

International climate policy: An uphill battle for global conference diplomacy. What we need from COP21, Paris 2015.

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The UNFCCC, 20 years later. Balance.

Elements of success:

a) Better knowledge of the problem, its origins and solutions. Shift in trends.

b) Accounting and reporting. Increasing transparency and ability to follow up.

c) Higher priority in the agendas (development, agriculture, food security, energy, water, infrastructures, transports, etc.)

d) Participation and challenges for a new global governance,

e) Combination of national, regional and global efforts,

Difficulties, limitations:

a) Insufficient speed and timeframe,

b) Complexity to integrate climate and other relevant parameters,

c) Mainstreaming other sectoral policies. Climate seems to be expensive, complex...

d) Difficulties to build consensus,

e) How to incentivise consistency elsewhere while ensuring the general coordination.

UNFCCC, 20 more years? What for?

What for:

- a) Global issues deserve global responses,
- b) To ensure global vision and strengthen efficient responses,
- c) To empower a common institution,
- d) To ensure participation in the decision making process.

Difficulties:

- a) How to combine global action and common principles with local policies and national interest.
- b) Is it the most efficient answer?
- c) Is it accepted and respected? Can it be improved?
- d) Is a 189 members assembly be a good and efficient answer? Can it deliver?

Main challenges. Paris outcome in 2015

Why a new agreement in 2015?

- To ensure collective action beyond 2020.
- To decarbonise deeper and build resilience.
- To shift investments, guide policies and speed up innovation.
- To allow ratification and timely entry into force.

Main pillars

- Building on previous lessons,
- Consistent development of UNFCCC
- Sufficient and “comprehensive”,
- Flexible to adapt to science and technology,
- Able to promote action in other fora.

Main challenges. Paris outcome in 2015(2)

Solutions kit. Elements of a draft negotiation text. ADP2014/6/NP

Preambular elements: durable, flexible & effective.

Mitigation. 2°C

How to get it? Options. Revert global rhythm from now to 2020 to speed up 2020-2030 (2030 below 1990 levels). Equity – differentiation, classical principles with new meanings, criteria-

Can it be combined with national/regional/sectoral efforts? How to cover an eventual gap?

Common carbon Price signals?

What type of commitments? Global agreement on a carbon free energy system?

Benchmarks on absolute figures?

How to adapt to science and/or technology developments?

2. Adaptation.

Towards a global adaptation goal?

Next steps on previous efforts?, what is needed in a new outcome?

A single global mechanism? A set of responses to deal with loss and damages?

The follow up? Anyway to assess if we are on track?

Main challenges. Paris outcome in 2015 (3)

3. Implementation tools:

- Finance: what tools for public finance; how to ensure the climate consistency in any private investment; new tools?, room for improvement in existing ones?, who contributes?, etc.
- Technology: how to promote the deployment of the existing ones and to speed up the learning curves, a level playing field for innovation, limitations?
- Market mechanisms; new role for carbon markets, FVA, etc.

4. Transparency and accounting.

- Same standards for everyone?
- Common rules by sector, by type of commitment?
- Comparability?
- Reporting methodologies?

Main challenges. Paris outcome in 2015 (4)

And...

Time to rethink UNFCCC working patterns?

- Rules of procedure and voting?, consensus/unanimity?
- Same meetings style?

- Combination of decisions to get wider flexibility?
- Any way to allow others involvement (sub national/local authorities, business, unions, ngos...)?

Lima 2014

Succeeding in Paris depends on Lima 2014.

What do we need in Lima?

1. Political agreement on main lines and detailed references on elements to be part of the draft text to be issued by may 2015.

2. Political agreement on how to organise the transition from the current regime to the next one.

Ban Ki Moon summit sept 2014

Other fora, players, messages?

París 2015

What is a succesful COP21?

End of a negociation cycle?

Geopolitics vs national interest

What to demand to the international financial regime?

Tools for credible and ambitious action:

a) Political support

b) Coherence beyond UNFCCC

c) Decarbonisation trayectories; not just targets

d) Legal form

Thanks a lot

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