

Committee: Group of twenty

**Topic B: Topic B: Financing
measures for the
implementation and
contribution of the Paris
Agreement**

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INTRODUCTION:

The G20 is the most important and the main forum for international cooperation in the economic, financing and political areas of the member countries, which are the European Union, Saudi Arabia, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, North Korea, United States of America, India, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, the United Kingdom, Russia, South Africa and Turkey.

It was created in September 25th, 1999 as a forum for financing ministers and central banks' presidents from the member countries during a reunion of the members of the G7 (Germany, Canada, United States, France, Italy, Japan and the United Kingdom) who saw the need of be able to count on a more exclusive group, which could be able to create a bigger worldwide impact.

It wasn't until the global economic crisis of 2008 when the global community decided it was necessary to create new agreements between high-ranked functionaries. Since then, this committee's meetings started to include reunions between the Heads of Government and States, and the agenda of topics to discuss was extended. One of the topics the G20 has discussed recently is the Paris Agreement.



The Paris Agreement is an alliance that arranges the cooperation of several countries to confront and face the problems caused by pollution and climate change, which at the same time seeks to aid developing countries so they can implement certain measures as well. It was signed by 195 countries in December 12, 2015, during the 21st session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change held in the city of Paris, France that year. However, one year after the presidential elections, the United States of America declares that the country will leave the agreement.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Climate change has always been a constant discussion topic between nations, remarking the importance of its development and the consequences that this will bring to the entire world in a couple of years from now. Mainly, climate change is related to fossil fuel usage by the civil population around the world in their daily activities and some specific companies like the ones which have filtrated documents that revealed that the European Union block was not interested in discussing anything that can see the restrict market. The prediction made in the topic of climate change if it continues in the time its advance is, at the moment, that it will have as consequences that millions of people have to abandon their homes due to the frequent extreme weather events that will take place. It is estimated that the Paris agreement will not help to this people, their calendar is too slow, and the decisions taken about how to deal with the climate change will exacerbate the injustice, this makes many people and countries feel discontent.

This is not the first international effort to stop the emissions of greenhouse gases. The Kyoto Protocol is an international agreement related to the United Nations on the Climate Change, that commits its parties by setting internationally binding emission reduction targets. It was signed in Kyoto, Japan on December 11, 1997. It was decided to create a new accord regarding the same problematic since the plan had many failures, one of them was the US, in that moment the biggest emitter of greenhouse effect gases, never entered because it



knew that it would never function, absence of binding targets for developing nations, many countries increase very fast its greenhouse gas emissions.

The meetings in order to make this plan started from November 30, 2015 to December 11, 2015, in the United Nations Climate Change Conference that was held in Paris, France, in order to achieve the first time over 20 years of UN negotiations. on April 22, 2016, all the 174 countries signed the agreement in New York, United States, and began to adopt it within their own legal systems.

The Paris Agreement had helped because many countries started to move forward to implement policies for climate change, except for President Trump that pulled the US out and are taking lead of climate action by their own.

The following timeline may depict ter the resolution of the Paris Agreement:

1992: Rio Earth Summit (UNFCCC) ; mainly established to adopt the first series of international environmental agreements.

1995: Kyoto Protocol; established to accelerate climate change efforts by launching international negotiations towards a formal sub-agreement. (COP1)

1997: Kyoto's Protocol (COP3), incorporation of a series of flexible or "market-based" mechanisms to enable the development of countries in a sustainable an eco-friendly way.

2005: The ratification of Kyoto's Protocol procedures by the international image.

2012: Emission targets and specific goals for climate change. Basis of the current Paris Agreement.

2015: Paris Agreement, landmarked agreement to combat climate change and to accelerate and intensify global action



plans to put the world on track to avoid dangerous climate change catastrophes.

CURRENT RELEVANCE

As a response of the global crisis in the actual century, the G20 summit has included topics with environmental objectives in the Agenda of 2030, as one of the main axes to discuss the new ways to prevent future climate, atmospheric and human-environmental problems, which have a significant impact on nowadays development. Several measures have been carried out to minimize the impact of climate change.

In the final communiqué of the summit of leaders of the G20 (2015) is requested on behalf of all its members, except the US, the "rapid" implementation of the Paris Agreement against climate change, evidencing the international isolation in this matter of the American president, Donald Trump.

The final text includes the phrase that all members of this forum of industrialized and emerging economies except the US "want to implement quickly" the Paris Agreement, the first global instrument to fight against global warming, signed in the French capital at the end of 2015

In addition, it is emphasized in the consensus document that the Paris Agreement is "non-negotiable", closing the door to any change to the text as proposed by the US president when announcing the departure of the US from the agreement, a fact on which the other 19 "take note "

The statement leaves the United States isolated on the climate issue and also reveals that it has not obtained the support of other countries on this issue, although it had been speculated that Washington could add Saudi Arabia, Turkey or even Indonesia to its cause. , all of them members of the G20.

In exchange for the US admitting this phrase about the Paris Agreement, the US negotiators have introduced in the final declaration a controversial phrase about the use of fossil fuels. The ruling says the US will help third countries to "use fossil



fuels," such as coal and oil, "in a cleaner and more effective way."

However, the direct pressure of the French president, Emmanuel Macron, has caused this phrase to be added by adding "as well as other sources of renewable and clean energy". This mention of fossil fuels is controversial because in principle many delegations did not want it to appear in the declaration, since the objective is to drastically reduce their use for what they pollute.

Specifically, the Russian delegation has commented that it continues and will continue to support the entire framework of legality and availability to continue with sustainable development.

Different NGOs applaud the decision to stand firm in the fight against climate change despite the US position. The environmental group Greenpeace, which advocates to end the use of fossil fuels, supported a bridge in Hamburg by means of a sign calling for the "end of coal" to the leaders of the G20.

INTERNATIONAL ACTIONS

The rewriting of the communiqué against the clock, with which the G20 summit in Antalya (Turkey) has been closed, finally reflects the commitment of rich and emerging countries to reach an agreement "with legal force", "applicable to all" and "ambitious, fair, balanced, durable and dynamic ". In addition, stresses that the common goal is to do everything possible to limit the temperature increase this century to "two degrees" with respect to pre-industrial levels, and clarifies that each country will pursue its objective "according to their responsibilities and capabilities."

Each of these phrases is the result of a tug-of-war between the rulers of the world's leading economies, responsible for 85% of polluting emissions. The same countries will be decisive actors within two weeks at the Climate Summit, which seeks to close an agreement that replaces the Kyoto Protocol from 2020. 147 countries have established voluntary emission reduction targets



within the expected timeframe, and 13 others They have done it later. Unlike Kyoto, there are no mandatory targets or sanctions for non-compliance, but France, aligned with the EU and the UN, strives to make the targets binding, something to which the US, which did not sign the Kyoto protocol, resists.

As for France and its compromise reached in Turkey, it significantly improves the starting point of the negotiation: the stretch between an agreement "with legal force applicable to all" and the binding objectives seems shorter. The other front of discussion, the most intense, according to European sources told France Press, is the one that involved the emerging countries, with India and Saudi Arabia, at the head. Emerging economies are now mainly responsible for the increase in emissions, but far from the total accumulated gases in the atmosphere, much more linked to the activity of industrialized countries in recent decades.

Some governments of emerging countries fear that they will be too demanding in terms of this two-degree objective and what in the communique has remained a "dynamic" pact, in reference to the European claim that it be reviewed every five years if the Cutting emissions is enough. In fact, with the voluntary commitments collected so far, the UN predicts that emissions will continue to rise at least until 2030 (45% above the 1990 level) and that the global temperature rise will be around three degrees, above the risk threshold indicated by scientists. What was not clear here is whether there will be new funds to finance mitigation and adaptation investments in the poorest countries. The OECD estimated this year that the initial commitment foreseen for 2020 (100 billion euros between public and private financing from the most powerful economies) is on track to be fulfilled, adding up to 62,000 million.

After the end of the summit, organizations such as Oxfam regretted that the lack of commitment of the advanced countries to increase their funding to less developed economies "made it more difficult to reach an agreement in other areas", such as to assume that there will be a revision mechanism every five years, or set a timetable for the elimination of fossil fuel subsidies.



"The Paris Agreement on climate change is a new pact with the future. Let's never forget: climate change is not a burden; In fact, it offers many benefits. It can help us eradicate poverty, create green jobs, overcome hunger, prevent instability and improve the lives of girls and women," said UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon in his keynote speech signing the Agreement.

The ceremony, which coincides with Earth Day, brought together governments, the United Nations system, workers 'and employers' organizations, civil society and the private sector to generate momentum and concentrate global efforts aimed at urgently address climate change and take far-reaching action to mitigate the increasingly devastating effects it has on people, societies and economies.

The Director General of the ILO, Guy Ryder, in highlighting these relations in the recently agreed global vision of development, declared: "With the SDGs and the Paris Agreement in hand and the Decent Work Agenda at our disposal, we can now jointly implement the 'Plan of Action for people, the planet and prosperity' of the 2030 Agenda, in which economic growth, environmental protection and social justice support each other and are pursued simultaneously".

In relation to the scope and scale of the employment potential of a green economy, an ILO report notes: "At least half of the workforce - equivalent to 1.5 billion people - will be affected by the transition to an economy more green". In addition, the report indicates that the transition to a low-carbon economy "could generate up to 60 million additional jobs" in sectors such as construction, agriculture, tourism and waste management.

To meet this demand for national green economy strategies, the ILO, UNEP, UNIDO, UNDP and UNITAR created the Partnership for Action for a Green Economy (PAGE). Currently, PAGE collaborates with a dozen countries to help them formulate and implement green economy policies, strengthen the capacity of national partners to implement initiatives, provide access to tools and training programs, collect data and produce and share



knowledge about green economy and support implementation at the national level.

In 2013, the ILO, in the framework of its centenary, launched the Green Initiative in order to significantly increase knowledge throughout the office, intensify policy advice and develop tools to manage a just transition towards a sustainable low-emission future of carbon. The objective is to improve the knowledge of the world's actors so that they understand the challenges and opportunities of the transition and help them to assume the active role they must play in order to face this change.

The Green Initiative will contribute to the implementation of the Policy Guidelines for a Just Transition towards Economies and Societies that are environmentally sustainable for all adopted by the ILO Governing Body as a comprehensive framework for policy making in the greening of economies.

POINTS TO DISCUSS

- What are some challenges that ought to be sorted out for acquiring complete implementation of the Paris Agreement?
- Are international actions currently fine with the agreement's statute?
- Resources and economic capacities of the countries involved in the Paris Agreement
- The hard-wiring of the member countries' economy to the use of fossil-fuels means that the transition to low-emissions, climate-resilient development pathways will require broader, transformative change
- How will the actions taken by nations such as the United States of America affect the implementation and evolution of the Paris Agreement?



- Is the Paris Agreement really creating an improvement in the problematic? If not, which changes would be necessary to be made?

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