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G7 Research Group

The
G7 Research Group
at the Munk School of Global Affairs at Trinity College in the University of Toronto
presents the

2017 Taormina G7 Final Compliance Report

27 May 2017 to 25 May 2018

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“We have meanwhile set up a process and there are also independent institutions monitoring which objectives of our G7 meetings we actually achieve. When it comes to these goals we have a compliance rate of about 80%, according to the University of Toronto. Germany, with its 87%, comes off pretty well. That means that next year too, under the Japanese G7 presidency, we are going to check where we stand in comparison to what we have discussed with each other now. So a lot of what we have resolved to do here together is something that we are going to have to work very hard at over the next few months. But I think that it has become apparent that we, as the G7, want to assume responsibility far beyond the prosperity in our own countries. That’s why today’s outreach meetings, that is the meetings with our guests, were also of great importance.”

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

G7 summits are a moment for people to judge whether aspirational intent is met by concrete commitments. The G7 Research Group provides a report card on the implementation of G7 and G20 commitments. It is a good moment for the public to interact with leaders and say, you took a leadership position on these issues – a year later, or three years later, what have you accomplished?

Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme, in [G7 Canada: The 2018 Charlevoix Summit](#)

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12. Climate Change: Paris Agreement

“Understanding this process, the Heads of State and of Governments of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, and the United Kingdom and the Presidents of the European Council and of the European Commission reaffirm their strong commitment to swiftly implement the Paris Agreement, as previously stated at the Ise Shima Summit.” [NB: The United States is excluded.]

G7 Taormina Leaders’ Declaration

Assessment

Member	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France		0	
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States	Not applicable		
European Union			+1
Average		+0.71	

Background

Climate change has become one of the world’s foremost policy challenges. In response to this, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Paris Agreement was adopted by consensus at the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21) on 12 December 2015 and entered into force on 4 November 2016. The long-term goal of the Agreement is to mitigate climate change or reduce emissions by keeping the global temperature rise to “well below” 2°C above pre-industrial levels, with a more ambitious aim to limit the increase to 1.5°C.¹⁴⁹⁰ According to recent World Bank data, global temperatures have already risen 1.2°C above pre-industrial levels.¹⁴⁹¹ The agreement also seeks to strengthen the capacity of countries to adapt to and deal with the impacts of climate change in line with their own national objectives and to provide financing assistance to developing countries to help mitigate the effects of climate change. It is important to note that while this agreement is legally binding in forcing governments to accept and accommodate for the 1.5–2°C limit, the commitments on curbing greenhouse gas emissions in line with that goal are not.¹⁴⁹² Moreover the combined nationally determined contributions (NDCs), discussed in detail below, if fully implemented would keep the world on a trajectory for 2.5 to 4°C.

In November 2016, COP22 was held in Marrakech, Morocco, and served as the first meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement. The Marrakech Partnership for Global Action was announced, which states a common vision for accelerating climate action, and serves as a complement to the Paris Agreement.¹⁴⁹³

¹⁴⁹⁰ The Paris Agreement: Essential Elements, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Date of Access: 11 October 2017. http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9485.php

¹⁴⁹¹ The World Bank Climate Change Overview, 2 October 2017. Date of Access: 11 October 2017. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/climatechange/overview>

¹⁴⁹² Keep it in the ground: the Paris climate agreement is now official, The Guardian, 4 November 2016. Date of Access: 13 October 2017. <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/nov/04/the-paris-climate-agreement-is-now-official>

¹⁴⁹³ UNFCCC Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Partnership, November 2016. Date of Access: 11 October 2017. http://unfccc.int/files/paris_agreement/application/pdf/marrakech_partnership_for_global_climate_action.pdf

A core component of the Paris Agreement requires that all Parties submit comprehensive national climate action plans or NDCs, which outline individual member efforts to reduce emissions and adapt to climate change. Each NDC reflects a country's goals for reducing national emissions within the context of its domestic capacities and circumstances, and requires regular reporting on emissions and implementation efforts. Collectively, these NDCs underpin global efforts to achieve the climate goals of the Paris Agreement. A global stocktaking exercise of NDCs is to be held every five years to assess collective progress towards achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement and to further inform on national actions by all Parties. Based on this stocktaking exercise, members will then submit new NDCs, which are expected to be more ambitious and demonstrate greater action than their previous plans.¹⁴⁹⁴ Prior to this stocktake, parties have agreed to jumpstart the five-year cycle with a facilitative dialogue on collective progress in 2018 (FD2018) — this will be launched at COP23, to be held in Bonn, Germany in November 2017 and will carry through to 2018. The aim is to accelerate momentum for climate action and inform on the preparation of subsequent NDCs to be submitted by 2020, which will run through 2030.¹⁴⁹⁵

Another element of the Paris Agreement is the pledge by developed countries to mobilise USD 100 billion per year in public and private finance by 2020 for climate mitigation and adaptation activities in developing countries. This follows on the Copenhagen Accord brokered in December 2009, which also established the Green Climate Fund and is now a major finance mechanism amongst a few others for supporting vulnerable countries in responding to the challenges of climate change.¹⁴⁹⁶

The G7 Climate Risk Insurance Initiative, another climate finance initiative which aims to increase access to direct or indirect insurance coverage against the impacts of climate change for up to 400 million people in vulnerable countries by 2020, was adopted at the G7 summit in June 2015. This initiative is to be implemented in partnership between the G7 members and the developing and emerging economies.¹⁴⁹⁷

Finally, the Paris Agreement also focuses on climate adaptation. In Article 7 of the Paris Agreement, the “Parties hereby establish the global goal on adaptation of enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change.” It also recognizes that “adaptation is a global challenge faced by all with local, subnational, national, regional and international dimensions, and that it is a key component of and makes a contribution to the long-term global response to climate change to protect people, livelihoods and ecosystems, taking into account the urgent and immediate needs of those developing country Parties that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.”¹⁴⁹⁸

On 1 June 2017, an executive order was signed by U.S. president Donald Trump that withdrew the United States from the Paris Agreement. Although the U.S. remains a part of the UNFCCC, Trump has said it will not implement the Paris Accord, including its contributions to the Green Climate

¹⁴⁹⁴ UNFCCC Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Date of Access: 12 October 2017.

<http://unfccc.int/focus/items/10240.php>

¹⁴⁹⁵ OECD Climate Change Expert Group, Paper No. 2017 (2): Information Needs for the 2018 facilitative dialogue: issues and options, May 2017. Date of Access: 13 October 2017

<https://www.oecd.org/environment/cc/Information%20needs%20for%20the%202018%20facilitative%20dialogue%20issues%20and%20options.pdf>

¹⁴⁹⁶ UNFCCC Copenhagen Accord, December 2009. Date of Access: 12 October 2017.

http://unfccc.int/meetings/copenhagen_dec_2009/items/5262.php

¹⁴⁹⁷ UNFCCC Newsroom, G7 Climate Risk Insurance Initiative: Stepping Up Protection for the Most Vulnerable, June 2015. Date of Access: 11 October 2017. <http://newsroom.unfccc.int/lpaa/resilience/g7-climate-risk-insurance-initiative-stepping-up-protection-for-the-most-vulnerable/>

¹⁴⁹⁸ “The Paris Agreement”. UNFCCC. Date of Access: 27 January 2018.

http://unfccc.int/files/essential_background/convention/application/pdf/english_paris_agreement.pdf

Fund and reporting on carbon data.¹⁴⁹⁹ Other governments, including the rest of the G7 members at Taormina, responded by strongly reaffirming their commitment to the swift implementation of the Paris Agreement.

Commitment Features

In the Taormina Leaders' Declaration, the G7 “reaffirm their strong commitment to swiftly implement the Paris Agreement, as previously stated at the Ise Shima Summit.” This commitment is a signal to the global community that members accept their responsibilities under the Paris Agreement. In Article 2 of the Agreement, it contains three main goals set forth to keep global temperatures well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels: 1) The mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions through individually determined NDCs, 2) Climate financing and 3) Climate change adaptation.¹⁵⁰⁰

When G7 members reaffirm their “strong” commitment to the Paris Agreement, it is understood that all parties, excluding the United States, acknowledge their individual roles in meeting the collective goal of keeping the global temperature rise to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels. This indicates a recognition of the need to implement the NDCs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, to contribute to climate financing to help vulnerable countries mitigate adverse consequences of climate change, and to foster adaptation to climate change. Pledging their support for these initiatives through the implementation of all three goals during this current compliance cycle indicates a “strong” commitment to the Paris Agreement. The Agreement does not prioritize one goal over the other therefore the following reports will place equal importance in all three goals.¹⁵⁰¹

Nationally Determined Contributions

NDCs themselves are not legally binding, amending them with progressively stronger commitments for curbing greenhouse gas emissions in line with keeping the global temperature rise to well below 2°C, despite the lack of an enforcement mechanism, are. Based on this, the agreement allows for flexibility in developing, updating and implementing NDCs to decarbonise various sectors of the domestic economy and thus, can take a number of forms based on country context and capacities, with subsequently more ambitious policy actions for later years. Hence, policy actions taken or national legislation introduced to meet this threshold are viewed as clear steps towards countries meeting their responsibilities under the Paris Agreement. Such actions include but are not limited to expanding the use of clean electricity and low-carbon fuels, phasing out coal-fired plants, pricing carbon emissions, investing in green infrastructure and clean technology innovation, and reducing emissions in the transportation and built environment sectors through adoption of green building codes and supporting the transition from high-to low emissions vehicles. As agreed at COP21, all NDCs and related communication¹⁵⁰² are publicly available through an NDC registry¹⁵⁰³ housed under the UNFCCC.

Climate Financing

In Article 9 of the Paris Agreement, the members agree that “developed country Parties shall provide financial resources to assist developing country Parties with respect to both mitigation and adaptation

¹⁴⁹⁹ Paris Climate Agreement: World reacts as Trump pulls out of global accord. The Guardian, 2 June 2017. Date of Access: 10 October 2017. <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/live/2017/jun/01/donald-trump-paris-climate-agreement-live-news>

¹⁵⁰⁰ “The Paris Agreement”. UNFCCC. Date of Access: 27 January 2018.

http://unfccc.int/files/essential_background/convention/application/pdf/english_paris_agreement.pdf

¹⁵⁰¹ “The Paris Agreement”. UNFCCC. Date of Access: 27 January 2018.

http://unfccc.int/files/essential_background/convention/application/pdf/english_paris_agreement.pdf

¹⁵⁰² UNFCCC NDC Communication by Parties. Date of Access: 14 October 2017.

http://unfccc.int/focus/ndc_registry/items/9981.php

¹⁵⁰³ UNFCCC NDC Registry. Date of Access: 14 October 2017. <http://www4.unfccc.int/ndcregistry/Pages/All.aspx>

in continuation of their existing obligations under the Convention ... [In addition, they] shall aim to ensure efficient access to financial resources through simplified approval procedures and enhanced readiness support for developing country Parties, in particular for the least developed countries and small island developing States, in the context of their national climate strategies and plans.”¹⁵⁰⁴

The key action is to show evidence of making financial contributions to various bilateral and multilateral climate funds including but not limited to the UK’s International Climate Fund, Germany’s International Climate Initiative, the Green Climate Fund and the Global Environment Facility.¹⁵⁰⁵ Developed countries have pledged to mobilize USD 100 billion a year in public and private funds by 2020 to support developing and emerging economies in their efforts to tackle climate change.

Climate Adaptation

Adaptation is defined as “adjustments in natural or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects, which moderates harm or exploits beneficial opportunities.”¹⁵⁰⁶

The adaptation action should “follow a country-driven, gender-responsive, participatory and fully transparent approach, taking into consideration vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems ... [Parties should also] recognize the importance of support for and international cooperation on adaptation efforts and the importance of taking into account the needs of developing country Parties, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.”¹⁵⁰⁷

Examples of adaptation includes but is not limited to “proactive measures such as crop and livelihood diversification, seasonal climate forecasting, community-based disaster risk reduction, famine early warning systems, climate insurance, water storage, supplementary irrigation and so on. They also include reactive or ex-poste adaptations, for example, emergency response, disaster recovery, and migration.”¹⁵⁰⁸ Adaptation action can be targeted domestically or internationally and often works hand in hand with climate financing measures.

Thus, a G7 member can be considered to have fully complied with this pledge and will receive a score of +1 if it has signalled its strong commitment to the Paris Agreement through clear policy actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by the implementation of its NDC during this compliance cycle AND has contributed to climate funds AND has taken adaptive measures against climate change. If a member has only shown evidence of implementing two of the three goals, it will receive a score of 0. Finally, if the member has only implemented one or less of the goals, it will be considered non-compliant and receive a score of -1.

¹⁵⁰⁴ “The Paris Agreement”. UNFCCC. Date of Access: 27 January 2018.

http://unfccc.int/files/essential_background/convention/application/pdf/english_paris_agreement.pdf

¹⁵⁰⁵ UNFCCC Newsroom: List of Recent Climate Funding Announcements. Date of Access: 13 October 2017.

<http://newsroom.unfccc.int/financial-flows/list-of-recent-climate-funding-announcements/>

¹⁵⁰⁶ UNFCCC Glossary of Climate Acronyms and Terms. Date of Access: 27 January 2018.

http://unfccc.int/essential_background/glossary/items/3666.php

¹⁵⁰⁷ “The Paris Agreement”. UNFCCC. Date of Access: 27 January 2018.

http://unfccc.int/files/essential_background/convention/application/pdf/english_paris_agreement.pdf

¹⁵⁰⁸ “Examples of adaptation practices”, IPCC Fourth Assessment Report: Climate Change 2007. Date of Access: 27 January 2018. https://www.ipcc.ch/publications_and_data/ar4/wg2/en/ch17s17-2-2.html

Scoring Guidelines

Score	Description
-1	The G7 member has not reaffirmed its commitment OR has only supported one of out the three Paris goals: implementation of nationally determined contributions (NDCs), supported climate financing and/or fostered adaptation.
0	The G7 member has shown evidence of support and implementation of two out of the three Paris goals: implementation of NDCs, supported climate financing, and/or fostered adaptation.
+1	The G7 member shown evidence of implementing their NDCs during this compliance cycle AND has contributed to climate funds AND has taken adaptive measures against climate change.

Lead Analyst: Laila Kanji

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to the Paris Agreement and has taken policy actions towards lowering greenhouse gas emissions. Furthermore, it has contributed to climate funds during this compliance cycle and has supported adaptation programs in Northern Canada.

On 1 June 2017, Prime Minister Trudeau addressed the withdrawal of the United States from the Paris Agreement. He stated that “ We are proud that Canada stands united with all the other parties that support the Agreement. We will continue to work with our domestic and international partners to drive progress on one of the greatest challenges we face as a world.”¹⁵⁰⁹ This was reaffirmed by the Canadian Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Catherine McKenna, saying “If the U.S Administration is going to step back on climate action, Canada is going to step up and do even more.”¹⁵¹⁰

On 9 September 2017, Environment and Climate Change Minister, Catherine McKenna, announced the government would double its standard contribution to the Intergovernmental Plan on Climate Change, the international body for assessing climate change science from CAD 150,000 to CAD 300,000¹⁵¹¹ for every year until 2020.¹⁵¹²

On 15-16 September 2017, Canada, the EU and China co-hosted the Ministerial on Climate Action in Montreal, Canada. This event brought together ministers and representatives from 34 countries comprising G20 members and non-members to further galvanise global momentum for the implementation of the Paris Agreement.¹⁵¹³

¹⁵⁰⁹ Statement by the Prime Minister of Canada in response to the United States’ decision to withdraw from the Paris Agreement, Office of the Prime Minister, 1 June 2017. Date of Access: 21 January 2018. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2017/06/01/statement-prime-minister-canada-response-united-states-decision-withdraw-paris>

¹⁵¹⁰ After Trump’s Paris pullout, MPs line up behind climate change accord. CBC News. 7 June 2017. Date of Access: 17 January 2018. <http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/donald-trump-paris-justin-trudeau-wherry-analysis-1.4147990>

¹⁵¹¹ Canada doubles funding for leading international body for climate change science. Government of Canada- Environment and Climate Change Canada (Montreal). 9 September 2017. Date of Access: 17 January 2018. https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2017/09/canada_doubles_fundingforleadinginternationalbodyforclimatechang.html

¹⁵¹² IPCC Factsheet: What is the IPCC?. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (Geneva), 30 August 2013. Date of Access: 17 January 2018. http://www.ipcc.ch/news_and_events/docs/factsheets/FS_what_ipcc.pdf

¹⁵¹³ EU co-hosts major international climate meeting with Canada and China, European Commission: Climate Action. 15 September 2017. Date of Access: 22 November 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/eu-co-hosts-major-international-climate-meeting-canada-and-china_en

On 7 November 2017, Canada announced its support for the International Energy Agency's Clean Energy Transitions Programme through a contribution of CAD 1 million to promote clean energy transitions around the world.¹⁵¹⁴

On 13 November 2017, Minister McKenna co-chaired the Carbon Pricing Leadership Coalition event at the 23rd Conference of the Parties (COP23) in Bonn, Germany. The coalition brings together 30 governments and more than 140 businesses to advocate pricing carbon emissions, in order to prevent the global average temperature from rising by more than 2°C.¹⁵¹⁵ According to a government statement, "Canada will continue taking an active approach, both domestically and internationally, to champion carbon pricing as a key policy instrument to combat climate change."¹⁵¹⁶

On 13 November 2017, McKenna announced an investment of more than CAD 2 million over three years to support Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal in developing regulations that will reduce methane emissions from landfills.¹⁵¹⁷

On 16 November 2017, the Canada and the United Kingdom launched the Powering Past Coal Alliance, a group of more than 20 countries, which plans to eliminate the use of coal power as a source of energy. The alliance commits to setting coal phase out targets and not make further investments in coal-fired electricity in their jurisdictions or abroad.¹⁵¹⁸ At COP23, McKenna affirmed that "we're seeing huge momentum for this move away from coal and towards clean power."¹⁵¹⁹

On 12 December 2017, McKenna attended the One Planet Summit in Paris, which aimed to bring together several international actors on the topic of climate change.¹⁵²⁰ At the summit, McKenna re-affirmed Canada's commitment to the Paris Agreement, expressing her opinion that "The Paris Agreement is driving climate action around the world, and Canada is playing a leading role. From carbon pricing partnerships to phasing out coal, the global momentum for climate action is real and growing."¹⁵²¹

¹⁵¹⁴ IEA launches the Clean Energy Transitions Programme to support clean-energy development, International Energy Agency, 7 November 2017. Date of Access: 17 January 2018.

<https://www.iea.org/newsroom/news/2017/november/iea-launches-the-clean-energy-transitions-programme-to-support-clean-energy-devel.html>

¹⁵¹⁵ READOUT: Minister McKenna co-Chairs carbon pricing gathering; champions pollution pricing as a key measure to fight climate change. Government of Canada- Environment and Climate Change Canada (Bonn), 13 November 2017. Date of Access: 18 January 2018. https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2017/11/readout_ministermckennaco-chairscarbonpricinggatheringchampionsp.html

¹⁵¹⁶ READOUT: Minister McKenna co-Chairs carbon pricing gathering; champions pollution pricing as a key measure to fight climate change. Government of Canada- Environment and Climate Change Canada (Bonn), 13 November 2017. Date of Access: 18 January 2018. https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2017/11/readout_ministermckennaco-chairscarbonpricinggatheringchampionsp.html

¹⁵¹⁷ Canada partners with Senegal and Côte d'Ivoire to reduce methane emissions. Government of Canada- Environment and Natural Resources, 15 November 2017. Date of Access: 17 January 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/weather/climatechange/canada-international-action/un-climate-change-conference/cop23/financing-climate-action.html>

¹⁵¹⁸ Canada and U.K. form alliance to phase out coal to combat climate change. CBC News, 16 November 2017. Date of Access: 17 January 2018. <http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/canada-britain-coal-phase-out-1.4406410>

¹⁵¹⁹ Canada and U.K. form alliance to phase out coal to combat climate change. CBC News, 16 November 2017. Date of Access: 17 January 2018. <http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/canada-britain-coal-phase-out-1.4406410>

¹⁵²⁰ Minister McKenna heads to Paris to attend One Planet, Government of Canada- Environment and Climate Change Canada (Paris), 12 December 2017. Access date: 1 May 2018. https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2017/12/minister_mckennaheadstoparistoattendoneplanet.html

¹⁵²¹ Minister McKenna advances Canada's climate leadership at Paris One Planet Summit, Government of Canada- Environment and Climate Change Canada, 13 December 2017. Access date: 1 May 2018. https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2017/12/minister_mckennaadvancescanadasclimateleadershipatparisoneplanet0.html

On 12 December 2017, at the One Planet Summit, Canada and the World Bank Group entered a partnership to support developing countries in achieving climate change action, in order to support the Paris Agreement.¹⁵²² The agreement aims to accelerate the global transition away from coal, and to support small island states in developing renewable energy technologies. On the agreement, McKenna stated that she “is very pleased that we can also support developing countries in their transition to cleaner power.”¹⁵²³

On 12 December 2017, Canada signed on to the Declaration on Carbon Markets in the Americas, which aims to strengthen international cooperation on the pricing of carbon. Canada was joined by Costa Rica, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, and 2 U.S. states.¹⁵²⁴

On 13 December 2017, McKenna proposed a regulatory framework for Canada’s Clean Fuel Standard. The framework intends to serve as a basis for regulations which will mandate cleaner fuels in buildings, industries, and vehicles in order to reduce Canada’s greenhouse gas emissions.¹⁵²⁵

On 9 January 2018, three community projects in Nunavut received funding from the federal government’s climate adaptation program Canada’s Climate Change Preparedness in the North. “The chosen projects will get a combined total of CAD 1.7 million over four years. The government of Nunavut received CAD 500,000 this year and will receive less and less each year as the projects find additional funding.”¹⁵²⁶

On 15 January 2018, McKenna proposed legislation on pricing carbon pollution in Canada, based on a “use more, pay more” model that would cover all industrial sectors except the electricity sector, which would be included at a later date. The legislation is part of the Pan Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change that was agreed to by most provinces, territories and the federal government in December 2016, whereby provinces would choose to implement their own system or go with the federal system. Provinces choosing their own system would have to outline details by 1 September 2018.¹⁵²⁷

¹⁵²² Minister McKenna advances Canada’s climate leadership at Paris One Planet Summit, Government of Canada - Environment and Climate Change Canada, 13 December 2017. Date of Access: 1 May 2018.

https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2017/12/minister_mckennaadvancescanadasclimateleadershipatparisoneplanet0.html

¹⁵²³ Canada and the World Bank Group to support the clean energy transition in developing countries and Small Island Developing States, Government of Canada - Environment and Climate Change Canada, 12 December 2017. Date of Access: 1 May 2018.. https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2017/12/canada_and_the_worldbankgrouptosupportthecleanenergytransitionin.html

¹⁵²⁴ Minister McKenna advances Canada’s climate leadership at Paris One Planet Summit, Government of Canada - Environment and Climate Change Canada, 13 December 2017. Date of Access: 1 May 2018.

https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2017/12/minister_mckennaadvancescanadasclimateleadershipatparisoneplanet0.html

¹⁵²⁵ Minister McKenna releases framework to make Canada’s fuels cleaner, Government of Canada - Environment and Climate Change Canada, 12 December 2017. Date of Access: 1 May 2018. https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2017/12/minister_mckennareleasesframeworktomakecanadasfuelscleaner.html

¹⁵²⁶ 3 community projects get off the ground in Nunavut with new climate change adaptation funding. CBC News, 9 January 2018. Date of Access: 27 January 2018. <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/north/nunavut-climate-change-adaptation-funding-1.4478400>

¹⁵²⁷ Margo McDiarmid, Ottawa’s new carbon pricing plan will reward clean companies. CBC News, 15 January 2018. Date of Access: 7 May 2018. <http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/carbon-pricing-draft-legislation-1.4487421>

On 14 March 2018, McKenna launched a CAD 500 million Low Carbon Economy Challenge, a program through which applicants of any size (including individuals, municipalities, businesses, etc) can apply for funding for projects to reduce greenhouse gases.¹⁵²⁸

On 15 March 2018, François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of International Trade, announced CAD 15 million of funding to help connect Canadian firms to international financing for climate projects in developing countries.¹⁵²⁹

On 16 March 2017, McKenna outlined that CAD 1.3 billion of Canada's Budget 2018 would be reserved for climate adaptation initiatives such as land conservation, and land and species restoration. McKenna stated that this investment "will help protect our lands and wildlife, promote biodiversity and healthy ecosystems, and improve our resilience to climate change."¹⁵³⁰

On 4 April 2018, McKenna announced that the Government of Canada would be working to create the Canadian Centre for Climate Services, a hub from which Canadians would be able to access reliable climate information and tools.¹⁵³¹

On 9 April 2018, Canada entered into a collaboration partnership with the United Kingdom and Bloomberg Philanthropies in order to support global efforts to move from coal-powered electricity to renewable energy, in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The collaboration involves producing research on how various governments are working to implement sustainable energy.¹⁵³²

On 17 April 2018, the Trudeau government announced a 53.5% budget increase from last fiscal year for Environment and Climate Change Canada to CAD 1.5 billion in the coming year. The biggest increase will be CAD 473 million for the Low Carbon Economy Fund and the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change, which will receive CAD 14.5 million.¹⁵³³

On 17 April 2018, McKenna and France's Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition, Nicholas Hulot, signed the France-Canada Partnership on Climate and the Environment, to

¹⁵²⁸ Low Carbon Economy Challenge will leverage Canadian ingenuity to reduce carbon pollution and drive clean growth, Government of Canada - Environment and Climate Change Canada, 14 March 2018. Date of Access: 1 May 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/03/low-carbon-economy-challenge-will-leverage-canadian-ingenuity-to-reduce-carbon-pollution-and-drive-clean-growth.html>

¹⁵²⁹ Minister of International Trade announces funding for Canadian clean technology companies at GLOBE Forum, Government of Canada - Global Affairs Canada, 15 March 2018. Date of Access: 1 May 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/03/minister-of-international-trade-announces-funding-for-canadian-clean-technology-companies-at-globe-forum.html>

¹⁵³⁰ Minister McKenna highlights Government of Canada's commitment to protect nature, parks and wildlife, Government of Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada, 16 March 2018. Access date: 1 May 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/03/minister-mckenna-highlights-government-of-canadas-commitment-to-protect-nature-parks-and-wildlife.html>

¹⁵³¹ The Government of Canada is helping Canadians understand and adapt to our changing climate, Government of Canada - Environment and Climate Change Canada, 4 April 2018. Date of Access: 1 May 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/04/the-government-of-canada-is-helping-canadians-understand-and-adapt-to-our-changing-climate.html>

¹⁵³² Canada and the United Kingdom team up with Bloomberg Philanthropies to support global efforts to phase out coal power, Government of Canada - Environment and Climate Change Canada, 9 April 2018. Date of Access: 1 May 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/04/canada-and-the-united-kingdom-team-up-with-bloomberg-philanthropies-to-support-global-efforts-to-phase-out-coal-power.html>

¹⁵³³ Elizabeth Thompson, Trudeau government boosts funding for environment, immigration. CBC News, 17 April 2018. Date of Access: 7 May 2018. <http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/trudeau-government-spending-budget-1.4622518>

collaborate on the implementation of the Paris Agreement through information-sharing on carbon pricing, biodiversity protection measures, and sustainable finance.¹⁵³⁴

On 26 April 2018, McKenna announced new methane regulations intended to reduce methane emissions in the oil and gas sector, and conserve natural-gas resources. McKenna stated that “These regulations are smart and practical measures that support clean technology and good new jobs in the oil and gas sector. By better detecting and patching leaks, companies will be able to save — and sell — natural gas that’s going into the atmosphere today. Canada is a leader in clean competitiveness, and, with these regulations, we’re showing that the environment and the economy go hand in hand.”¹⁵³⁵

Canada has taken policy actions to implement its NDC goals, have contributed to climate funds this cycle in support of developing economies efforts to adapt and mitigate the effects of climate change and has allocated funds from climate adaptation programs in Northern Canada.

Thus, Canada receives a +1.

Analyst: Zabireen Tarefdar

France: 0

France has partially complied with reaffirming its commitment to the Paris Agreement by taking steps to meet the nationally determined contribution (NDC) submitted by European Union, on behalf of all its members and started adaptation measures in collaboration with Sweden.

On 2 June 2017, French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean Yves Le Drian reaffirmed that France is “fully committed” to the Paris Agreement, “following President Trump’s decision to withdraw the United States.”¹⁵³⁶

On 8 June 2017, France launched a website inviting researchers, entrepreneurs and non-governmental organizations interested in climate change to apply for research positions in France. The website stated that senior researchers could apply for grants up to EUR 1.5 million, and junior researchers could apply for grants of up to EUR 1 million.¹⁵³⁷

On 6 July 2017 the French Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition, Nicolas Hulot, presented the Government’s Climate Plan,¹⁵³⁸ which intends to “take greenhouse gas-emitting

¹⁵³⁴ READOUT: The Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Catherine McKenna, met with the Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition, Nicolas Hulot, Government of Canada - Environment and Climate Change Canada, 17 April 2018. Date of Access: 1 May 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/04/readout-the-minister-of-environment-and-climate-change-catherine-mckenna-met-with-the-minister-for-the-ecological-and-inclusive-transition-nicolas.html>

¹⁵³⁵ Canada finalizes major commitment to reduce carbon pollution, Government of Canada - Environment and Climate Change Canada, 26 April 2018. Date of Access: 1 May 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/04/canada-finalizes-major-commitment-to-reduce-carbon-pollution.html>

¹⁵³⁶ Climate — United States’ withdrawal from the Paris Agreement — Statement by Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian, 2 June 2017, Government of France Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris). 7 June 2017. Date of Access: 18 November 2017. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/climate/events/article/climate-united-states-withdrawal-from-the-paris-agreement-statement-by-minister>

¹⁵³⁷ France is offering US scientists 4-year grants to move to the country and do research, Business Insider. 8 June 2017. Date of Access: 18 November 2017. <http://www.businessinsider.com/emmanuel-macron-american-climate-scientists-france-2017-6>

¹⁵³⁸ Climate Plan: Making the Paris Agreement a Reality, Government of France Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris). 6 July 2017. Date of Access: 20 November 2017. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/climate/events/article/climate-plan-making-the-paris-agreement-a-reality-06-07-17>

vehicles off the market by 2040,” “achieve carbon neutrality by 2050,” and make France “a leader in the green economy.”¹⁵³⁹

On 17 and 18 July 2017, France and China held the first meeting of the French-Chinese working group on the low-carbon green economy, which is aimed at strengthening dialogue and practical cooperation efforts on climate and energy-related issues. This includes “negotiations on rules for implementing the Paris Agreement before the 24th Conference of the Parties in 2018, to envisage new bilateral cooperation initiatives (notably with respect to green funding) and to discuss respective legislation.”¹⁵⁴⁰

On 6 September 2017, Hulong presented a draft bill prohibiting the exploration and exploitation of hydrocarbons to the Council of Ministers, as part of France’s commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions under the Paris Agreement. Under the draft, France will no longer issue exploration permits, and existing operations will not be renewed by 2040.¹⁵⁴¹ However, France will continue to import and refine oil and, will allow the French company, Total, to explore for oil in overseas territories such as offshore Guyane Maritime in French Guiana.¹⁵⁴²

On 19 September 2017, in a speech to the United Nations General Assembly in New York, French President Emmanuel Macron expressed that the Paris Agreement would not be re-negotiated despite the withdrawal of the United States.¹⁵⁴³ During this speech, he also reaffirmed France’s intention to become a carbon-neutral country, and to allocate EUR 5 billion a year to climate action from now until 2020. President Macron also announced the initiative to create the Global Pact for the Environment, which aims to be the first international legally binding document that gathers and harmonizes all environmental laws in one single document.¹⁵⁴⁴

On 25 October 2017, France approved a climate change action plan for the Canada–European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement. France affirmed the intention to tackle climate change with Canada, and asked that compliance with the Paris Agreement be an essential clause for all future EU trade agreements.¹⁵⁴⁵

¹⁵³⁹ Climate Plan, Government of France website. 10 August 2017. Date of Access: November 18 2017. <http://www.gouvernement.fr/en/climate-plan>

¹⁵⁴⁰ Climate — Meeting of the French-Chinese working group on the low-carbon green economy (Paris, 17-18 July 2017), Government of France Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris). 19 July 2017. Date of Access: 21 November 2017. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/climate/events/article/climate-meeting-of-the-french-chinese-working-group-on-the-low-carbon-green>

¹⁵⁴¹ France, the first country to prohibit exploitation of hydrocarbons, Government of France website. 7 September 2017. Date of Access: 21 November 2017. <http://www.gouvernement.fr/en/france-the-first-country-to-prohibit-exploitation-of-hydrocarbons>

¹⁵⁴² France plans to end oil and gas production by 2040, Reuters. 6 Sept 2017. Date of Access: 21 November 2017. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-hydrocarbons/france-plans-to-end-oil-and-gas-production-by-2040-idUSKCN1BH1AQ>

¹⁵⁴³ United Nations General Assembly — Speech by M. Emmanuel Macron, President of the Republic (New York, 19 September 2017), Government of France Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris). 22 September 2017. Date of Access: 23 Nov 2017. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations-general-assembly-sessions/unga-s-72nd-session/article/united-nations-general-assembly-speech-by-m-emmanuel-macron-president-of-the>

¹⁵⁴⁴ Secretary-General's remarks on Global Compact for the environment, United Nations Secretary General. 19 September 2017. Date of Access: 15 January 2018 <https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/statement/2017-09-19/secretary-generals-remarks-global-compact-environment>

¹⁵⁴⁵ An action plan for the robust and ambitious implementation of CETA, Government of France. 26 October 2017. Date of Access: 23 Nov 2017. <http://www.gouvernement.fr/en/an-action-plan-for-the-robust-and-ambitious-implementation-of-ceta>

On 11 November 2017, France, alongside international partners, launched the Transport Decarbonisation Alliance, which intends to push for further, faster climate action and to create greater political leadership in the transport sector.¹⁵⁴⁶

On 15 November 2017, in reference to the EUR 2 million the US would no longer contribute to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), President Macron stated that Europe would now fill the gap. “I propose that Europe replace America, and France will meet that challenge.” He went on further to say, “I would like to see the largest number of EU countries at our side, all together we can compensate for the loss of US funding but I can guarantee from the start of 2018, the IPCC will have all the money that it needs and it will continue to support our decision-making. They will not miss a single euro.”¹⁵⁴⁷

On 16 November 2017, France partnered with the Powering Past Coal Alliance, which is spearheaded by Canada and the United Kingdom. Member countries have agreed to phase out existing traditional coal power and put a moratorium on any new traditional coal power stations without operational carbon capture and storage.¹⁵⁴⁸

On 6 December 2017, French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Jean Yves-Le Drian, released a statement saying that he “welcome[s] the achievement today of the International Solar Alliance of status as an international organization.” The International Solar Alliance was launched by France and India in 2015 to facilitate the large-scale deployment of solar energy in 121 countries.¹⁵⁴⁹

On 8 December 2017, France and Sweden announced a climate adaptive collaboration on green finance to boost transition to the low-carbon economy. “The first area is green transport, clean energy, and smart systems, followed by green financing for climate resilient economies, digital transformation, and health and life sciences innovation.”¹⁵⁵⁰

On 12 December 2017, France delivered the One Planet Summit in Paris. The event was aimed at bringing together international actors from public and private finance in order to discuss tackling climate change and assisting nations towards achieving their NDCs.¹⁵⁵¹ The French government identified 12 international commitments from the event covering topics such as climate investment,

¹⁵⁴⁶ New Transport Decarbonisation Alliance for Faster Climate Action, UN Climate Change Press Release, 11 November 2017. Date of Access: 20 January 2018. <https://cop23.unfccc.int/news/new-transport-decarbonisation-alliance-for-faster-climate-action>

¹⁵⁴⁷ Europe steps in to cover US shortfall in funding climate science, BBC News, 15 November 2017. Date of Access: 5 February 2018. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-42004328>

¹⁵⁴⁸ More than 20 Countries Launch Global Alliance to Phase Out Coal, UN Climate Change, 17 November 2017. Date of Access: 20 January 2018. <https://cop23.unfccc.int/news/more-than-20-countries-launch-global-alliance-to-phase-out-coal>

¹⁵⁴⁹ International Solar Alliance- Achievement of Status as an international organization (6 December 2017), Government of France Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, 6 December 2017. Date of Access: 29 April 2018 <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/climate/events/article/international-solar-alliance-achievement-of-status-as-an-international>

¹⁵⁵⁰ France and Sweden collaborate on green finance to boost transition to the low-carbon economy, Climate Action Programme, 8 December 2017. Date of Access: 27 January 2018. <http://www.climateactionprogramme.org/news/france-and-sweden-collaborate-on-green-finance-to-boost-transition-to-the-l>

¹⁵⁵¹ One Planet Summit: A Meeting for the Planet (12 December 2017), Government of France Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, 12 December 2017. Date of Access: 29 April 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/climate/one-planet-summit/>

green energy, women's empowerment in the green economy, urban financing, protecting the ozone layer, and environmental health.¹⁵⁵²

On 12 December 2017, the French Ministry of Higher Education, with the use of funding from the BNP Paribas Foundation and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, launched the One Planet Fellowship, a five-year program of USD 15 million.¹⁵⁵³ The fellowship is designed to support 600 African and European researchers in facilitating climate change adaptation in Africa.¹⁵⁵⁴

On 11 January 2018, in response to being asked whether or not it would be possible for the United States to rejoin the Paris Climate Agreement, French President Emmanuel Macron said "the door isn't closed."¹⁵⁵⁵

On 29 January 2018 at the World Economic Forum in Davos, President Macron announced all the country's coal-fired plants will shut down by 2021 or two years earlier than planned. He also stated the advantages and the economic benefits of climate action including that clean energy technologies are evidently more cost competitive than coal plants.¹⁵⁵⁶

On 12 March 2018, President Macron pledged EUR 700 million to the International Solar Alliance (ISA), reiterating the country's commitment to the alliance and clean energy. Launched in 2015 by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, ISA is an inter-governmental organization of 60 members that aims to mobilize USD 1 trillion in funds for future solar generation, storage and technology across the world.¹⁵⁵⁷

On 18 March to 23 March 2018, France sent a delegation of over 200, lead by French Ambassador for the Environment Xavier Sticker, to the World Water Forum in Brasilia, Brazil. The forum brought together international actors to discuss water sustainability and climate change.¹⁵⁵⁸

On 22 March 2018, Macron said Europe must set a minimum price for carbon, which would incentivise greener investments. According to Macron this would need to be accompanied by a tax

¹⁵⁵² One Planet Summit: Finance Commitments Fire-Up Higher Momentum for Paris Climate Change Agreement, UN Climate Change News, 12 December 2017. Date of Access: 29 April 2018. <https://unfccc.int/news/one-planet-summit-finance-commitments-fire-up-higher-momentum-for-paris-climate-change-agreement>

¹⁵⁵³ The BNP Paribas Foundation and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, under the patronage of the President of the French Republic launch One Planet Fellowship, BNP Paribas Website, 12 December 2017. Date of Access: 29 April 2018. <https://group.bnpparibas/en/press-release/bnp-paribas-foundation-bill-melinda-gates-foundation-patronage-president-french-republic-launch-planet-fellowship>

¹⁵⁵⁴ One Planet Summit: Finance Commitments Fire-Up Higher Momentum for Paris Climate Change Agreement, UN Climate Change News, 12 December 2017. Date of Access: 29 April 2018. <https://unfccc.int/news/one-planet-summit-finance-commitments-fire-up-higher-momentum-for-paris-climate-change-agreement>

¹⁵⁵⁵ Climate – Q&A – Excerpts from the daily press briefing (11.01.18), Government of France Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, 11 January 2018. Date of Access: 29 April 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/climate/events/article/climate-q-a-excerpts-from-the-daily-press-briefing-11-01-18>

¹⁵⁵⁶ Macron at Davos: I will shut all coal-fired power stations by 2021, World Economic Forum Website. 29 January 2018. Date of Access: 7 May 2018. <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2018/01/macron-at-davos-i-will-shut-all-coal-fired-power-stations-by-2021/>

¹⁵⁵⁷ Sudarshan Varadhan, France to commit 700 million euros to International Solar Alliance, Reuters, 12 March 2018. Date of Access: 7 May 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-india-solar-alliance/france-to-commit-700-million-euros-to-international-solar-alliance-idUSKCN1GN0JU>

¹⁵⁵⁸ France's participation in the World Water Forum (Brasilia, 18-23. 03.18), Government of France Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs. 23 March 2018. Date of Access: 29 April 2018. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/sustainable-development-environment/events/article/environment-france-s-participation-in-the-world-water-forum-18-23-03-18>

on goods from countries beyond Europe's borders who do not "make the same environmental choices."¹⁵⁵⁹

On 29 March 2018, French and German Environment Ministers Nicolas Hulot and Svenja Schulze, met and discussed Franco-German environmental cooperation. According to Ministers Hulot and Schulze, "tackling climate change is one of the biggest challenges our society faces. Franco-German cooperation in this area is vital, also for the EU, which must maintain its leading role at international level in implementing the Paris Agreement." They also announced the creation of new working group to develop measures for achieving long-term climate goals and increasing EU climate targets for 2030.¹⁵⁶⁰

On 17 April 2018, France's Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition, Nicholas Hulot, and Canada's Minister for Environment and Climate Change, Catherine McKenna, signed the France-Canada Partnership on Climate and the Environment, to collaborate on the implementation of the Paris Agreement through information-sharing on carbon pricing, biodiversity protection measures, and sustainable finance.¹⁵⁶¹

On 25 April 2018 in a speech to the US Congress, President Macron said "By polluting the oceans, not mitigating CO2 emissions, and destroying our biodiversity — we are killing our planet. Let us face it. There is no planet B."¹⁵⁶²

On 25 April 2018 at the meeting of the One Planet Summit coalition "2050 Pathways Platform," France alongside six other EU member states called for greater EU ambition in presenting long-term pathways towards net zero greenhouse gas emissions in accordance with the Paris agreement.¹⁵⁶³

France has reaffirmed its commitment and has taken policy actions to lower greenhouse gas emissions and implement EU's NDC goals. In addition, France has also committed funds to fostering an adaptive and climate resilient low carbon economy with Sweden. Finally, France has facilitated the directing of funds to climate adaptation measures in Africa. In terms of financing, there is no evidence to show that France has yet contributed funds to any international climate change fund within this compliance cycle. However, it should be noted that France has committed USD 577 million in grants to the Green Climate Fund outside of the compliance assessment period.¹⁵⁶⁴

¹⁵⁵⁹ Macron pushes for EU minimum price for carbon, Reuters, 22 March 2018. Date of Access: 7 May 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-macron-green-economy/macron-pushes-for-eu-minimum-price-for-carbon-idUSKBN1GY1TJ>

¹⁵⁶⁰ Schulze and Hulot: Climate action and conservation of biological diversity are key areas of cooperation, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, 29 March 2018. Date of Access: 6 May 2018. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/schulze-und-hulot-klimaschutz-und-erhalt-der-biologischen-vielfalt-sind-schwerpunkte-der-zusammenar/>

¹⁵⁶¹ READOUT: The Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Catherine McKenna, met with the Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition, Nicolas Hulot, Government of Canada - Environment and Climate Change Canada. 17 April 2018. Date of Access: 1 May 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/04/readout-the-minister-of-environment-and-climate-change-catherine-mckenna-met-with-the-minister-for-the-ecological-and-inclusive-transition-nicolas-.html>

¹⁵⁶² Macron to US Congress: "There is no Planet B". BBC News, 25 April 2018. Date of Access: 7 May 2018. <http://www.bbc.com/news/av/world-us-canada-43900009/macron-to-us-congress-there-is-no-planet-b>

¹⁵⁶³ France, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, Finland, Portugal and Luxembourg call for EU climate ambition in line with the Paris Agreement. Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire, 25 April 2018. Date of Access: 28 April 2018. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/france-lallemagne-suede-pays-bas-finlande-portugal-et-luxembourg-appellent-ambition-climatique>

¹⁵⁶⁴ Status of Pledges, Green Climate Fund, 10 January 2018. Date of Access: 27 January 2018.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Zabireen Tarefdar

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to implement the Paris Agreement. The country has shown evidence of strong support for climate financing and in greenhouse gas reduction to comply with EU's nationally determined contributions (NDCs), and has issued funds in support of climate adaptation in developing countries.

On 1 June 2016, responding to the US withdrawal from the Paris Agreement Environment Minister Barbara Hendricks said: "Over the years, the US has been a valuable ally on global climate action. Without the United States, the historic breakthrough in Paris would not have been possible. But the Paris Agreement will endure, even without the US. Others will lead the way and we Europeans will certainly be among them."¹⁵⁶⁵

On 2 June 2017, Jochen Flasbarth, State Secretary at the German Environment Ministry, met with Russia's Minister of Natural Resources and Environment Sergei Donskoi to discuss strengthening their countries' cooperation in environmental protection and climate policy, focussing in particular on the implementation of the Paris climate agreement. This cooperation will focus on improving energy and resource efficiency, accelerating the deployment of renewable energies and providing incentive schemes to support the modernisation of Russia's energy industry.¹⁵⁶⁶

On 4 September 2017, Germany and France issued a joint statement on their intent to advance the swift implementation of the Paris Agreement at the European Level. The meeting kicked off closer cooperation between the two countries on environmental protection and climate action between French and German cities and municipalities.¹⁵⁶⁷

On 2 November 2017, the German Environment Ministry launched its European Climate Initiative (EUKI), which sponsors projects in Central, Eastern and Southern Europe through a competition of ideas aimed at strengthening European climate action cooperation and integration.¹⁵⁶⁸

On 6 November 2017, at the opening of the 23rd Conference of the Parties (COP23), the German government announced another EUR 100 million to support developing countries in climate change adaptation. This comprises the Federal Environment Ministry pledge of EUR 50 million to the Adaptation Fund and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

https://www.greenclimate.fund/documents/20182/24868/Status_of_Pledges.pdf/eef538d3-2987-4659-8c7c-5566ed6afd19

¹⁵⁶⁵ Hendricks: Trump's decision will not stop climate action, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety, 1 June 2017. Date of Access: 20 January 2018.

<https://www.bmub.bund.de/en/pressrelease/hendricks-trumps-decision-will-not-stop-climate-action/>

¹⁵⁶⁶ Germany and Russia to strengthen environment and climate cooperation, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety, 2 June 2017. Date of Access: 20 January 2018.

<https://www.bmub.bund.de/en/pressrelease/germany-and-russia-to-strengthen-environment-and-climate-cooperation/>

¹⁵⁶⁷ German and French Environment Ministries' meeting, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety, 4 September. Date of Access: 20 January 2018.

<https://www.bmub.bund.de/en/pressrelease/deutsch-franzoesisches-arbeitstreffen-der-umweltministerien/>

¹⁵⁶⁸ Launch of European Climate Initiative, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety, 2 November 2017. Date of Access: 20 January 2018.

<https://www.bmub.bund.de/en/pressrelease/start-der-europaeischen-klimainitiative/>

contribution of EUR 50 million to the Least Developed Countries Fund, which provides targeted support in climate change adaptation to the poorest countries.¹⁵⁶⁹

On 7 November 2017, the International Energy Agency launched its Clean Energy Transitions Programme, of which Germany provided EUR 6 million to promote clean energy transitions around the globe.¹⁵⁷⁰

On 13 November 201 on the sidelines of COP23, Germany and the Marshall Islands announced a joint project intended to advance the development of low-emission maritime shipping, a project supported with EUR 9.5 million under Germany's International Climate Initiative.¹⁵⁷¹

On 14 November 2017, three funding announcements were pledged by Germany. The first was Germany and Britain's contribution of USD 153 million to expand programs to fight climate change and deforestation in the Amazon rainforest. Of that amount, some USD 88 million will go towards a programme that pays indigenous peoples and farmers in exchange for maintaining forest cover and will also provide funding for related sustainable economic development projects. Germany will also increase its investments in the Amazon Fund by USD 39.9 million.¹⁵⁷² Secondly, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development said it would provide EUR 31 million to the NDC Partnership, which supports emerging economies and developing countries in translating the provisions of the Paris Agreement into national climate action plans. The partnership will be implemented by the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme, the deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit and the Partnership's Secretariat.¹⁵⁷³ Finally, Thomas Silberhorn, Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, announced USD 125 million for the the InsuResilience Global Partnership for Climate and Disaster Risk Finance and Insurance Solutions, which aims to provide insurance to 400 million more poor and vulnerable people by 2020.¹⁵⁷⁴

On 15 November 2017, Germany in partnership with United Nations Development Programme, the European Commission and Spain launched a the NDC Support Programme. This programme is an

¹⁵⁶⁹ UN Climate Change Conference begins: Germany supports developing countries in climate change adaptation, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety, 6 November 2017. Date of Access: 20 January 2018. <https://www.bmub.bund.de/en/pressrelease/weltklimakonferenz-startet-deutschland-unterstuetzt-entwicklungslaender-bei-klima-anpassung/>

¹⁵⁷⁰ IEA launches the Clean Energy Transitions Programme to support clean-energy development, International Energy Agency, 7 November 2017. Date of Access: 17 January 2018. <https://www.iea.org/newsroom/news/2017/november/iea-launches-the-clean-energy-transitions-programme-to-support-clean-energy-devel.html>

¹⁵⁷¹ Germany supports the Marshall Islands in development of low-emission shipping, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety, 13 November 2017. Date of Access: 20 January 2018. <https://www.bmub.bund.de/en/pressrelease/deutschland-unterstuetzt-marshall-islands-bei-der-entwicklung-von-emissionsarmer-seeschiffahrt/>

¹⁵⁷² Jake Spring, Germany, Britain inject \$153 million in Amazon climate change fight, Reuters, 14 November 2017. Date of Access: 20 November 2017. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-brazil-climatechange-funding/germany-britain-inject-153-million-in-amazon-climate-change-fight-idUSKBN1DE238>

¹⁵⁷³ One year of the NDC Partnership: new members and more funds for climate action at COP 23, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety, 14 November 2017. Date of Access: 20 January 2018. <https://www.bmub.bund.de/en/pressrelease/ein-jahr-ndc-partnerschaft-neue-mitglieder-mehr-geld-fuer-den-klimaschutz-bei-der-cop-23/>

¹⁵⁷⁴ 'InsuResilience' Initiative for Vulnerable People Moves into New Higher Ambition Phase, UN Climate Change, 14 November 2017. Date of Access: 20 January 2018. <https://cop23.unfccc.int/news/insuresilience-to-provide-the-poor-with-more-financial-protection-against-climate-risks>

additional tool to the NDC Partnership to help developing and emerging economies to implement their NDCs and related development objectives.¹⁵⁷⁵

On 14 December 2017 at the One Planet Summit, Germany alongside four other EU members, stated their commitment to implement or evaluate the introduction of a meaningful carbon price in relevant sectors. Furthermore, the said carbon pricing should be predictable and grow over time to meet the Paris Agreement objective of maintaining global warming well below 2 degrees.¹⁵⁷⁶

On 1 February 2018, The Federal Environment Ministry's EUKI called for non-profit organisations to submit project ideas on inner-European cooperation in the field of climate action. These bilateral and multilateral projects would need to strengthen exchanges on climate action best practices and foster climate policy dialogue with other EU members. According to Hendricks, "in the European Union we have a unique opportunity to take ambitious climate action together and, by doing so, to achieve the Paris climate goals. It is important to ensure that all European countries are involved in implementation, thus establishing climate action as a connecting element in Europe."¹⁵⁷⁷

On 21-22 February 2018, the first network conference for EUKI, the European Climate Initiative was held in Berlin. The objective was to facilitate exchange of good practices regarding implementation of the Paris Agreement in Europe and to encourage networking among representatives of non-governmental organizations, think tanks, the scientific community and industry associations. Solutions for greenhouse gas mitigation in the energy, buildings, transport and agriculture sectors were also discussed.¹⁵⁷⁸

On 5 March 2018, Hendricks along with 13 other EU environment and climate ministers released a joint letter advocating for a climate-friendly EU budget. Minister Hendricks noted "Climate action depends on steering investments in the right direction. The EU budget has to set an example here. Subsidies that are not in line with the Paris Agreement should be discontinued as quickly as possible."¹⁵⁷⁹

On 29 March 2018, German and French Environment Ministers Svenja Schulze and Nicolas Hulot, met and discussed Franco-German environmental cooperation. According to Ministers Schulze and Hulot, "tackling climate change is one of the biggest challenges our society faces. Franco-German cooperation in this area is vital, also for the EU, which must maintain its leading role at international level in implementing the Paris Agreement." They also announced the creation of new working

¹⁵⁷⁵ UNDP, Germany, Spain and EU launch EUR 42 million programme at UN Climate Summit to help countries deliver on the Paris Agreement, UNDP News Centre, 15 November 2017. Date of Access: 21 January 2018. <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2017/undp-germany-spain-eu-launch-eur-42-million-programme-un-climate-summit.html>

¹⁵⁷⁶ Environment and climate Ministers from France, Germany, United-Kingdom, Sweden and the Netherlands commit to implement or evaluate the introduction of a meaningful carbon price in relevant sectors. Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, 14 December 2017. Date of Access: 6 May 2018. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/pariser-klimagipfel-one-planet-summit-umwelt-und-klimaminister-aus-frankreich-deutschland-dem/>

¹⁵⁷⁷ Call for project ideas: Climate action connects Europe, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, 1 February 2018. Date of Access: 6 May 2018. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/call-for-project-ideas-climate-action-connects-europe/>

¹⁵⁷⁸ Annual conference: Germany's climate initiative for Europe, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, 21 February 2018. Date of Access: 6 May 2018. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/jahreskonferenz-deutschlands-klimaschutzinitiative-fuer-europa/>

¹⁵⁷⁹ Hendricks: New EU budget must lead the way for investments in climate action, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, 5 March 2018. Date of Access: 6 May 2018. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/hendricks-new-eu-budget-must-lead-the-way-for-investments-in-climate-action/>

group to develop measures for achieving long-term climate goals and increasing EU climate targets for 2030.¹⁵⁸⁰

On 19 April 2018, the Ninth German-Japanese Dialogue Forum on Environment and Energy was held, focusing on methods for implementing renewable energies and low-emission systems in the transport sector. Potential solutions included increasing efficiency, electric vehicles and the use of renewable energy in the sector as well as more flexible use of modes of transport, new mobility concepts and digital solutions.¹⁵⁸¹

On 23 April 2018, Germany along with the International Finance Corporation and European Union, signed agreements to support the Ukrainian government's work in reducing energy waste and greenhouse gas emissions in the residential sector. Under the agreement, IFC will initially manage up to EUR 53 million, of which EUR 10 million comes from Germany to finance programs of the Ukrainian Energy Efficiency Fund. This project, developed by the Ukrainian government, will provide grants for energy-efficiency renovations in multi-family buildings.¹⁵⁸²

On 25 April 2018 at the meeting of the One Planet Summit coalition "2050 Pathways Platform," Germany alongside six other EU member states called for greater EU ambition in presenting long-term pathways towards net zero greenhouse gas emissions in accordance with the Paris agreement. Karsten Sach, Director General, of the German Ministry for the Environment stated "It is an important step forward that the EU will now develop a new long-term climate strategy based on the Paris Agreement. In parallel to this European process, Germany is expeditiously working on concrete policies and measures for a just transition as committed already in its national 2050 climate strategy."¹⁵⁸³

Germany has taken policy actions to lower greenhouse gas emissions and implement EU NDC goals has contributed to climate financing this cycle in support of developing and emerging economies efforts to adapt and mitigate the effects of climate change.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Laila Kanji

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to reaffirm its commitment to implement the Paris Agreement, as previously stated at the Ise Shima Summit.

On 9 June 2017, the Ministry of Environment signed a deal with governments of Romagna, Lombardy, Piedmont, and Veneto pledging EUR 32 million to limit smog in the Padano basin. This

¹⁵⁸⁰ Schulze and Hulot: Climate action and conservation of biological diversity are key areas of cooperation, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, 29 March 2018. Date of Access: 6 May 2018. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/schulze-und-hulot-klimaschutz-und-erhalt-der-biologischen-vielfalt-sind-schwerpunkte-der-zusammenar/>

¹⁵⁸¹ German-Japanese cooperation on transforming transport, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, 19 April 2018. Date of Access: 6 May 2018. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/deutsch-japanische-kooperation-zur-verkehrswende/>

¹⁵⁸² EU, IFC, Germany Partner to Establish New Fund, Support Energy Efficiency in Ukraine, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, 23 April 2018. Date of Access: 6 May 2018. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/bundesumweltministerium-unterstuetzt-energetische-gebaeudesanierung-in-der-ukraine/>

¹⁵⁸³ France, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, Finland, Portugal and Luxembourg call for EU climate ambition in line with the Paris Agreement. Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire, 25 April 2018. Date of Access: 28 April 2018. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/france-lallemagne-suede-pays-bas-finlande-portugal-et-luxembourg-appellent-ambition-climatique>

initiative includes region-wide policies such as better distribution of alternative fuels and initiatives to encourage car-sharing and cycle-pedestrian mobility.¹⁵⁸⁴

On 19 June 2017, in response to the US withdrawal from the Paris agreement, Minister of Environment Gian Luca Galletti underscored the importance of the Paris Agreement as the primary tool to combat climate change, while at the EU Environment Council.¹⁵⁸⁵

On 17 July 2017, Italy signed a Third Party Cost-Sharing Agreement with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to implement a range of climate change and REDD+forest-related joint and coordinated activities at the global, regional and national level. The partnership will allow Italy and UNDP to work together in areas of climate change, forestry and forest-related sectors such as agriculture and energy, with the goal of enhancing, strengthening and accelerating sustainable forest management, REDD+implementation and REDD+results, particularly in the context of the Green Climate Fund.¹⁵⁸⁶

On 14 August 2017, the Ministry of the Environment announced it will provide EUR 15 million for local administrations on Italy's smaller islands to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, develop low impact mobility systems and implement other climate change adaptation measures. Each project may receive a maximum of EUR 1 million.¹⁵⁸⁷

On 27 September 2017, Italy and France reinforced their collaboration to fully implement the Paris Agreement, recognizing that achieving its goals requires the participation of both the public and private sectors.¹⁵⁸⁸

On 3 October 2017, the Ministry of Environment issued a decree updating the Minimum Environmental Criteria for public lighting systems in cities. It is estimated that the replacement of all old systems would bring approximately EUR 500 million in savings a year for local authorities, as well as a significant reduction in energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.¹⁵⁸⁹

¹⁵⁸⁴ Smog: Galletti, 32 milioni per il bacino padano, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare, 9 June 2017. Date of Access: 5 November 2017. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/smog-galletti-32-milioni-il-bacino-padano>

¹⁵⁸⁵ Clima: Galletti, accordo di Parigi non negoziabile, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare, 19 June 2017. Date of Access: 5 November 2017. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/clima-galletti-accordo-di-parigi-non-negoziabile>

¹⁵⁸⁶ UNDP and the Ministry for Environment, Land and Sea of the Republic of Italy Partner to Support REDD+Implementation in Critical Countries, United Nations Development Programme, 21 July 2017. Date of Access: 10 November 2017. <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/presscenter/articles/2017/07/17/undp-and-the-italian-ministry-of-environment-land-and-sea-partner-to-support-redd-implementation-in-critical-countries.html>

¹⁵⁸⁷ Ambiente: 15 milioni a isole minori per progetti su riduzione emissioni, mobilità e adattamento ai cambiamenti climatici. Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare, 14 August 2017. Date of Access: 5 November 2017. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/ambiente-15-milioni-isole-minori-progetti-su-riduzione-emissioni-mobilita-e-adattamento>

¹⁵⁸⁸ Clima: Italia-Francia, insieme su attuazione accordo Parigi. Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare, 27 September 2017. Date of Access: 5 November 2017. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/clima-italia-francia-insieme-su-attuazione-accordo-parigi>

¹⁵⁸⁹ Energia: arrivano nuovi criteri ambientali per illuminazione pubblica. Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare, 3 October 2017. Date of Access: 5 November 2017. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/energia-arrivano-nuovi-criteri-ambientali-illuminazione-pubblica>

On 12 October 2017, the Ministry of the Environment announced that it will provide EUR 13 million for 14 sustainable mobility projects in South and Central Italy. These will include incentives for car and bike sharing schemes and to promote green transport in urban centres.¹⁵⁹⁰

From 23 to 25 October 2017, Italy hosted the first International Water and Climate Summit, which served as preparation for the 23rd Conference of the Parties (COP23) in Bonn, Germany from 6 to 17 November 2017. The summit promoted integration of water as one of the priority issues of international negotiations on climate change. It allowed experience sharing between local, national and regional administrations in charge of climate change adaptation policies and water resources management as well as bilateral and multilateral donors and other institutions interested in adaptation to climate change and basin management.¹⁵⁹¹ In addition, the Alliance of Italian Enterprises for Water and Climate Change was created by 37 companies under the direction of the Ministry for the Environment. This objectives of the alliance are to incorporate climate change considerations and efficient water management practices into corporate strategy and operations, and share best practices for sustainability.¹⁵⁹²

On 7 November 2017, Italy joined the International Energy Agency in launching its Clean Energy Transitions Programme, which will provide EUR 30 million to promote clean energy transitions around the globe.¹⁵⁹³

On 10 November 2017, the Ministry of Economic Development and the Ministry for the Environment adopted the National Energy Strategy, which aims to make the Italian energy more competitive, sustainable and secure. This is to be achieved through elimination of coal power by 2025, a decrease in energy consumption from 118 to 108 by 2030, doubling of investment to EUR 444 million in green technology by 2021, and a decrease in emissions of 39% by 2030 and 63% by 2050. The government will report on its implementation of the National Energy Strategy annually.¹⁵⁹⁴

On 16 November 2017, the Government of Italy and UN Climate Change signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for a fellowship program aimed at building the capacity of small island developing states (SIDS) and least developed countries (LDCs) to respond to the challenges of climate change. The “Capacity Award Programme to Advance Capabilities and Institutional Training in one Year (CAPACITY) will help develop local professional expertise by supporting analytical research on climate change, creating networking opportunities with experts and promoting leadership skills of mid-career professionals in SIDS and LDCs. Italy will provide EUR 2.5 million over five years to the program.¹⁵⁹⁵ Another MOU was signed between the governments of Italy, Mali and

¹⁵⁹⁰ Ambiente: Galletti, oltre 13 milioni al centro-sud per mobilità sostenibile. Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare, 12 October 2017. Date of Access: 5 November 2017.

<http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/ambiente-galletti-oltre-13-milioni-al-centro-sud-mobilita-sostenibile>

¹⁵⁹¹ International Summit "Water and Climate: Meeting of the Great Rivers of the World, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). 23 October 2017. Date of Access: 3 November 2017.

<https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=46483>

¹⁵⁹² Water and Climate Summit, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare, 25 October 2017. Date of Access: 14 January 2018. <http://www.minambiente.it/water-and-climate-summit>

¹⁵⁹³ IEA launches the Clean Energy Transitions Programme to support clean-energy development, International Energy Agency, 7 November 2017. Date of Access: 17 January 2018.

<https://www.iea.org/newsroom/news/2017/november/iea-launches-the-clean-energy-transitions-programme-to-support-clean-energy-devel.html>

¹⁵⁹⁴ Strategia Energetica Nazionale 2017, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare, 10 November 2017. Date of Access: 24 December 2017. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/strategia-energetica-nazionale-2017>

¹⁵⁹⁵ Italy and UN Launch Fellowship Programme for Climate Vulnerable Countries, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare. 16 November 2017. Date of Access: 14 January 2018.

<http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/italy-and-un-launch-fellowship-programme-climate-vulnerable-countries>

Georgia, pledging support for the latter two countries efforts in transitioning to a low-carbon economy and adapting to climate change.¹⁵⁹⁶

On 16 November 2017, Italy partnered with the Powering Past Coal Alliance, which is spearheaded by Canada and the United Kingdom. Member countries have agreed to phase out existing traditional coal power and put a moratorium on any new traditional coal power stations without operational carbon capture and storage.¹⁵⁹⁷

On 21 November 2017, Minister of the Environment Gian Luca Galletti and the Rector of Sapienza Università di Roma, Eugenio Gaudio, signed a memorandum of understanding in line with the National Energy Strategy. This includes bicycle grants, encouraging shared mobility, and the installation of charging stations for electric vehicles and infrastructure for alternatively-fuelled vehicles.¹⁵⁹⁸

On 22 November 2017, Italy pledged USD 7 million to the Adaptation Fund at COP23 in Bonn. This is an increase from USD 2 million in 2015 and USD 5 million in 2016.¹⁵⁹⁹

On 20 March 2018, President of the National Anti-Corruption Authority Raffale Cantone and Minister of the Environment, Gian Luca Galletti signed a Memorandum of Understanding to be more consistent in enforcement of environmental standards set out in the Minimum Environmental Criteria of the recent Public Procurement Code.¹⁶⁰⁰ This includes “efficiency in the use of materials and energy, and therefore in the containment of greenhouse gas emissions.”¹⁶⁰¹ Measures include further training for officials, enhanced communication of relevant documents between departments, and “monitoring and supervision” of the National Action Plan on Green Purchases of Public Administration.¹⁶⁰² The Green Public Procurement Act is a voluntary measure for governments in

¹⁵⁹⁶ Clima: ministero Ambiente firma protocolli con Mali e Georgia, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare, 16 November 2017. Date of Access: 14 January 2018. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/clima-ministero-ambiente-firma-protocolli-con-mali-e-georgia>

¹⁵⁹⁷ More than 20 Countries Launch Global Alliance to Phase Out Coal, UN Climate Change, 17 November 2017. Date of Access: 20 January 2018. <https://cop23.unfccc.int/news/more-than-20-countries-launch-global-alliance-to-phase-out-coal>

¹⁵⁹⁸ Sapienza e Ministero dell'Ambiente insieme per la mobilità sostenibile, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare, 21 November 2017. Date of Access: 24 December 2017. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/sapienza-e-ministero-dellambiente-insieme-la-mobilita-sostenibile>

¹⁵⁹⁹ Adaptation Fund Contributors Came Through for Fund at COP 23 with Record Support for Most Climate-Vulnerable, Adaptation Fund, 22 November 2017. Date of Access: 24 November 2017. <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/adaptation-fund-contributors-came-fund-cop-23-record-support-climate-vulnerable/>

¹⁶⁰⁰ Galletti and Cantone Sign Minambiente-ANAC Protocol Agreement on the Monitoring of “Green” Purchases of the Public Administration, Ministry of the Environment and the Protection of the Territory and the Sea, 20 March 2018. Date of Access: 26 April 2018. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/galletti-e-cantone-firmano-protocollo-di-intesa-minambiente-anac-sul-monitoraggio-degli>

¹⁶⁰¹ Galletti and Cantone Sign Minambiente-ANAC Protocol Agreement on the Monitoring of “Green” Purchases of the Public Administration, Ministry of the Environment and the Protection of the Territory and the Sea, 20 March 2018. Date of Access: 26 April 2018. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/galletti-e-cantone-firmano-protocollo-di-intesa-minambiente-anac-sul-monitoraggio-degli>

¹⁶⁰² Galletti and Cantone Sign Minambiente-ANAC Protocol Agreement on the Monitoring of “Green” Purchases of the Public Administration, Ministry of the Environment and the Protection of the Territory and the Sea, 20 March 2018. Date of Access: 26 April 2018. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/galletti-e-cantone-firmano-protocollo-di-intesa-minambiente-anac-sul-monitoraggio-degli>

the European Commission to provide public services with the lowest possible environmental impact.¹⁶⁰³

On 22 March 2018, the Ministry of the Environment and the Protection of the Territory and the Sea and the Ministry of Economic Development announced the creation of a reward system for using geothermal technology with minimal environmental impact.¹⁶⁰⁴ This is to comply with Italy's National Energy Strategy, which aims to incentivize Italian companies to use renewable energy and de-carbonise the domestic economy.¹⁶⁰⁵

Italy has reaffirmed its commitment, has taken policy actions to lower greenhouse gas emissions and implement its NDC while contributing climate funds and adaptation support to vulnerable countries.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Clara Geddes

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to reaffirm its commitment to implement the Paris Agreement, as previously stated at the Ise Shima Summit.

On 2 June 2017, Japan issued a press release acknowledging the withdrawal of the United States from the Paris Agreement and reiterated their intent to implement the agreement with the remaining members of the G7 and G20, highlighting the importance of the role of developed countries.¹⁶⁰⁶

On 5 and 6 July 2017, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ were approved as accredited entities for the Green Climate Fund (GCF). In adherence with the stipulation within the Paris Agreement of the importance of funding for climate change, Japan will actively look to support the activities of the GCF through increased public and private support to GCF resources.¹⁶⁰⁷

On 5 September 2017, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs conducted an inclusive meeting that aimed to facilitate discourse between the government and the member companies of the Japan Climate Leaders' Partnership (Japan-CLP). The group talked of the challenges that private companies face in addressing climate change and how the government and private sector can cooperate effectively to implement the Paris Agreement and prepare for the 23rd Conference of the Parties (COP23).¹⁶⁰⁸

¹⁶⁰³ GPP Green Public Procurement: A Collection of Good Practices, European Commission, 2012. Date of Access: 26 April 2018. http://ec.europa.eu/environment/gpp/pdf/GPP_Good_Practices_Brochure.pdf.

¹⁶⁰⁴ Minister Galletti Signs Decree that Regulates Incentives on Geothermal Plants with Advanced Technologies, Ministry of the Environment and the Protection of the Territory and the Sea, 22 March 2018. Date of Access: 26 April 2018. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/il-ministro-galletti-firma-decreto-che-regola-incentivi-su-impianti-geotermici-con>.

¹⁶⁰⁵ Minister Galletti Signs Decree that Regulates Incentives on Geothermal Plants with Advanced Technologies, Ministry of the Environment and the Protection of the Territory and the Sea, 22 March 2018. Date of Access: 26 April 2018. <http://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/il-ministro-galletti-firma-decreto-che-regola-incentivi-su-impianti-geotermici-con>

¹⁶⁰⁶ Japan's statement regarding the US announcement of its withdrawal from the Paris Agreement (Japan's firm commitment in implementing the Paris Agreement) (Tokyo), Government of Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 02 June 2017. Date of Access: 18 November 2017. http://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_001610.html

¹⁶⁰⁷ Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ (MUFJ) accredited to Green Climate Fund (GCF), Government of Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo), 06 July 2017, Access Date: 18 November 2017. http://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ch/page23e_000477.html

¹⁶⁰⁸ Exchange of views on climate change with companies, Government of Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo), 06 September 2017, Date of Access: 18 November 2017. http://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ch/page23e_000482.html

On 30 October 2017, Japan published its Assistance Initiatives to Address Climate Change that looks to “accelerate climate change measures and sustainable development in developing countries through ‘co-innovation’ by collaboration with important state and non-state actors, and uptake of advanced technology and know-how to address challenges.”¹⁶⁰⁹ To this end, Japan will establish the “Partnership to Strengthen Transparency for Co-Innovation,” which will aim to aid the development of institutions and capacity in developing countries and promote the active engagement of local governments, as well as private institutions. On this basis, Japan will help establish specific programs related to adaptation and mitigation.¹⁶¹⁰

On 7 November 2017, the International Energy Agency (IEA) announced the Clean Energy Transitions Programme, a new multi-year, EUR 30 million plan backed by Japan and 12 other countries, to support clean energy transitions around the world. This Programme will leverage the IEA’s unique expertise across all fuels and technologies to help accelerate global clean-energy transitions, particularly in major emerging economies. The work will focus on data and statistics, energy efficiency, renewables, policy guidance and modelling, and technology development and innovation.¹⁶¹¹

On 15 November 2017, the Government of Japan pledged a total of USD 5 million to the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT), of which the Ministry of the Environment Japan contributed USD 1.67 million. CBIT is a fund to support capacity building relating to accounting for greenhouse gas emissions to secure transparency of mitigation measures for developing countries.¹⁶¹²

On 25 December 2017, Japan submitted the seventh National Communication and the third Biennial Report, which includes its policies and measures on climate change under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. These documents cover reporting on greenhouse gas emissions inventories for the years of 1990 to 2015, trends and projections in various sectors of the domestic economy for years 2020 and 2030, and information on financial, technological and capacity-building support given by Japan to developing countries in mitigating and adapting to climate change.¹⁶¹³

On 26 December 2018, Japan formulated a “basic strategy for promoting hydrogen use and becoming a world-leading hydrogen-based society.” Japan aims to increase the number of fuel cell vehicles from 2,000 to 800,000 and the number of its hydrogen fuel stations from 100 to 900 by 2030.¹⁶¹⁴

¹⁶⁰⁹ Japan’s Assistance Initiatives to Address Climate Change 2017, Government of Japan Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo), 30 October 2017, Date of Access: 19 November 2017. <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2345.html>

¹⁶¹⁰ Japan’s Assistance Initiatives to Address Climate Change 2017, Government of Japan Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo), 30 October 2017, Date of Access: 19 November 2017. <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2345.html>

¹⁶¹¹ IEA launches the Clean Energy Transitions Programme to support clean-energy development, International Energy Agency (Paris), 7 November 2017, Date of Access: 18 November 2017. <https://www.iea.org/newsroom/news/2017/november/iea-launches-the-clean-energy-transitions-programme-to-support-clean-energy-devel.html>

¹⁶¹² Contribution to the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT), Government of Japan Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo), 15 November 2017, Date of Access: 19 November 2017. <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2344.html>

¹⁶¹³ Submission of the 7th National Communication and the 3rd Biennial Report under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Government of Japan Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo), 25 December 2017, Date of Access: 17 January 2018. <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2351.html>

¹⁶¹⁴ Basic Hydrogen Strategy (key points), Ministry of Trade, Economy and Industry of Japan, 26 December 2017. Date of Access: 7 May 2018. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2017/pdf/1226_003a.pdf

On 5 January 2018, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan announced that it established an Advisory Panel of Experts on Climate Change. Composed of nine members, the panel will discuss major issues pertaining to climate change and renewable energies.¹⁶¹⁵

On 9 January 2018, the first meeting of the Advisory Panel on Climate Change was held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This panel incorporates a number of private and public sector actors and aims to support Japan in attaining its climate change goals.¹⁶¹⁶

On 12 January 2018, it was announced that the federal government would allow a new heavily polluting coal plant to break ground and operate by 2020. However, the environmental minister Masaharu Nakagawa stated that the Chugoku Power Plant must offset the emissions elsewhere via closing inefficient plants or limiting the new plants' use.¹⁶¹⁷

On 22 and 23 February 2018, Japan and Brazil hosted the sixteenth Informal Meeting on Further Actions against Climate Change. In this meeting, Japan led discussions on reflections of COP23 and expectations for COP24. Furthermore, Japan reaffirmed its commitment to the Paris Agreement and discussed how to advance implementation guidelines.¹⁶¹⁸

On 19 April 2018, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced that Japan would host an international conference in July 2018 on climate change and fragility in Asia and Pacific region. Experts in climate change, finance and business will discuss the impact to fragility of countries, community and businesses from climate change as well as effective ways to address potential risks in the future. This conference is in follow-up to the October 2017 report submitted to the G7 Italian presidency on climate change and fragility in Asia and Pacific regions.¹⁶¹⁹

Japan has made financing contributions to the CBIT and the IEA Clean Energy Transitions Programme underscores their pledge to support vulnerable countries in adapting and mitigating to climate change. Still, Japan has shown no evidence of decreasing emissions this cycle as there is evidence Japan plans to maintain current levels of emission with the development of the new coal plant.

Thus, Japan has been awarded a 0.

Analyst: Christopher Schmitz

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to reaffirm its commitment to implement the Paris Agreement, as previously stated at the Ise Shima Summit.

On 26 July 2017, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the Department for Transport released their plan for reducing nitrogen dioxide. This includes providing GBP 40 million immediately for the development of local government initiatives to lessen nitrogen dioxide reduction

¹⁶¹⁵ Advisory Panel of Experts on Climate Change, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, 5 January 2018, Date of Access: 28 April 2018. http://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_001859.html

¹⁶¹⁶ The first meeting of the Advisory Panel on Climate Change, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, 9 January 2018, Date of Access: 28 April 2018. http://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ch/page4e_000754.html

¹⁶¹⁷ Japan to allow new coal power plant but demand cuts elsewhere, Nikkei, 12 January 2018. Date of Access: 27 January 2018. <https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics-Economy/Policy-Politics/Japan-to-allow-new-coal-power-plant-but-demand-cuts-elsewhere>

¹⁶¹⁸ The 16th Informal Meeting on Further Actions against Climate Change, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, 23 February 2018. Date of Access: 29 April 2018. http://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_001924.html

¹⁶¹⁹ International conference on climate change and fragility in Asia and Pacific region — Interlinkage among science, regional studies and business from the perspective of long-term climate risks, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, 19 April, 2018. Date of Access: 7 May 2018. http://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ch/page25e_000192.html

and establishment of the Clean Air Fund to support the implementation of measures to improve air quality.¹⁶²⁰ In addition, the UK government announced its plans to end the sale of petrol and diesel cars and vans by 2040, as the country moves towards low emissions vehicles.¹⁶²¹

On 18 September 2017, the government announced the creation of the Green Finance Taskforce, a team of financial experts and academics who, in six months, will deliver a list of proposals to accelerate green finance and growth in UK's low carbon economy. The government also said that within the first half of 2018, the British Standards Institution and Green Finance Initiative will have drafted a new set of optional "sustainable finance management standards. Moreover, the government officially endorsed recommendations by the Financial Stability Board's Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosure, which encourages all listed companies to implement this voluntary framework to align climate-related risk management and financial governance.¹⁶²²

On 11 October 2017, Energy Minister Richard Harrington confirmed that the government would make GBP 557 million available for renewable energy initiatives that decrease energy cost and "increase business confidence," a measure he states conforms to the Clean Growth Strategy. Developers compete for these funds, by bidding in auctions for Contracts for Difference.¹⁶²³ On the same day, the UK government announced that it will allow proposals for wind energy developments on "the remote islands of Scotland" to compete in the next auction, which will be the spring of 2019.¹⁶²⁴

On 12 October 2017, Business and Energy Secretary Greg Clark shared details of UK's Clean Growth Strategy, which will allocate over GBP 2.5 billion of existing government spending on low carbon innovation until 2021 in various sectors of the domestic economy. Notably, it states that the UK will phase out coal power by 2025. The document also states a goal to meet the UK nationally determined contribution on forestry policy as greenhouse gas mitigation, whereby the UK will "establish a new network of forests in England including new woodland on farmland, and larger-scale woodland and forest creation, in support of our commitment to plant 11 million trees."¹⁶²⁵

¹⁶²⁰ UK plan for tackling roadside nitrogen dioxide concentrations: An overview. Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs and Department for Transport, July 2017. Date of Access: 14 December 2017.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/633269/air-quality-plan-overview.pdf

¹⁶²¹ UK plan for tackling roadside nitrogen dioxide concentrations: An overview. Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs and Department for Transport, July 2017. Date of Access: 14 December 2017.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/633269/air-quality-plan-overview.pdf

¹⁶²² UK Government Launches Plan to Accelerate Growth of Green Finance, UK Government 18 September 2017. Access Date: 5 November 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-launches-plan-to-accelerate-growth-of-green-finance>

¹⁶²³ Government Confirms Up to £557 Million for New Renewable Energy Projects, UK Government 11 October 2017. Date of Access: 14 November 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-confirms-up-to-557-million-for-new-renewable-energy-projects>

¹⁶²⁴ Boost for Island Wind Projects as UK Government Announces New Funding for Renewable Generation, UK Government 11 October 2017. Date of Access: 14 November 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/boost-for-island-wind-projects-as-uk-government-announces-new-funding-for-renewable-generation>

¹⁶²⁵ Government Reaffirms Commitment to Lead the World in Cost-Effective Clean Growth, UK Government 12 October 2017. Date of Access: 5 November 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-reaffirms-commitment-to-lead-the-world-in-cost-effective-clean-growth>

On 7 November 2017, the International Energy Agency launched its Clean Energy Transitions Programme, of which the UK provided GBP8 million to promote clean energy transitions around the globe.¹⁶²⁶

On 8 November 2017, Climate Change and Industry Minister Claire Perry announced that the government would spend GBP 16 million into two new innovation competitions, which are to contribute to the government's Clean Growth Strategy. The government also announced that it will spend nearly GBP 45 million setting up four research hubs at four British universities which will work on designing robotic technology to ensure safety in extreme environments in the functioning of nuclear and off-shore wind energy production.¹⁶²⁷

On 14 November 2017, Britain announced a contribution of USD 153 million, in partnership with Germany, to expand programs to fight climate change and deforestation in the Amazon rainforest, according to a statement from the Brazilian government. Of that amount, some USD 88 million will go towards a program that pays indigenous peoples and farmers in exchange for maintaining forest cover and will also provide funding for related sustainable economic development projects. The other USD 25 million from Britain will go to a regional forest preservation project in Brazil, Colombia and Peru.¹⁶²⁸

On 16 November 2017, the UK and Canada launched the Powering Past Coal Alliance, a group of more than 20 countries, that plans to eliminate the use of coal power as a source of energy. The alliance commits to setting coal phase out targets and not make further investments in coal-fired electricity in their jurisdictions or abroad. The coalition will work with businesses, civil society and governments to offer technical and practical support to accelerate the transition away from coal.¹⁶²⁹

On 12 December 2017, at the One Planet Summit in Paris, Prime Minister Theresa May made funding announcements to address climate change. This includes GBP 140 million to poorer communities address the effects of climate change, of which GBP 30 million will go towards part of the Department for International Development's Building Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Extremes and Disasters (BRACED) programme. Prime Minister Theresa May also announced GBP15 million in reconstruction support for Dominica to rebuild its water system after Hurricane Maria and another GBP 8 million for other adaptation projects in the Caribbean. Finally, she said the UK will host an international Zero Emission Vehicle Summit in Autumn 2018, bringing together Ministers, industry leaders and sector representatives from around the world to further develop the low emission and electric car market.¹⁶³⁰

¹⁶²⁶ IEA launches the Clean Energy Transitions Programme to support clean-energy development, International Energy Agency, 7 November 2017. Date of Access: 17 January 2018.

<https://www.iea.org/newsroom/news/2017/november/iea-launches-the-clean-energy-transitions-programme-to-support-clean-energy-devel.html>

¹⁶²⁷ Funding for £84 Million for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics Research and Smart Energy Innovation Announced, UK Government 8 November 2017. Date of Access: 10 November 2017.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/funding-for-84-million-for-artificial-intelligence-and-robotics-research-and-smart-energy-innovation-announced>

¹⁶²⁸ Jake Spring, Germany, Britain inject \$153 million in Amazon climate change fight, Reuters, 14 November 2017. Date of Access: 20 November 2017. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-brazil-climatechange-funding/germany-britain-inject-153-million-in-amazon-climate-change-fight-idUSKBN1DE238>

¹⁶²⁹ Climate Change Minister Claire Perry Launches Powering Past Coal Alliance at COP23, UK Government 16 November 2017. Date of Access: 24 November 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/climate-change-minister-claire-perry-launches-powering-past-coal-alliance-at-cop23>

¹⁶³⁰ PM announces new measures to tackle effects and causes of climate change, UK Government, 12 December 2017. Date of Access: 18 January 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-announces-new-measures-to-tackle-effects-and-causes-of-climate-change>

On 15 December 2017, Minister for Asia and the Pacific, Mark Field, spoke at the UN Security Council Arria on Climate Security, confirming the UK's commitment to diminishing the threat of climate change. He re-iterated the UK's financial contribution towards climate mitigation and adaptation in the Caribbean, Asia, and Africa as well as its pledge of at least USD7.5 billion in climate funds to year 2020.¹⁶³¹

On 18 December 2017, at the 5th annual UK-China Energy Dialogue, Business and Energy Secretary Greg Clark and Vice Chairman of the National Development and Reform Commission and Administrator of the National Energy Administration of China, Nur Bekri, agreed on an Action Plan for the UK-China Clean Energy Partnership. This dialogue demonstrated the importance of secure, affordable and sustainable energy and continued commitment to the Paris Agreement and efforts to de-carbonise their respective economies.¹⁶³²

On 5 January 2018, the UK government announced that the country's eight remaining coal power stations will be closed by 2025. These closures in seven years will be mandated through the use of a new emissions performance standard.¹⁶³³

On 9 February 2018, the UK Department of International Development (DFID) announced a GBP 21.5 million grant to the Zimbabwe Resilience Building Fund (ZRBF), which is a UN-managed initiative aimed to protect rural communities from the impacts of extreme weather and reduce poverty.¹⁶³⁴

On 12 February 2018, the British government announced GBP30 million of funding for 21 vehicle-to-grid (V2G) technology projects that would develop electric vehicles that also contribute power to the smart grid.¹⁶³⁵

On 9 March 2018, the United Kingdom and Saudi Arabia signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Clean Energy. The two countries pledge to share knowledge on energy-efficient technology.¹⁶³⁶

On 23 March 2018, the UK government announced funding worth more than GBP 260 million, including a GBP 220 million clean air fund, to help improve air quality in some of the most polluted areas. The funds are designed to help local authorities implement plans and minimize the impact on communities. Some of the funding includes 24.5 million to 28 local areas to install electric charging points, cycle routes, junction improvements, and to incentivise ultra-low emission taxis.¹⁶³⁷

On 23 March 2018, the UK government stopped plans for a new opencast coal mine because it would “adversely impact upon measures to limit climate change.” Sajid Javid, Minister for Local

¹⁶³¹ Mark Field's statement at the UN Security Council Arria on Climate Security, UK Government, 21 December 2017. Date of Access: 18 January 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/we-must-look-at-actions-to-promote-climate-security-in-a-holistic-way-we-must-recognise-that-causes-and-responses-are-interlinked>

¹⁶³² UK-China Energy Dialogue: The 5th annual UK-China Energy Dialogue has taken place in Beijing, UK Government, 18 December 2017. Date of Access: 18 January 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-china-energy-dialogue>

¹⁶³³ Adam Vaughan, UK government spells out plan to shut down coal plants, The Guardian, 5 January 2018. Date of Access: 6 May 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2018/jan/05/uk-coal-fired-power-plants-close-2025>

¹⁶³⁴ UK Injects £21.5m into Zimbabwe's Resilience Building Fund, United Nations Zimbabwe, 9 February 2018. Date of Access: 7 May 2018. <http://www.zw.one.un.org/newsroom/news/uk-injects-%C2%A3215m-zimbabwe%E2%80%99s-resilience-building-fund>

¹⁶³⁵ £30 Million Investment in Revolutionary V2G Technologies, UK Government, 12 February 2018. Date of Access: 25 April 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/30-million-investment-in-revolutionary-v2g-technologies>.

¹⁶³⁶ UK and Saudi Arabia Sign Memorandum of Understanding on Clean Energy, UK Government, 9 March 2018. Date of Access: 25 April 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-saudi-arabia-sign-memorandum-of-understanding-on-clean-energy>.

¹⁶³⁷ £260 million of clean air funding launched by government, UK Government, 23 March 2018. Date of Access: 7 May 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/260-million-of-clean-air-funding-launched-by-government>

Government, announced his refusal of the coal mine citing the need to prevent dangerous climate change as one of the main considerations.¹⁶³⁸

On 28 March 2018, the British government announced that as of February 2019, all trucks that operate at the most recent Euro VI emissions standards can deduct 10% from their Heavy Goods Vehicle levy.¹⁶³⁹ The British government also announced that it will invest GBP48 million for more energy-efficient buses in England and Wales. Private individuals and municipal authorities can bid for funding as part of Britain's Industrial Strategy.¹⁶⁴⁰

On 30 March 2018 as part of its Clean Growth Strategy, the British government launched an open consultation on how their Energy Company Obligation, the system by which the government provides "energy-efficiency upgrades and heating measures" as a form of poverty-reduction, can be further applied to low-income homes.¹⁶⁴¹

On 9 April 2018, the UK entered into a collaboration partnership with Canada and Bloomberg Philanthropies in order to support global efforts to move from coal-powered electricity to renewable energy, in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The collaboration involves producing research on how various governments are working to implement sustainable energy.¹⁶⁴²

On 13 April 2018, the Department for Transport hosted the International Maritime Organization in London,¹⁶⁴³ where a group of delegates drafted a "comprehensive strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions ... from international shipping."¹⁶⁴⁴ The strategy sets the goal of 50% fewer greenhouse gas emissions in the shipping industry by 2050, although a total elimination is the strategy's ultimate aim. It also commits to a goal of a 40% increase in ships' carbon intensity by 2030.¹⁶⁴⁵

On 15 April 2018, the British government's targets on renewable fuel, which is to replace diesel, came into effect. Under the Renewable Transport Fuel Obligation, "owners of transport fuel who supply at least 450,000 litres a year or more" would be required to produce a minimum of 12.4% of biofuel by 2032, an increase from the current 4.75% biofuel requirement.¹⁶⁴⁶ The government also

¹⁶³⁸ Susanna Twidale, Britain blocks plans for new coal mine on climate grounds, Reuters, 23 March 2018. Date of Access: 7 May 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-britain-coal-mine/britain-blocks-plans-for-new-coal-mine-on-climate-grounds-idUSKBN1GZ1DG>

¹⁶³⁹ Cleanest Lorries Will Pay Less to Use UK Roads, UK Government, 28 March 2018. Date of Access: 25 April 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cleanest-lorries-will-pay-less-to-use-uk-roads>.

¹⁶⁴⁰ Government Announces £48 Million for Cleaner, Greener Buses, UK Government, 28 March 2018. Date of Access: 25 April 2018.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-announces-48-million-for-cleaner-greener-buses>.

¹⁶⁴¹ Government Delivers on Manifesto Pledge with £6 Billion Package to Help End Fuel Poverty and Drive Innovation in Energy Efficiency, UK Government, 30 March 2018. Date of Access: 25 April 2018.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-delivers-on-manifesto-pledge-with-6-billion-package-to-help-end-fuel-poverty-and-drive-innovation-in-energy-efficiency>.

¹⁶⁴² Canada and the United Kingdom team up with Bloomberg Philanthropies to support global efforts to phase out coal power, Government of Canada - Environment and Climate Change Canada, 9 April 2018. Date of Access: 1 May 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/04/canada-and-the-united-kingdom-team-up-with-bloomberg-philanthropies-to-support-global-efforts-to-phase-out-coal-power.html>

¹⁶⁴³ UN Body Adopts Climate Change Strategy for Shipping, International Maritime Institution, 13 April 2018. Date of Access: 25 April 2018. <http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/PressBriefings/Pages/O6GHGinitialstrategy.aspx>.

¹⁶⁴⁴ Greenhouse Gases from International Shipping, UK Government, 17 April 2018. Date of Access: 25 April 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/greenhouse-gases-from-international-shipping>.

¹⁶⁴⁵ Greenhouse Gases from International Shipping, UK Government (London), 17 April 2018. Date of Access: 25 April 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/greenhouse-gases-from-international-shipping>.

¹⁶⁴⁶ New Regulations to Double the Use of Sustainable Renewable Fuels by 2020, UK Government (London), 13 April 2018. Date of Access: 25 April 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-regulations-to-double-the-use-of-sustainable-renewable-fuels-by-2020>.

updated its Renewable Transport Fuel Obligation such that there will now be public “reward and support” for renewable fuel in the aviation industry.¹⁶⁴⁷

On 16 April 2018, the United Kingdom announced that the country joined India’s International Solar Alliance. The organization aims to provide clean energy to developing nations, with the goal of raising USD 1 trillion by 2030.¹⁶⁴⁸

On 17 April 2018, Energy and Clean Growth Minister Claire Perry announced at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, that it would make available over GBP 8 million to projects reducing greenhouse gas emissions in Commonwealth countries. This sum includes GBP 3.5 million GBP to the 2050 calculator, a model that would allow Commonwealth countries to create “reduction pathways” and determine their effectiveness for about 30 years.¹⁶⁴⁹ She also announced GBP1.2 million to support energy efficiency measures in countries in the Pacific.¹⁶⁵⁰ Science Minister Sam Gyimah also confirmed that GBP 3.5 million would be made available for using satellites in climate-related disaster relief from the UK Space Agency International Partnerships in Kenya.¹⁶⁵¹

On 24 April 2018, “special representative for climate change at Britain’s foreign office,” Nick Bridge, stated, at Imperial College London, that Brexit would not affect the United Kingdom’s commitment to curbing greenhouse gas emissions as set out in the Paris Agreement.¹⁶⁵²

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment and has taken policy actions to lower greenhouse gas emissions and has pledged funds to developing countries in support of adaptation and mitigation.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Clara Geddes

United States: N/A

The United States is not included in the commitment to implement the Paris Agreement. With its withdrawal from the agreement, the United States has regressed many federal environmental policies.

On 1 June 2017, President Donald Trump said that he will pull the United States out of the Paris climate agreement, just days after attending the Taormina Summit. President Trump stated “the United States will cease all implementation of the non-binding Paris Accord and the draconian financial and economic burdens the agreement imposes on our country. This includes ending the

¹⁶⁴⁷ New Regulations to Double the Use of Sustainable Renewable Fuels by 2020, UK Government (London), 13 April 2018. Date of Access: 25 April 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-regulations-to-double-the-use-of-sustainable-renewable-fuels-by-2020>.

¹⁶⁴⁸ UK Joins International Solar Alliance to Help Provide Over 1 Billion of the World’s Poorest People with Clean, Affordable Energy, UK Government (London) 16 April 2018. Date of Access: 25 April 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-joins-international-solar-alliance-to-help-provide-over-1-billion-of-the-worlds-poorest-people-with-clean-affordable-energy>.

¹⁶⁴⁹ New UK Initiatives to Help Commonwealth Countries Tackle World’s Greatest Environmental Challenges, UK Government (London), 17 April 2018. Date of Access: 25 April 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-initiatives-to-help-commonwealth-countries-tackle-worlds-greatest-environmental-challenges>

¹⁶⁵⁰ 2050 Pathways, UK Government (London), 23 January 2013. Date of Access: 25 April 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/2050-pathways-analysis>.

¹⁶⁵¹ New UK Initiatives to Help Commonwealth Countries Tackle World’s Greatest Environmental Challenges, UK Government (London), 17 April 2018. Date of Access: 25 April 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-initiatives-to-help-commonwealth-countries-tackle-worlds-greatest-environmental-challenges>.

¹⁶⁵² Brexit ‘Will not Change’ UK’s Climate Ambition: Government Official, UK Government (London) 24 April 2018. Date of Access: 25 April 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-britain-climatechange-politics/brexit-will-not-change-uks-climate-ambition-government-official-idUSKBN1HV1LI>.

implementation of the nationally determined contribution and, very importantly, the Green Climate Fund which is costing the United States a vast fortune.”¹⁶⁵³

On 25 July 2017, the U.S. Interior Department’s Bureau of Land Management (BLM) said it would scrap an Obama-era rule that aimed to ensure fracking for oil and gas does not pollute water supplies because “it duplicates state rules and imposes burdensome reporting requirements and other unjustified costs on the oil and gas industry.” Although the rule was finalized two years earlier but never came into force, BLM defended the regulation until the start of the Trump administration.¹⁶⁵⁴

On 10 August 2017, the Trump administration said it would consider relaxing rules for greenhouse gas emissions on new model cars, with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Department of Transportation tasked with rewriting emissions standards for cars and light trucks to be made between 2021 and 2025.¹⁶⁵⁵

On 15 August 2017, President Trump signed an executive order that rolled back rules on environmental reviews and restrictions for government-funded building projects in flood-prone areas as part of his proposal to spend USD 1 trillion to fix aging U.S. infrastructure. This order revokes an Obama-era executive order aimed at reducing exposure to flooding, sea level rise and other consequences of climate change.¹⁶⁵⁶

On 16 August 2017, the acting Director of U.S. National Parks Service, Michael Reynolds, removed an Obama-era rule that called for a focus on climate change in managing natural resources in U.S. parks.¹⁶⁵⁷

On 20 August 2017, the Trump administration announced its decision to disband the federal advisory panel for the National Climate Assessment, a group working to help policymakers and private-sector officials incorporate the government’s climate analysis into long-term planning.¹⁶⁵⁸

On 21 September 2017, the EPA postponed new limits on toxic metals and other pollutants in the wastewater of coal-fired power plants until 2020. The rule from 2015, set limits on metals linked to human health problems including lead, mercury and arsenic in the wastewater of coal-fired plants.¹⁶⁵⁹

On 4 October 2017, the BLM said it would try to delay parts of an Obama-era rule to limit methane emissions from oil and gas production on federal lands, a rule Congress upheld earlier in 2017. The

¹⁶⁵³ Statement by President Trump on the Paris Climate Accord, The Whitehouse, 1 June 2017. Date of Access: 9 January 2018. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/statement-president-trump-paris-climate-accord/>

¹⁶⁵⁴ Oliver, Milman, Trump proposes scrapping Obama-era fracking rule on water pollution, The Guardian, 25 July 2017. Date of Access: 9 January 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2017/jul/25/trump-proposes-scrapping-obama-era-fracking-rule-on-water-pollution>

¹⁶⁵⁵ Dino, Grandoni, Trump officials begin review of Obama emissions standards for cars, The Washington Post, 10 August 2017. Date of Access: 9 January 2018. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2017/08/10/trump-officials-begin-review-of-obama-emissions-standards-for-cars/>

¹⁶⁵⁶ Valerie Volcovici, Jeff Mason, Trump infrastructure push rolls back environmental rules, Reuters, 15 August 2017. Date of Access: 9 January 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trump-infrastructure/trump-infrastructure-push-rolls-back-environmental-rules-idUSKCN1AV1ZI>

¹⁶⁵⁷ Nadja Popovich, Livia Albeck-Ripka and Kendra Pierre-Louise, 60 Environmental Rules on the Way Out Under Trump, The New York Time, 15 December 2017. Date of Access: 10 January. <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2017/10/05/climate/trump-environment-rules-reversed.html>

¹⁶⁵⁸ Juliet Eilperin, The Trump administration just disbanded a federal advisory committee on climate change, The Washington Post, 20 August 2017. Date of Access: 10 January 2018. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2017/08/20/the-trump-administration-just-disbanded-a-federal-advisory-committee-on-climate-change/>

¹⁶⁵⁹ Timothy Gardner, U.S. delays limits on toxic metals from coal-fired power plants, Reuters, 21 September 2017. Date of Access: 10 January 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/legal-us-usa-epa-powerstation-effluent/u-s-delays-limits-on-toxic-metals-from-coal-fired-power-plants-idUSKCN1BO2U9>

rule, finalized by two months before President Barack Obama left office, requires oil and gas operators on public lands to prevent leaking, venting and flaring of the potent greenhouse gas methane.¹⁶⁶⁰

On 9 October 2017, the EPA announced a repeal of the Clean Power Act, which was President Obama's signature policy to curb greenhouse gas emissions from power plants. When the Clean Power Plan was introduced in 2015, it was expected to cut emissions from the power 32% by 2030, relative to 2005. According to EPA head of agency, Scott Pruitt, repealing the measure "will also facilitate the development of U.S. energy resources and reduce unnecessary regulatory burdens associated with the development of those resources."¹⁶⁶¹

On 23 October 2017, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke said the Department is proposing the largest oil and gas lease sale ever held in the United States to promote oil and gas development. The area includes some 77 million acres in federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico, offshore Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida and is scheduled to take place in March 2018.¹⁶⁶²

On 26 October 2017, the EPA announced reviews of the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act and its impact energy industry job losses. EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt said that "we are working to curb unnecessary and duplicative regulatory burdens that do not serve the American people." In addition, the EPA will also create a task force "to simplify the permit process for building new polluting facilities, weigh options to revamp national ambient air quality standards and launch a "smart sectors" program to engage with industries as it crafts regulations."¹⁶⁶³

On 18 December 2017, the US announced a new security strategy, which removed climate change from its list of global threats. Under President Obama's national security strategy, climate change was viewed as one of the main dangers facing the country and made building international consensus on containing global warming a national security priority.¹⁶⁶⁴

On 4 January 2018, Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke announced a plan to expand offshore drilling between the Atlantic and Arctic oceans by opening up federal waters off the coast of California for the first time in more than 30 years. Secretary Zinke said that "the development of offshore energy resources would boost jobs and economic security while providing billions of dollars to fund conservation along U.S. coastlines."¹⁶⁶⁵

On 11 January 2018, President Trump stated that the US could "conceivably" rejoin the Paris climate accord if an agreement treated America more fairly. He went on further to say, "It's an agreement that I have no problem with but I had a problem with the agreement that they (the Obama

¹⁶⁶⁰ Timothy Gardner, Trump administration plans to delay methane controls on oil, gas, Reuters, 4 October 2017. Date of Access: 11 January 2018. <https://uk.reuters.com/article/us-usa-regulation-methane/trump-administration-plans-to-delay-methane-controls-on-oil-gas-idUKKBN1C92LI>

¹⁶⁶¹ Lisa Friedman and Brad Plumer, E.P.A. Announces Repeal of Major Obama-Era Carbon Emissions Rule, The New York Times, 9 October 2017. Date of Access: 10 January 2018. <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/10/09/climate/clean-power-plan.html>

¹⁶⁶² Bryan Sims, U.S. Interior Dept. sets Gulf of Mexico oil, gas lease auction for March, Reuters, 24 October 2017. Date of Access: 10 January 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-offshore-auction/u-s-interior-dept-sets-gulf-of-mexico-oil-gas-lease-auction-for-march-idUSKBN1CT2O1>

¹⁶⁶³ Valerie Volcovici, EPA to review how clean air, water laws affect energy sector jobs, Reuters, 26 October 2017. Date of Access: 10 January 2018. <https://uk.reuters.com/article/us-usa-environment-regulation/epa-to-review-how-clean-air-water-laws-affect-energy-sector-jobs-idUKKBN1CU38W>

¹⁶⁶⁴ Julian Borger, Trump drops climate change from national security strategy. The Guardian, 19 December 2017. Date of Access: 28 April 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2017/dec/18/trump-drop-climate-change-national-security-strategy>

¹⁶⁶⁵ Trump moves to vastly expand offshore drilling. CBC News, 4 January 2018. Date of Access: 28 April 2018. <http://www.cbc.ca/news/business/trump-offshore-oil-drilling-1.4473281>

administration) signed because, as usual, they made a bad deal ... so we could conceivably go back in.” He added that “the Paris accord really would have taken away our competitive edge, and we're not going to let that happen.”¹⁶⁶⁶

On 25 January 2018, the EPA said it would withdraw a provision of the Clean Air Act that requires major polluters like power plants to always be treated as a major source, even if it makes changes to reduce emissions. According to the EPA, air pollution from “major sources” may be reclassified as “area” sources making these sources subject to less strict pollution control standards than major sources.¹⁶⁶⁷

On 12 February 2018, the Trump administration proposed a budget cut of USD 1.3 billion to USD 696 million for fiscal year 2019. In addition, the budget also called more than 19% increase to the fossil energy research and development office to USD 502 million for making advanced power systems based on fossil fuels like coal and natural gas more efficient.¹⁶⁶⁸

On 15 March 2018, the U.S Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), which is responsible for dealing with the effects of disasters like hurricanes and floods, erased the words “climate change” from its strategic plan for 2018-2022. This version replaced the plan made under former President Obama, which highlighted challenges caused by a changing climate, and the need for FEMA to incorporate those risks into its long-term plans. According to Brock Long, the administrator of FEMA, “The term climate change has become such a political hot button that, I think, I keeps us from having a real dialogue.”¹⁶⁶⁹

On 2 April 2018, US environmental regulators indicated they would ease emissions standards for cars and trucks, saying that a timeline put in place by Barack Obama was not appropriate and set standards “too high.” Current regulations require new vehicles to get 36 miles per gallon in real-world driving by 2025, which is 10 miles per gallon over the existing standard. The EPA said it had completed a review that would affect vehicles for model years 2022-25 and that new standards were forthcoming.¹⁶⁷⁰

On 24 April 2018, the EPA Administrator, Scott Pruitt, proposed a rule that would limit types of scientific research it can use in crafting regulations. The proposal is seen as a way to boost transparency for the benefit of the industries the EPA regulates and “ensures that data will be secret no more.” According to Scott Pruitt, the science will “be analyzed by those in the marketplace, and those that watch what we do can make informed decisions about whether we’ve drawn the proper conclusions or not.”¹⁶⁷¹

¹⁶⁶⁶ Climate Change: Trump says US “could conceivably” rejoin Paris deal. BBC, 11 January 2018. Date of Access: 28 April 2018. <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-42642331>

¹⁶⁶⁷ Eric Beech, The US EPA reverses policy on “major sources” of pollution. Reuters, 26 January 2018. Date of Access: 28 April 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trump-epa/u-s-epa-reverses-policy-on-major-sources-of-pollution-idUSKBN1FF075>

¹⁶⁶⁸ Timothy Gardner, Trump budget cuts renewable energy office, ups nuclear weapons spending. Reuters, 13 February 2018. Date of Access: 28 April 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-budget-energy/trump-budget-cuts-renewable-energy-office-eps-nuclear-weapons-spending-idUSKBN1FW2MZ>

¹⁶⁶⁹ Christopher Flavelle, FEMA Strips Mention of “Climate Change” From Its Strategic Plan. Bloomberg, 15 March 2018. Date of Access: 28 April 2018. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-03-15/fema-strips-mention-of-climate-change-from-its-strategic-plan>

¹⁶⁷⁰ EPA announces easing of car and truck emissions standards. The Guardian, 2 April 2018. Date of Access: 28 April 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/apr/02/environmental-protection-agency-emissions-standards-cars-trucks-rollback>

¹⁶⁷¹ Valerie Volcovici, Timothy Gardner, U.S Environment Agency proposes limits to science used in rulemaking. Reuters, 24 April 2018. Date of Access: 28 April 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-epa-science/u-s-environment-agency-proposes-limits-to-science-used-in-rulemaking-idUSKBN1HV2DJ>

Given the withdrawal of the United States from the Paris Agreement and the subsequent actions taken by the Trump administration to undo climate change regulations, the government has made no effort to further environmental protection policies.

Analyst: Laila Kanji

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to swiftly implement the Paris agreement, and has taken action to meet its nationally determined commitments (NDCs). It has taken steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, as well as increase international cooperation between member and non-EU member countries.

On 31 May 2017, the EU announced ‘Europe on the Move’ initiatives that are planned to be in place by 2025 and will focus on the production of clean and energy efficient transportation to help reduce greenhouse gas and carbon dioxide emissions. The first eight proposals covering road transport will be complemented over the next 12 months by other proposals, including on post-2020 emissions standards for cars and vans as well as the first-ever emission standards for heavy-duty vehicles.¹⁶⁷²

On 1 June 2017, the EU Climate Action and Energy Commissioner Miguel Arias Cañete issued a statement saying “the world can continue to count on Europe for global leadership in the fight against climate change. Europe will lead through ambitious climate policies and through continued support to the poor and vulnerable.”¹⁶⁷³

On 15-16 September 2017, the EU co-hosted the Ministerial on Climate Action with China and Canada in Montreal, Canada. This event brought together ministers and representatives from 34 countries including G20 members and non-members to further galvanise global momentum for the implementation of the Paris Agreement.¹⁶⁷⁴

On 7 November 2017, the EU announced its support for the International Energy Agency’s Clean Energy Transitions Programme through a contribution of EUR 3.5 million to promote clean energy transitions around the globe.¹⁶⁷⁵

On 8 November 2017, The European Commission published proposals aimed at reducing vehicles carbon dioxide emissions by 2030. It is devised incentivise car manufacturers to develop more hybrid and electric cars. Under the plan, cars and vans will have to emit 15% less carbon dioxide by 2025 compared with 2021 and 30% less by 2030.¹⁶⁷⁶

On 11 November 2017, the EU Parliament and Council announced a provisional agreement to revise the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) for the period after 2020. This revision will put the EU

¹⁶⁷² Europe on the move: Commission takes action for clean, competitive and connected mobility, European Commission: Mobility and Transport, 31 May 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017.

https://ec.europa.eu/transport/modes/road/news/2017-05-31-europe-on-the-move_en

¹⁶⁷³ Statement by Climate Action and Energy Commissioner Miguel Arias Cañete on the US announcement to withdraw from the Paris Agreement, European Commission, 1 June 2017. Date of Access: 24 November 2017.

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-17-1513_en.htm

¹⁶⁷⁴ EU co-hosts major international climate meeting with Canada and China, European Commission: Climate Action. 15 September 2017. Date of Access: 22 November 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/eu-co-hosts-major-international-climate-meeting-canada-and-china_en

¹⁶⁷⁵ IEA launches the Clean Energy Transitions Programme to support clean-energy development, International Energy Agency, 7 November 2017. Date of Access: 17 January 2018.

<https://www.iea.org/newsroom/news/2017/november/iea-launches-the-clean-energy-transitions-programme-to-support-clean-energy-devel.html>

¹⁶⁷⁶ EU car firms should cut CO2 emissions by 30% from 2030, BBC News, 8 November 2017. Date of Access: 20 January 2018. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-41914805>

on track to achieving a significant part of its commitment under the Paris Agreement in reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 40% by 2030. The EU ETS caps carbon dioxide emitted by the power sector and energy intensive industry through a market-based cap and trade system.¹⁶⁷⁷

On 14 November 2017, the EU with 79 members of the African, Caribbean, and Pacific Group (ACP) together reaffirmed their commitment to the Paris Agreement while also urging other members to do the same. The EU and the ACP Group are long-standing partners in international climate cooperation through the Global Climate Change Alliance Intra-ACP programme, which is funded by the EU and has been providing technical support to ACP countries since 2011.¹⁶⁷⁸ The second phase of the programme, launched officially at 23rd Conference of the Parties (COP23) in Bonn, will provide an additional EUR 70 million to ACP countries to adapt to the impacts of climate change and contribute to strengthening the role of the ACP group in global climate action.¹⁶⁷⁹

On 16 November 2017 at COP23, European Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy Miguel Arias Cañete launched new EU strategic partnerships to implement the Paris Agreement and scale up European climate policy collaborations with other major economies. This includes the EU's Partnership Instrument contribution of EUR 20 million to the co-financial agreement with the German International Climate Initiative.¹⁶⁸⁰ Furthermore, the EU announced that by the end of this year, it will ratify the second commitment of the Kyoto Protocol with the implementation of the Doha Amendment. This amendment, agreed in 2012, established a period of legally-binding emissions commitments for 2013-2020.¹⁶⁸¹

On 17 November 2017, the EU led discussions for the design of the Talanoa Dialogue, to be held next year.¹⁶⁸² This “facilitative dialogue” will take stock of how climate action is progressing, where members want to be in the future, and how they will get there, all of which will inform the next round of NDCs.¹⁶⁸³

On 23 November 2017 EU and Switzerland signed an agreement that will link their emissions trading systems. This agreement, the first of its kind for the EU and between two parties to the Paris

¹⁶⁷⁷ EU Emissions Trading System: landmark agreement between Parliament and Council delivers on EU's commitment to turn Paris Agreement into reality, European Commission: Climate Action, 9 November 2017. Date of Access: 24 November 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/eu-emissions-trading-system-landmark-agreement-between-parliament-and-council-delivers-eus_en

¹⁶⁷⁸ Global Climate Change Alliance+, GCCA Intra-ACP programme, Date of Access: 17 January 2018 <http://www.gcca.eu/about-the-gcca/intra-accp>

¹⁶⁷⁹ EU and 79 African, Caribbean and Pacific countries call for tangible progress on Paris Agreement implementation at UN climate talks, European Commission: Climate Action. 14 November 2017. Date of Access: 20 December 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/eu-and-79-african-caribbean-and-pacific-countries-call-tangible-progress-paris-agreement_en

¹⁶⁸⁰ EU scales up cooperation with other major economies to implement Paris Agreement, promote global energy transition, European Commission: Climate Action. 16 November 2017. Date of Access: 24 November 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/eu-scales-cooperation-other-major-economies-implement-paris-agreement-promote-global-energy_en

¹⁶⁸¹ UN climate conference makes progress on Paris Agreement implementation, Europe Commission: Climate Action. 16 November 2017. Date of Access: 20 December 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/eu-conclude-ratification-second-kyoto-protocol-commitment-period-end-year_en

¹⁶⁸² UN climate conference makes progress on Paris Agreement implementation, European Commission — Press Release, 18 November 2017. Date of Access: 17 January 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-4740_en.htm

¹⁶⁸³ Preparations for the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement: Talanoa Dialogue, United Nations: Framework Convention on Climate Change. 17 November 2017. Date of Access: 20 December 2017. <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2017/cop23/eng/l13.pdf>

Agreement on climate change, will allow the EU and the Swiss to use allowances in their respective emissions trading systems.¹⁶⁸⁴

On 12 December 2017 at the One Planet Summit hosted by France, the EU announced the EU External Investment Plan, comprising climate-smart investments worth EUR 9 billion targeting sustainable cities, sustainable energy and connectivity, and sustainable agriculture, rural entrepreneurs and agribusiness. This plan is set to mobilise some EUR44 billion for Africa and EU countries by 2020.¹⁶⁸⁵

On 14 December 2017 at an EU Council meeting, the Council, Parliament and Commission agreed to work more closely together and came up with 31 new initiatives that would strengthen the EU. Nine of 31 initiatives were proposals focusing on climate change policies that would help the EU move towards its goals outlined in the Paris agreement.¹⁶⁸⁶

On 19 December 2017, the European Commission adopted a provisional agreement to a ‘Clean energy for all Europeans’ package that will assist the EU in meeting its 2030 energy and climate goals¹⁶⁸⁷

On 29 December 2017, the European Council and Parliament adopted regulation from February 2017 that would prolong the derogation for extra flights in the European Economic Areas, reduce the number of aviation allowances from 2021 onwards, and implement the global market-based measure, which would allow for the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions.¹⁶⁸⁸

On 17 January 2018, EU ambassadors agreed to the Effort Sharing regulations that will set binding emission reduction targets of 30% by 2030 for member states that are not in the EU ETS to help fulfill the Paris Agreement.¹⁶⁸⁹

On 25 January 2018, the EU member states agreed to invest EUR873 million in key European electricity and gas infrastructure projects to further the EU’s transition to a low-carbon economy. Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy, Miguel Arias Cañete, stated “an energy infrastructure which is fit for purpose is also essential for renewable energy sources to thrive and for delivering on the Paris Agreement on climate change.”¹⁶⁹⁰

¹⁶⁸⁴ EU and Switzerland sign agreement to link emissions trading systems, European Commission: Climate Action. 23 November 2017. Date of Access: 20 December 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/eu-and-switzerland-sign-agreement-link-emissions-trading-systems_en

¹⁶⁸⁵ One Planet Summit: Finance Commitments Fire-Up Higher Momentum for Paris Climate Change Agreement, UN Climate Change News, 12 December 2017. Date of Access: 29 April 2018. <https://unfccc.int/news/one-planet-summit-finance-commitments-fire-up-higher-momentum-for-paris-climate-change-agreement>

¹⁶⁸⁶ Working document for the Joint Declaration, European Commission, 14 December 2017. Date of Access: 24 April 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/working-document-joint-declaration-legislative-priorities-2018-19_en.pdf

¹⁶⁸⁷ Improving energy performance of buildings, European Parliament Think Tank, 19 March 2018. Date of Access: 24 April 2018. [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document.html?reference=EPRS_BRI\(2017\)599299](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document.html?reference=EPRS_BRI(2017)599299)

¹⁶⁸⁸ CO2 emissions from aviation, EU Legislation in Progress, European Parliament, 29 December 2017. Date of Access: 23 April 2018. [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2017/603925/EPRS_BRI\(2017\)603925_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2017/603925/EPRS_BRI(2017)603925_EN.pdf).

¹⁶⁸⁹ Effort sharing regulations: EU ambassadors approve provisional agreement, European Council, Council of the European Union, 17 January 2018. Date of Access: 25 April 2018. <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2018/01/17/effort-sharing-regulation/>.

¹⁶⁹⁰ More growth and jobs: EU invests €873 million in clean energy infrastructure, European Commission, 25 January 2018. 2018. Date of Access: 7 May 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-383_en.htm

On 1 February 2018, the European Commissioner Cecilia Malmstrom stated that any country wishing to have a trade agreement with the UN needs to have a “Paris deal reference”¹⁶⁹¹ referring to the Paris agreement. This new requirement stems from the Japan-EU agreement and aims to swiftly implement the Paris agreement. The comment made from the EU commissioner was to reaffirm the EU’s position on climate change while trying to come to an agreement with the US over the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership.¹⁶⁹²

On 26 February 2018, the EU Council met and announced its commitment to the swift implementation of the Paris Agreement, discussed the linkages between climate change and security as well as climate policy in trade, transportation and energy.¹⁶⁹³

On 8 March 2018, the European Commission released its Action Plan to make sustainability a key component of the financial sector within Europe for years to come. The strategy aims to “connect finance with the specific needs of the European economy to the benefit of the planet and our society.” Features of the plan include establishing a “common language” for sustainable finance, creating EU labels for green financial products, and enhancing transparency in corporate reporting of climate risks.¹⁶⁹⁴

On 22 March 2018, the EU released a declaration commemorating World Water Day, where they reaffirmed its commitment to the Paris Agreement and paid tribute to those who fight for environmental protection.¹⁶⁹⁵

On 23 April 2018, the EU along with the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and Germany, signed agreements to support the Ukrainian government’s work in reducing energy waste and greenhouse gas emissions in the residential sector. Under the agreement, IFC will initially manage up to EUR 53 million, of which EUR 43 million comes from the EU to finance programs of the Ukrainian Energy Efficiency Fund. This project, developed by the Ukrainian government, will provide grants for energy-efficiency renovations in multi-family buildings.¹⁶⁹⁶

The European Union has taken actions in line with lowering lower greenhouse gas emissions in various sectors and has provided climate funds to development countries through the EU’s Partnership Instrument that support adaptation and mitigation.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

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¹⁶⁹¹ Cecilia Malmstrom, Twitter. 1 February 2018. Date of Access: 23 April 2018.

https://twitter.com/Mathilde_Dupre_/status/959112642429423616

¹⁶⁹² ‘No Paris Agreement, no EU trade deal’, says France to US, Climateaction: In partnership with UN Environment. 5 February 2018. Date of Access: 23 April 2018. <http://www.climateactionprogramme.org/news/no-paris-agreement-no-eu-trade-deal-says-france-to-us>

¹⁶⁹³ General Secretariat of the Council, Council of the European Union, 26 February 2018. Date of Access: 23 April 2018. <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/32953/st06125-en18.pdf>

¹⁶⁹⁴ Sustainable finance: Commission’s Action Plan for a greener and cleaner economy, European Commission, 8 March 2018. Date of Access: 7 May 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-1404_en.htm

¹⁶⁹⁵ Declaration by the High Representative on behalf of the EU to commemorate the World Water Day, 22 March 2018, European Council, Council of the European Union, 22 March 2018. Date of Access: 24 April 2018. <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2018/03/22/declaration-by-the-high-representative-on-behalf-of-the-eu-to-commemorate-the-world-water-day-22-march-2018/>.

¹⁶⁹⁶ EU, IFC, Germany Partner to Establish New Fund, Support Energy Efficiency in Ukraine, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, 23 April 2018. Date of Access: 6 May 2018.

<https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/bundesumweltministerium-unterstuetzt-energetische-gebaeudesanierung-in-der-ukraine/>