on the morning of 4 December, to which ministers are invited and during which high-level champions for climate action will present the progress of the action agenda and its main future directions.

At the end of the first week, on **7 and 8 December, thematic events will take place**: 2 hours per sector (oceans, water, transport, cities and buildings, **cities and buildings**, forests and agriculture, energy, industry) where the initiatives will be able to present the progress of their actions and announce new accessions, new objectives, or the launch of new initiatives or alliances. In addition, thematic days organized by sectoral actors outside the UNFCCC forum will also be held during the first week, to complement these 2-hour events.

Round tables on sustainable development objectives will be held on 10 and 11 December to bring together sectors and link the climate action agenda with the 2030 agenda. This year these round tables will focus on: MDG 8 ("Promoting sustained, shared and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all"), MDG 12 ("Responsible production and consumption"), resilience, land-water-energy nexus and oceans-coastal areas-transport nexus.

Other events

The France Pavilion will showcase French expertise in climate and ecological transition and the main initiatives undertaken by the ministries. It will be adjacent to Indonesia's and will be located opposite Germany's.

There will also be side events on the official UNFCCC pavilion or on the pavilions of other countries.

- Peer review

Fourteen developed countries will be the subject of this evaluation, which will consist of an oral presentation of the developments and implementation of their climate change policies (good practices, innovative approaches, feedback...) and a question and answer session. Each evaluation will last approximately one hour. Each developed country is assessed on the basis of its biannual report and its greenhouse gas inventory.

Websites

- The **Polish Presidency's website** for COP24 contains all information on the Katowice conference centre, transport and accommodation options.

Link: <http://cop24.gov.pl/>

The **UNFCCC COP24 website** is an essential resource as it contains the agendas of the negotiating bodies, as well as the general planning of the COP ("overview schedule"). It is updated regularly by the Secretariat. During the COP, daily schedules and all relevant news are posted there.

Link: <https://unfccc.int/katowice>

The **UNFCCC application**, the negotiator app, is useful to install as it provides an overview of the events organised by the COP Presidency, side events and the negotiation schedule. It also indicates the associated rooms and updates potential changes. Important announcements are also transmitted by the application in the form of notifications.

To download it: <https://unfccc.int/news/download-unfccc-negotiator-app>

The **SEORS portal lists side-events** and exhibitions at COP24. It thus provides a detailed overview of the events held during the negotiations, indicating the organizing members, the schedule and the room. The site has not yet been updated.

Link: <https://seors.unfccc.int/>

Accréditations

To access COP24, there will be a single security passage, a single zone, and a single accreditation process that differentiates between "Party" and "Overflow" badges. The former gives access to all the spaces, the latter does not allow access to the delegation spaces.

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Following the negotiations during COP

Throughout the COP, media and think tanks produce articles, reports and analyses to keep abreast of important events, announcements and to monitor the progress of the negotiations.

The International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)'s "earth negotiation bulletin" (ENB) produces daily reports, translated into French, on the progress of the negotiations. At the COP, they are also printed and distributed.

Link: <http://enb.iisd.org/climate/cop24/enb/>

The **English media Climate Home News publishes daily articles** on the progress of the negotiations at the COP, focusing on the political rather than the technical angle. It is possible to subscribe to their newsletter and receive, every evening, a summary of their writings and analyses.

Link: <http://www.climatechangenews.com/>

Hôtels

The list of recommended accommodations is available at the following address:

<https://cop24accommodation.pl/hotels/>

Catering service

A catering service will be available on the conference website, initial information can be found at the following address:

<https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/conferences/katowice-climate-change-conference-december-2018/venue-and-participation/information-for-participants-a-z/information-for-participants-a-z#eq-4>

Transport

The Polish Presidency website provides effective information on transport logistics during COP24 for Katowice and its surroundings.

Link: <http://cop24.gov.pl/conference/transportation/>

Places of interest

The Katowice City website (<http://cop24.katowice.eu/>) includes general information on the conference and key news. The main tourist sites are also listed

(<http://cop24.katowice.eu/en/attractions.htm?param=atrakcje>)

Additional tourist information on the Silesian region is also available at:
<https://www.slaskie.travel/Pokaz/80270/o-regionie>