

ECO

CAN WE TEACH YOU SOME NEW MOVES?

eco@climatenetwork.org • www.climatenetwork.org/eco-newsletter • June 10, 2022

ECO has been published by Non-Governmental Environmental Groups at major international conferences since the Stockholm Environment Conference in 1972. ECO is produced co-operatively by the Climate Action Network at the UNFCCC meetings in Bonn, Germany during the SB 56 intersessional.

Editor: Andres Fuentes

Paris Stallers Must Show the Love

What would you do with a partner that time and again broke their promises to you? After a while, a bad relationship must end. But what if you couldn't leave? What if your life (or, in this case, all life on Earth) depended on making it work? This is where we stand with countries that are not fulfilling their promises to the Paris Agreement.

Some countries haven't submitted new or updated NDCs in line with the 2020 ratchet-up cycle. On the heartbreakers list, we have Japan and Australia, who simply re-submitted their 2015 NDCs with the same goal. Others, like COP27 host Egypt, haven't even bothered to re-submit. ECO has hope for Egypt, which finally promised a new NDC, and for Australia following its recent elections and renewed vows. But actions speak louder than words, matey! We'll believe it when we see that beautiful piece of paper.

Those are the bad, but then there are the ugly. They not only break their promises, they lie to your face. They say they are being more ambitious as the Paris Agreement asked them to be, but in fact they are back-sliding and planning to do less than they promised seven years ago in their iNDCs. ECO's looking at you, Mexico and Brazil.

In 2020 Mexico and Brazil presented NDCs with the same 2015 percentage targets, but methodological changes in the estimate of baseline year emissions means that 2030 carbon levels will be higher under the new NDCs. Mexico's creative accounting means 14 MtCO₂eq. more. For Brazil, it's a staggering 409 MtCO₂eq. more. No wonder civil society has taken both governments to court! In Mexico, the NDC was suspended. In Brazil, the lawsuit is ongoing, but public pressure forced the government to present a new NDC in 2022 that increased the percentage of emissions cuts, but still promises to emit 73 MtCO₂eq. more than it had promised in 2015. Manipulating baselines to deceive others can be a systemic risk for the Paris Agreement and should be reported to the Compliance Committee.

In Bonn this week, Climate Action Tracker showed that even if all the climate promises, official and unofficial, made by all countries are fully met, the world is still heading towards over 2°C of warming. This toxic relationship is unsustainable. It's past time for these heartbreakers to show the Paris Agreement a lot more love.

EU Parliament: No Deal NOW on Emissions Trading System is Better Than a Bad Deal

The Bonn session and upcoming international gatherings, such as the G7 and the Petersberg Dialogue, are critical for getting an ambitious and just outcome at COP27. Climate impacts, rising energy prices, energy insecurity and fossil-fuel related wars demonstrate the urgent need to move quickly from fossil fuels to renewable energies to bring the world in line with the goal to keep warming below 1.5°C and to address climate harm. **The EU is critical for this**, both in terms of domestic mitigation ambition and increasing support to developing countries.

Wednesday was a critical moment in the European Parliament (EP) for advancing climate legislation, and for implementing, and hopefully overachieving, the block's NDC. Fossil fuel and other industry lobbyists who profit from the harmful carbon pyromania fuelling the climate crisis laid the tinder which then lit political fireworks and drama. The EP almost sold out climate protection for big polluters' demands. After conservative and right wing Parties in the EP voted for an insufficient reduction target under the Emission Trading System (ETS) reform and a looonnnggg (!) hand-out of emission allowances to polluting industries (to 2034), more progressive Parties had to decide: **No deal now, or a bad deal?** Fortunately, they said no, avoided a watered down version, and now

viable compromises will be renegotiated. **This risks a dangerous delay in the process, but it's also a wake-up call.** MEPs need to recommit to the Paris Agreement and act on the climate emergency, for the benefit of people in and outside Europe instead of giving in to the polluters.

After the no vote, other parts of the Fit for 55 legislative package (such as the Effort Sharing Regulation or the Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry rules) received approval, with some caveats and still insufficient ambition, but also with good elements (like agreeing that only cars with zero emissions can be sold after 2035). While others including the internationally relevant Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism and the European Social Fund vote were postponed, following the ETS rejection due to close linkages. After this dramatic reset, negotiations must double down on efforts for a stronger, more ambitious Fit for 55 without siding with industry lobbyists, starting with the EU Council and Environment ministers meetings in June. This keeps open the possibility that the EU comes to Sharm El-Sheikh with progress on legislation underpinning its NDC, and the potential to move beyond 55%. So ECO readers, **if you run into EU delegates in the hallways in Bonn, remind them what climate leadership means!**

Come Dancing At The MWP Disco!

On Tuesday ECO unexpectedly ended up in the MWP disco, an exclusive party for lovers of Mitigation Ambition and Implementation. The music was on but the room was too small and the bar was not serving drinks. The disco soon became so full that it was impossible to move and observers had to leave the room to make some space. ECO loves to dance and tried again to join the party on Wednesday. This time the disco was bigger and the music was better. But ECO saw that your dancing was uncoordinated and a little help is needed to help you synchronize, so here are some Mitigation Ambition and Implementation dance tips:

- The MWP should result in sound technical work and outputs, but this should also lead to actions and decisions which actually make a real-world difference to stay below that all important 1.5°C limit. The outcomes should reflect the principles of equity and justice, as well as common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. There should be a clear balance between ambition and implementation discussions, to ensure a focus not only on targets but also addressing policies and measures for implementation of NDCs - and going beyond NDCs.
- The objective of the work programme should be to enhance the ambition and implementation of Parties' efforts to deliver global aggregate emissions reductions of at least 43% by 2030 compared to 2019 levels in order to be in line with limiting global warming to 1.5°C.
- The roundtables during the High Level ministerial will offer a political check-in for Parties on strengthening and revisiting NDCs, and progress on implementation, including the provision of means of implementation.
- Technical dialogues can be organized on sectoral

mitigation approaches, barriers and solutions. This is supported by the Glasgow Climate Pact's provisions on phasing down coal, phasing out subsidies to fossil fuels, just transition, tackling other GHGs such as methane, and protecting ecosystems.

- For those asking how can you have an MWP disco without people?! The MWP should be a people centered dialogue, respecting the critical role of Indigenous knowledge, justice and equity in the delivery of ambitious mitigation and implementation action.
- Parties should try to incorporate new moves (tools) to deliver on the objectives set by the Glasgow Climate Pact and implementation of NDCs and commitments such as the Global Methane Pledge, Glasgow Forest Declaration, Beyond Oil and Gas Alliance and Breakthroughs - facilitating delivery and implementation of signatories.

ECO will see how well you have learnt to dance by assessing your progressive moves through for instance an invitation to Parties to present implementation plans and sectoral decarbonization plans, and the reflection of sectoral commitments in NDCs and LTS synthesis report but there is more. If you are still not sure, ECO says to ask for more tips.

The MWP disco will be complementary to and coordinate with discos around the block on scaling up mitigation and implementation including the Global Stocktake, SDGs and more.

To keep your disco skills sharp, ECO suggests you need the MWP disco to go till 2030. But if you have mastered the 1.5C move then it might be safe to take fewer lessons. Who knows...

Now that you know the moves, you can give it your all on the floor on Tuesday! ECO can't wait to dance!

Spotting the G in the GST

ECO is happy to share this part of our publication with the Women Gender Constituency (WGC) to help amplify their voice. This article reflects the views of the WGC.

We have all been waiting for this G moment, the Global Stocktake. A number crunching exercise. A moment to calculate fairytale emissions reductions and fancy carbon budgets, to fill in tons of tables, fulfill blurry indicators, and draw colorful figures. However, ECO wants to remind Parties not to lose the essential point in this exercise. 50 years of trying and you still don't spot the G in mitigation, nor in the Global adaptation Goal, nor in technology nor in loss and damage? We are on fire and you refuse to see it.

Don't you think that we should all cool down and give it one last try? How can we do things differently, so that we all stay alive? Just follow the instructions and listen to the Gender Action Plan. From priority area A to E you will find the right way to the G in the Paris Agreement. Science backs this approach. The latest IPCC report tells us that reducing our inequalities will help us cope with unbearably HOT situations. So, in the GST, let us focus on the crucial aspects that we should take stock of and let bloom. We must prioritize the needs of those at the forefront, and support their vital contribution to protecting ecosystems and ensuring a just, safe, and sustainable home for all.

Because, dear friends, whether we like it or not, we live in a gendered world. From the moment we wake up to the moment we go to bed, all our actions are influenced by structural inequalities

and their underlying gender patterns. And they count when it comes to overcoming crises and reaching the Paris Goal. How could we foster a massive energy transition when women and girls in all their diversity are kicked out from technical education and green jobs and are confronted with a glass ceiling in this sector? How is it possible to develop climate resilient agroecology when women farmers, who ensure food security, have neither access to nor control over water and financial resources? How on Earth would we be able to protect forests - the lungs of our earth- if Indigenous women and girls are denied land rights? How are we going to cut down emissions if patriarchy upholds harmful gendered behaviors and binaries - from the jobs we have, the transport we use, the foods we eat and the way we treat our waste - these binaries hold us back from all have equal rights and voice in climate action - and in turn, severely limit the possibility of action that is both inclusive and transformative.

When discussing both the GAP and the GST, ECO wonders if Parties already forgot that they agreed on some essential conclusions during CSW66 in New York a few months ago. The enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender and its GAP provide a more comprehensive, systematic approach to gender and climate justice. ECO now expects Parties to make progress on the implementation, with substantial means, building on the lessons of the Covid 19 pandemic.

That would certainly help them spot the G in the Global Stocktake.