

**European Parliament Resolution on UNFCCC COP 22 in Marrakech  
Environment Committee debate on 11 July 2016**

**Paris changes everything**

The Paris Agreement constitutes a global turning point away from fossil fuels and toward 100% renewable energy. For the first time in history all countries have agreed to take drastic action to protect the planet from climate change, to jointly pursue efforts to limit temperature rise to 1.5°C and eventually reduce emissions to zero. Following the historic outcome, next step is to translate these Paris commitments into deep emission reductions in all countries. There is no doubt that implementing the Paris Agreement will require a complete overhaul of the EU's current climate and energy policies.

Since the Paris Summit we have already witnessed the transition to a 100% renewable energy economy speeding up. It is in the EU's own interest to be a frontrunner in the race towards the zero emission economy.

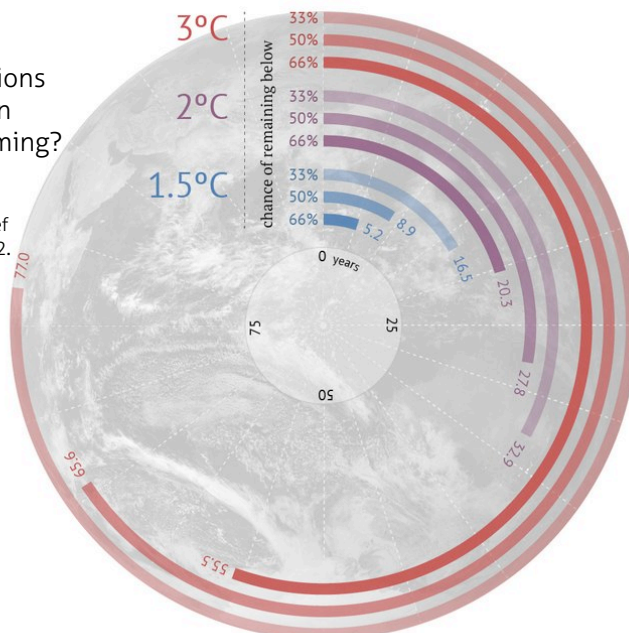
Climate Action Network Europe stresses that the EU has an important role in maintaining the momentum created in Paris for strengthened climate action, and the European Parliament has a particular role in ensuring higher ambition in the EU. With a view to the debate in the Environment Committee on the COP22 Resolution this briefing outlines CAN Europe's priorities after Paris and on the road to Marrakech.

**Increasing action before 2020 is a prerequisite of achieving the long term goals of the Paris Agreement**

Cumulative emissions determine the level of global warming, therefore in order to be consistent with the long-term goal of 1.5°C adopted in Paris, it is paramount to consider the cumulative emissions budget - the total amount of tons of carbon dioxide emitted into the atmosphere. The IPCC's 5th Assessment Reports provides numbers for different global carbon budgets allowing for different levels of warming. With current emissions of 38Gt of CO2 per year, the entire carbon budget allowing a 66% chance for staying below 1.5°C would be completely exhausted in five years. A budget allowing only a 50% chance will be gone in nine years.

How many years of current emissions would use up the IPCC's carbon budgets for different levels of warming?

Carbon countdown graph by Carbon Brief  
Data IPCC AR5 Synthesis Report table 2.2.





For any fair likelihood of keeping temperature rise to 1.5°C global mitigation efforts need to be multiplied between now and 2020, and extended to all sectors, including international shipping and aviation.

Increasing mitigation action before 2020 is vital for achieving the long term goals of the Paris Agreement, and will be one of the key issues for the COP in Marrakech to succeed. Keeping in mind that the EU has already achieved its -20% by 2020 target several years in advance, and is progressing towards 30% domestic reductions by 2020, the EU can make a significant contribution to this discussion by, inter alia, cancelling the surplus of pollution permits under the Emissions Trading Scheme and the Effort Sharing Decision.

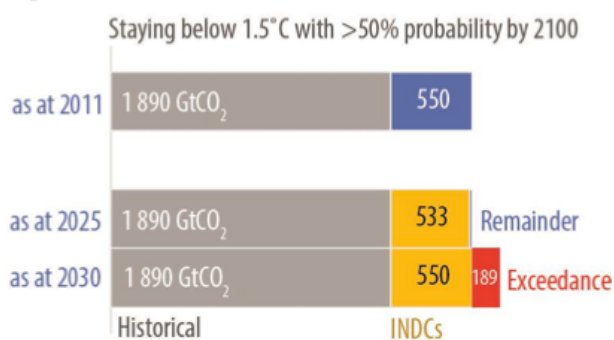
The upcoming Moroccan COP Presidency has rightly outlined that the COP22 will focus on action and implementation. In preparing for Marrakech we urge the EU to seek solutions that can help drive global emissions to a deep decline as of 2017, both in the context of the Global Climate Action Agenda as well as strengthening the national pre-2020 commitments on mitigation and finance.

There are other number of ways the EU can initiate further action before 2020. In particular the EU should accelerate policies and implementation on energy efficiency, renewable energy and on pollution standards. Reducing the use of coal and removing barriers and obstacles that prevent further mitigation action, such as fossil fuel subsidies, should be EU priorities following the outcome of Paris.

## 2025 and 2030 targets must be revised in 2018 at COP24

The post-2020 commitments (INDCs) put forward by countries are inadequate for keeping warming to 1.5°C (or even 2°C). The UNFCCC Secretariat published last May a report assessing the aggregate effect of countries post-2020 targets. The report’s graph below concludes that while most of the carbon budget was already consumed by 2011, countries’ unrevised INDCs will entirely consume the remaining a 50% chance for 1.5°C compliant carbon budget by 2025.

### Cumulative CO<sub>2</sub> emissions consistent with the goal of keeping global average temperature rise below 1.5 °C



Source: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Fifth Assessment Report scenario database and own aggregation.

Abbreviation: INDCs = intended nationally determined contributions.

At COP22 countries need to commit to prepare their respective assessments on how to raise the level of post-2020 targets to bridge the adequacy gap by COP24 in 2018. To facilitate this process we urge countries to put forward updated and improved post-2020 INDC’s as soon as possible and latest by 2018, and to finalise the long term strategies as soon as possible, and latest by 2018.



The EU's ongoing legislative work on ETS and non-ETS emissions should be used to align the EU's 2030 targets with science and the commitments taken in Paris.

International shipping and aviation account now for around 5% of global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, and emissions anticipated have vast growth rates (50-250% by 2050 for shipping, and 270% for aviation). As these sectors' emissions are not counted under national inventories, the 2018 stocktake must ensure that these sectors too are in-line with the Paris Agreement and the 1.5°C compatible carbon budget.

## **Long term strategies for zero greenhouse gas and 100% renewable energy**

The Paris Agreement includes a long term goal to pursue efforts to limit temperature increase to 1.5°C requires a reassessment of the EU's climate and energy policies, and an increase in action by all. The goal to reduce the EU's domestic emissions by 80% by 2050 is not consistent with the Paris Agreement and has to change to be consistent with the long term goals governments decided in Paris.

The Paris Agreement also contains a commitment to reduce global emissions to net zero during the second half of the century. Achieving this requires most sectors in the EU to achieve zero emissions earlier, within the next couple of decades. Most urgently, the EU should adopt timelines for fully phasing out the use of coal, gas and oil.

In order to facilitate the process of aligning all policies with the long term targets of the Paris Agreement, all countries should swiftly proceed in the development of their respective 1.5°C compliant mid-century strategy. Having a long-term strategic vision will help to guide the short and medium term decisions and will have a positive impact on a long-term framework on innovation and business development. The updated EU 2050 roadmap should be finalised latest by 2018, and take fully into account the recent striking developments on renewable energy. A COP Decision in Marrakech setting the deadline of finalised mid-century roadmaps by 2018 would ensure that all countries begin preparations swiftly.

## **Shifting of financial flows**

The Paris Agreement also includes a requirement for making all financial flows consistent with low greenhouse gas emission and climate resilient development. In the first instance this requires the EU to tackle those financial flows that are obstructing emission reductions, and which hinder progress towards the EU's broader economic and social objectives. They include fossil fuel subsidies, public finance for high-carbon infrastructure through European development banks, and policy frameworks that facilitate financial support of fossil fuels.

The climate finance roadmap towards the 100 billion US dollar by 2020 should be launched in advance of Marrakech COP22. The roadmap must not be an accounting exercise for already existing financial flows, but rather guarantee stronger transparency, as well as adequate and reliable support for tackling the causes and impacts of climate change. It should also explicitly spell out to what level the EU and other donor countries will increase annual adaptation finance by 2020.

The current review of the EU ETS provides a key opportunity to showcase the EU leadership on climate finance, committing to direct a portion of the revenues from auctioning directly to the Green Climate Fund. Setting up an EU ETS International Climate Action Reserve would give a clear signal to developing countries that the EU is committed to continue to provide additional finance for climate needs in predictable and transparent ways. The Financial Transaction Tax should be operationalised as soon as possible.



## **Resilience, adaptation and loss and damage**

Even with the existing and future measures to mitigate climate change, the adaptation needs of all countries will continue to grow. The EU should support a specific goal to publicly finance adaptation actions and push for more global efforts to close the adaptation finance gap in poorer countries. At present, the majority of support is directed to mitigation actions, neglecting the adaptation needs of many vulnerable countries. An even balance of 50% of support is necessary to help guarantee further support for adaptation plans and actions.

## **Ratification of the Paris Agreement and its early entry into force**

A rapid entry into force of the Paris Agreement would demonstrate that there is a strong international support for ambitious climate action and would serve as a strong signal to the private sector. At COP22 countries should set 2018 as a deadline for full entry into force of the Paris Agreement, including finalising the all the outstanding work on rules and modalities for countries to be able to implement the Agreement.

While some EU member states' legal procedures might take a bit longer, we find it important that both the Council and European Parliament ratification processes are concluded well before Marrakech. As many big economies such as the US and China have committed to ratifying already this year, there is a high likelihood that the Paris Agreement can enter into force earlier than anticipated. The need to be a full Party and to be able to take part in the decision making under the Agreement further increases the importance for a rapid conclusion of the EU's ratification process.

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