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Paris Agreement and Marrakech Climate Conference

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Summary

The international community agreed a climate deal in Paris in December 2015. The Paris Agreement would come into force 30 days after it is ratified by 55 countries covering 55% of global emissions. Several countries, including China and the US ratified, throughout 2016.

The EU Environment Council approved a speeded up ratification process on 30 September 2016. Following EU Parliament approval, the EU deposited its instrument of ratification, with a number of EU countries including Germany and France but not the UK. This brought the [total number of countries](#) to 74 with a coverage of 58.82% global emissions and brought the [Paris Agreement into force](#), from effect of 4 November 2016. The Prime Minister, Theresa May, committed the UK to completing domestic ratification procedures by the end of 2016. These were completed and the UK [ratified the agreement](#) on 18 November 2016.

The UN published a document [Entry into force of the Paris agreement: legal requirements and implications](#) in April 2016, which sets out the procedure for setting up the administrative structures for implementation of the Agreement. A summary of the [process following ratification](#) was published, taking account of the first implementation meeting that took place during [COP22 in Marrakech](#), 7 to 18 November 2016. The main priority for the Conference was to begin work on developing the rule book for implementation, monitoring and reporting of countries' Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Progress was made in several areas and agreement was reached that the rule book should be completed by 2018.

Further background on the Agreement and the Paris Conference is available in the Library Briefing Paper [The Paris Climate Change Conference](#).

1. The Paris Agreement

[Agreement](#) was reached in Paris on 12 December 2015 on a successor to the Kyoto Protocol that will apply to all signatory states, not just developed countries. Prior to the conference, countries published [Intended NDCs](#) for reducing global greenhouse gas emissions. This was a bottom-up approach, with the aim that aggregated contributions would add up to a 2°C limit on global temperature increases. However, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) [analysis](#) of these showed that the pledges as made would not, if implemented, achieve the 2 °C limit, as they would reduce expected warming of 4-5°C to around 2.7°C. In response, there were calls from various negotiating groups, including the EU and the UK, for any agreement at Paris to include provisions for five yearly reviews of pledges. Developed countries also called for clear rules and transparency on emission reporting to ensure targets were met.

An unexpected outcome of the conference was that the ambition of the emissions goal has been increased beyond what was previously agreed to keeping temperatures “well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels”. The agreement also set an aim for emissions to peak “as soon as possible” and for emissions from human activity and absorption by carbon sinks to balance sometime in the second half of the century.

Agreement was reached that Nationally Intended Contributions (NDCs) will be reviewed in 2018, updated every five years, from 2020. The decision document sets out that by 2020 countries should publish NDCs up to 2030. It was also agreed that all countries should regularly provide a national inventory of emissions and sinks, together with information necessary to track progress in implementing and achieving NDCs. The decision document states that the information should be provided at least every two years

2. Ratification and Entry into Force

There was increasing pressure during 2016 for countries to ratify the Paris Agreement in advance of the [COP22](#) climate conference in Marrakech taking place from 7 November 2016. Following EU ratification on 4 October 2016 the Agreement came into force on 4 November 2016.

[As of 3 October 2016](#) there were 191 signatories to the Paris Agreement. Of these, 62 Parties to the Convention had also deposited their instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval accounting in total for 51.9 % of the total global greenhouse gas emissions.

China and the US ratified the Agreement at a joint ceremony during the G20 September 2016 meeting. A further 21 states, including Brazil and Mexico, ratified the agreement at a ceremony in New York on 21 September 2016. India ratified the agreement on 2 October 2016. The agreement provides for entry into force 30 days after 55 countries covering 55% of global emissions ratify the agreement.¹

The UN published a document [Entry into force of the Paris agreement: legal requirements and implications](#) on 7 April 2016. This set out the procedure for setting up the administrative structures for implementation of the Agreement.

2.1 EU ratification

The UK has stated previously that it plans to do ratify the Agreement when the EU and other Member States are ready to do so.² According to an [article from CarbonBrief](#) the above approach reflects the legal advice provided to the Commission, which was that both the EU and Member states should present a united front by depositing instruments of ratification at the same time.³

Timing was also identified as an issue, with the Agreement originally not expected to be ratified until negotiations had ended on the EU effort share for the 2030 climate and energy package. The Commission initiated this process by putting forward a proposal to revise the Emissions Trading System (ETS), covering 45% of the EU's greenhouse gas emissions. The Commission also committed in its assessment of the Agreement published in March 2016, the [Road from Paris](#), to setting out the key remaining legislative proposals, including the sharing of effort by each Member State, by March 2017. The aim is to:

Implement the agreed 2030 regulatory framework domestically in a fair and cost-efficient manner, providing maximum flexibility for Member States and striking the right balance between national and EU level action. As the next step, the Commission is working on the preparation of proposals for an Effort-Sharing Decision and on land use, land use change and forestry.⁴

¹ UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, [Paris Agreement Status of Ratification](#) [6 September 2016]

² [HC WA 38382 07 Jun 2016](#)

³ CarbonBrief, [Explainer: When will the European Union ratify the Paris Agreement](#), 23 June 2016

⁴ EU Commission, [The Road from Paris: assessing the implications of the Paris Agreement \[...\] climate change, COM\(2016\) 110 final](#), 2 March 2016

The Commission published [a draft council decision for ratifying the Agreement](#) in June 2016.

EU Process speeded up

However. It was [reported by Bloomberg](#) on 13 September 2016 that there were discussions at EU Council of Ministers level about the possibility of the EU ratifying the agreement before individual Member States, to allow the EU to become a founder member. However, some Member States, including Poland, were reported by Bloomberg to oppose the proposal unless some of its concerns regarding policies for EU implementation were addressed.⁵ Soon after it was reported by Euroactiv that “environment ministers will seek consensus [...] on fast-tracking EU-level approval of the deal without waiting for each member state to first ratify it”.⁶

An extraordinary meeting of the [Environment Council](#) in Brussels took place on 30 September at which Ministers agreed ratification, subject to approval by the EU Parliament.

On [announcing](#) the decision to ratify, Climate Action and Energy Commissioner Miguel Arias Cañete also summarised EU policies on climate change:

We have already brought forward the key policy proposals needed to deliver on our pledge to reduce emissions in the European Union by at least 40% by 2030.

- Last year we presented a proposal to reform the EU ETS to ensure the energy sector and energy intensive industries deliver the emissions cuts needed.
- This summer, we complemented this with proposals for accelerating the low-carbon transition in the other key sectors of the European economy.
- And by the end of the year we will have brought forward half a dozen proposals to help meet our 2030 targets. As part of that we will get serious on making Europe more energy-efficient and on cementing our place as world leader in renewables.

And we won't stop there. We are pressing hard for action on all fronts.

- We are pushing for ambitious action at the on-going negotiations in Montreal for a Global Market-Based Mechanism to tackle CO₂ emissions from international aviation and achieve carbon neutral growth from 2020 onwards.
- And next month, I will go to Kigali to push for a successful conclusion to negotiations to bring climate warming HFCs under the scope of the Montreal Protocol.

2.2 Paris Agreement Ratified

Following the Council's decision, the draft document was [approved the by the EU Parliament](#) with 618 votes for, 38 against and 31 abstentions on 4 October. Following the vote the draft was approved by the Council of Ministers. The EU deposited its instrument of ratification, with a number of EU countries including Germany and France, on 5th October 2016. This brought the [total number of countries](#) who have ratified to 74 with a coverage of 58.82% global emissions and brought the [Paris Agreement into force](#), from effect of 4 November 2016.

⁵ Bloomberg News, [EU Leaders Said Due to Discuss Fast-Track Climate-Deal Approval](#), 13 September 2016

⁶ Euractiv, [EU wants to speed up approval of Paris climate deal](#), 22 September 2016

2.3 UK ratification

An opposition day debate took place on 7 September 2016, in which Barry Gardiner, speaking for the opposition called for the Government to immediately commence domestic procedures to ratify the Paris Agreement so as to become a founder member of the treaty:

I wrote to our Prime Minister urging her to begin the process of ratification of the treaty by the UK. I understand her office passed my letter to the Secretary of State. I also tabled today's motion to discuss ratification and press for the UK to follow China and America's lead and get on and ratify the Paris agreement. So now with the US and China making it highly likely that the agreement will formally come into force by the end of this year, I decided that if China and America can put aside their differences and ratify, surely we in Parliament could do the same and become founder parties to the agreement.

I wrote to the Secretary of State and offered to amend the motion to make it the formal vote required by the House of Commons to ratify the treaty.⁷

In response the Minister of State for Climate Change and Industry, Nick Hurd stated that the UK would start its own process as soon as possible:

I wish to reassure him and the House that we will start our own process as soon as possible. Although I cannot confirm the exact timetable today because the processes are not complete, we will make a decision and we will communicate it at the appropriate point. The main issue is not whether that decision comes next week, as he seeks, or soon after, but that we fulfil our commitment to ratify as soon as possible.⁸

And

I agree that ratifying the Paris agreement early is important symbolically. That is why we will ratify as soon as we can, but it is not credible to suggest that our international influence hangs on this one symbol when it is so firmly rooted in substance. We in this Government are proud of the leadership that the UK has shown and we have no intention of surrendering it.⁹

On the issue of EU ratification he set out the Government's position as follows:

We signed the agreement as part of the European Union. As many Members know, we negotiated the treaty together and [...] the convention is that we will ratify it together. [...] It has always been understood that the EU was never expected to be at the vanguard of ratification. Indeed, that was confirmed to me by the most senior people involved in the negotiating process and, in part, explains why others have chosen to go first.¹⁰

The Prime Minister committed during [a speech to a UN meeting](#) in New York on 20 September to completing domestic procedures in 2016, stating that:

The UK will start its domestic procedures to enable ratification of the Paris Agreement and complete these by the end of the year.

The Government laid a statutory instrument before Parliament on 7 October 2016: [Miscellaneous Series No. 7 \(2016\),-Paris Agreement, done at Paris on 12 December 2015](#). The process falls under Section 20 of the [Governance and Constitutional Reform Act 2010](#) covering the ratification of treaties, and which requires an order to be laid before both Houses for 21 sitting days. The Order came into force on 16 November completing [domestic ratification](#) and the UK ratified the agreement [at the UN](#) on 18 November 2016

⁷ [HC Deb. 7 September 2016 c365](#)

⁸ [HC Deb. 7 September 2016 c376](#)

⁹ [Ibid c379](#)

¹⁰ [ibid](#)

3. Does the Agreement affect UK domestic targets under Climate Change Act?

The [Committee on Climate Change](#) (CCC) undertakes an annual assessment on whether the UK is on course to meet its carbon budgets, and reports this progress to Parliament.

Following the Paris Climate Change Agreement, in December 2015, CCC [wrote to the Government](#) on 28 January 2016 on the implications the agreement for the [Fifth Carbon Budget](#). It concluded that it would not need to be amended as yet and that “the proposed fifth carbon budget would support an increase in EU ambition, consistent with the need for all parties to increase ambition to deliver the goals of the Paris Agreement”.

3.1 What does Brexit mean for UK commitments?

A response to several written questions published on 5 September 2016 asking whether the ratification of the Paris Agreement will follow the procedure for an EU external treaty, and whether the UK would continue to take part in negotiations, the Government suggested that both would be the case, for example:

Until we leave the EU, the UK remains a Member State, with all of the rights and obligations this entails. We will therefore continue to participate in EU negotiations, including those on the EU’s climate framework up to 2030.

It is not appropriate at this point to speculate about arrangements for after the UK ceases to be a Member State.¹¹

The [law firm Norton Rose Fulbright](#) argued that, although leaving the EU should not alter the UK’s climate change goals, the UK will need to separate its commitment from the EU target:

Brexit, in whatever form, is unlikely to change the UK’s climate change goals; these are established at a national level under the Climate Change Act 1998. But, there will nevertheless be important issues to settle. For example, at an international level the UK’s emissions reduction commitment would need to be disentangled from the EU target under the [UNFCCC] and the recent [Paris agreement](#). The UK would also need to submit its own Nationally Determined Contribution in respect of its intended climate actions under the UNFCCC processes.¹²

A brief by E3G, an energy and climate think-tank, on [Brexit and the Paris Agreement](#), from June 2016, commented that the UK may need to separate its National Determined Contribution (NDC) from that of the EU but this would require a “recalibration” rather than any change to the architecture of the Agreement. E3G also referred to the agreement between Iceland, the EU and its Member States to jointly meet their Kyoto Protocol targets, as a model that the UK could follow:

Technically the EU could ratify whilst the UK contributes to the (then) joint NDC. To further safeguard the UK’s continued involvement after it leaves, the EU’s NDC could be achieved through a joint fulfilment arrangement or other technical arrangement. This was [the approach taken by Iceland](#) when it ratified the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol.¹³

¹¹ [HC WA 43540 05 Sep 2016](#)

¹² Norton Rose Fulbright, [Impact of a Brexit on the energy sector](#), June 2016

¹³ E3G, [Brexit and the Paris Agreement](#), 30 June 2016

4. Implementation: Marrakech Conference

Following Agreement being reached in Paris, the process of agreeing the structures and rulebook for implementation must now begin. The UN published a document [Entry into force of the Paris agreement: legal requirements and implications](#) in April 2016, which sets out the procedure for setting up the administrative structures for implementation of the Agreement. This envisaged an entry into force in 2017 at the earliest. The process of adapting this timetable as a result of early ratification is now underway.

The [UNFCCC summarised](#) the consequences of the agreement coming into force, including the first meeting of the implementing body (CMA) and Intended Nationally Determined Contributions becoming Nationally Determined Contributions, as follows:

Entry into force triggers a variety of important consequences, including launch of the Agreement's governing body, known as the CMA. In the parlance of the UN climate change process this stands for the Conference of the Parties to the Convention serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement.

Given that the count-down to entry into force has now been formally triggered, the CMA will take place at the upcoming annual UN climate conference, known as COP22, in Marrakech, Morocco from November 7-18. Precise dates will be announced in the coming days.

Moreover, the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) – national climate action plans - of Parties which have joined or subsequently join the Agreement transform into Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), which can always be resubmitted as more ambitious plans at any point. A key feature of the Agreement is that these plans can be strengthened at any time but not weakened.

"Climate action by countries, companies, investors and cities, regions, territories and states has continued unabated since Paris and the full implementation of the agreement will ensure that this collective effort will continue to double and redouble until a sustainable future is secured," said Ms Espinosa.

Governments will also be obligated to take action to achieve the temperature goals enshrined in the Agreement – keeping the average global temperature rise from pre-industrial times below 2 degrees C and pursuing efforts to limit it to 1.5 degrees.

The fact that somewhere around one degree of this rise has already happened and global greenhouse gas emissions have not yet peaked underlines the urgency of implementing the Paris Agreement in full.

Another key milestone will be the successful conclusion of negotiations to develop the Paris Agreement's implementation rule book. Completion of what is, in effect, a global blueprint for reporting and accounting for climate action, need to be completed as soon as possible.

The first meeting of the CMA took place during the Conference of the Parties 22 (or COP22) in Marrakech from 7 to 18 November 2016. Climate Brief published a useful [overview of the issues](#) to be covered during the conference and summarised how the unexpectedly early ratification would be dealt with:

In summary, early ratification means that once-distant deadlines have been brought forward to this year, as the deal enters into force on 4 November. There is no official way to deal with this, and it means that some parties could be left out of the decision-making process, which now only applies to those who have ratified the agreement.

To get around this, countries will have to decide early in the conference to "suspend" the post-ratification format of the talks (Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, or "CMA1"), and resume them for the

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time being in the pre-ratification format (Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement, or “APA”). The CMA1 would, perhaps, then reconvene in 2018.¹⁴

As part of COP 22 the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement and the High-Level Segment will be opened on Tuesday. As part of this, Heads of State and Ministers have been invited to make statements during sessions on 15 and 16 November. Nick Hurd, Minister of State for Climate Change and Industry, made a statement on behalf of the UK.

UNFCCC

In her opening address Patricia Espinosa the new Executive Secretary United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) set out the [five key areas](#) that needed to be taken forward in Marrakech:

- Finance to allow developing countries to green their economies and build resilience. Finance is flowing. It has to reach the level and have the predictability needed to catalyse low-emission and climate-resilient development.
- Nationally determined contributions – national climate action plans – which now need to be integrated into national policies and investment plans.
- Support for adaptation which needs to be given higher priority, and progress on the loss and damage mechanism to safeguard development gains in the most vulnerable communities.
- Capacity building needs of developing countries in a manner that is both tailored and specific to their needs.
- Fully engaging Non-Party stakeholders, from the North and from the South, as they are central to the global action agenda for transformational change.¹⁵

EU Commission

The EU Commission set its [expectations for the conference](#), emphasizing the importance of ensuring the rulebook for Paris implementation is developed an efficient and inclusive way, and the expectation that there would be tangible progress made in Marrakech:

Because the global climate agreement has entered into force much earlier than expected, the rules and tools to help countries deliver on the long-term objectives of the Paris Agreement are not yet in place. This means that the work programme established in Paris, and started in Bonn earlier this year, must continue and advance as swiftly as possible.

One of the challenges in Marrakech will be to build on and strengthen the momentum by continuing to ratify the Agreement, and ensuring that the rulebook is developed in a way that is both inclusive and efficient. It must also fully respect the delicate balance achieved in Paris.

The EU expects to see tangible progress on key elements of the Paris package, including on access to finance for developing countries and on developing and strengthening the skills and processes needed in developing countries to implement their domestic climate plans.

Other areas of specific focus include turning national climate plans into concrete policies on the ground, the implementation of the ambition mechanism to progressively update targets and of the common transparency and accountability system that will enable Parties to track progress against the long-term objective.¹⁶

¹⁴ Carbon Brief, Preview: [The UN’s COP22 climate talks in Marrakech](#), 3 November 2016

¹⁵ UNFCCC,

¹⁶ EU Commission, [UN climate change conference in Marrakech - questions and answers](#), 4 November 2016

UK Government

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy provided the following in response to a request for information on the Government's expectations for the conference:

- The headline objective for COP22 is to maintain the global political momentum to combat climate change following the Paris Agreement and to move towards implementation of the Agreement.
- COP22 will also mark the entry into force of the Paris Agreement on 4 November. The Government commenced the process for domestic approval of the Paris Agreement on 7th October by laying before Parliament a Command Paper (CM9338) and Explanatory Memorandum in line with the requirements of the CRAG Act 2010.
- At COP the UK aims to:
 - demonstrate the UK's leadership on climate change – this includes the work of the UK government, but also showcasing action that is happening on the ground by businesses, cities and civil society .
 - strengthen action and ambition – provide reassurance that the UK is not backing away from the climate agenda, and to continue to make the case that greater action will be needed if we are to keep average global temperature increase well below 2 degrees.
 - Make progress on the Paris Agreement 'rule book' - this will detail how countries will fulfil the commitments they made in Paris.

"The COP22 conference in Marrakech marks an important further stage in the implementation of that global agreement. The negotiations are very complex and will take time, and we should not necessarily expect headline-grabbing outcomes". Jesse Norman, Opposition Day Debate 2016

- There has also been momentum in other areas over the past year, which will make significant contributions to the Paris Agreement's wider climate objective of keeping the global temperature rise to well below 2°C.
 - In October the UK and the 190 other States agreed to introduce a global measure to address CO2 emissions from international aviation in the UN's International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO). Under the deal, airlines will offset their emissions with reductions from other sectors and activities, with the aim of delivering carbon-neutral growth of international aviation from 2020.
 - The UK also helped secure a historic deal under the Montreal Protocol to phase down the production and use of hydrofluorocarbons by 2047, which will avoid 0.5 degrees of global warming by the end of this century. The UK is already phasing down the use of HFCs by 80% by 2030 and now the rest of the world will be following our lead.
- The UK is also hosting a "Green is GREAT" pavilion. This will be the first time the UK will have a pavilion at a COP. We will use this to support British companies so they can showcase low-carbon and other environmental products and services. We will also host a programme of workshops and networking events, with a focus on the UK's innovative approach to green finance, energy adaptation and energy efficiency. Promoting the role of the City of London in leveraging private finance will be a particular focus.¹⁷

Further information on the last point can be found in the [BEIS announcement](#) on the "Green is GREAT" pavilion.¹⁸

¹⁷ BEIS, Communication with HOC Library, 10 November 2016

¹⁸ BEIS, UK to showcase expertise in green technology at UN Climate Change Summit in Marrakech, 5 November 2016

US Government

The US Government held a preview briefing for COP 22 on 3 November 2016 with the Special Envoy for Climate Change, Dr Jonathan Pershing, and the Director for Energy and Climate Change for the National Security Council John Morton where the following points were made:

So as we look forward to the two weeks ahead, we see COP22 is really a COP of implementation and action. So the Paris Agreement was a turning point in terms of setting in place a framework, an international framework for action. And in the COP that is approaching, we intend to really intensify our work in turning toward implementation.

So we are – in many ways we're at an unprecedented stage in climate negotiations because we finally have a framework for implementation that applies to all countries. Getting to this point required really eight years of consistent attention from the President, from – beginning back in Copenhagen and driving through the entry into force of the Paris Agreement at unprecedented speed. And we think it's very fitting for the Administration's final COP to be one which is focusing – turning its attention from negotiations to implementation. And I'm sure Jonathan will have more to say about what exactly that looks like.

And:

I don't expect the consequence of this negotiation will resolve all of these technical issues. We're on a very rapid timetable. We thought we had until 2020 to finish one of these negotiations. We're going to try to work now to accelerate it and make 2018 the year – so a two-year advancing of the schedule. It will take a lot of that time. There's going to be a great deal of intense work that has to happen to deliver this, and that detailed part of Morocco is a part of the deal coming forward here.¹⁹

US Election result

There has been speculation about the impact of the Presidential election result on the implementation of the Paris Agreement.²⁰ There has not been any official indication as yet of what the new administration's position is on the Agreement.

If there was a decision to row back from Paris, this could happen in a variety of ways. The US could continue to participate in the process, more or less constructively, without implementing any of the necessary domestic policies to reduce emissions. The US could withdraw from the Paris Agreement, a process which would take four years as notice cannot be given until it has been in force for three years. Or it could give the required one year's notice to withdraw from the UNFCCC. None of these options would reverse the ratification of the Paris Agreement or its entry into force for other participating countries.

Conference Outcome

The Conference made progress on several areas relating to the rule book implementation and several other areas. Progress summarised by the European Parliament Research Service:

The parties adopted [35 decisions](#), mostly related to the implementation of the Paris Agreement. The decisions set 2018 as the deadline for developing a rulebook for the implementation of the Agreement, based on transparency and accountability. The parties decided that the Adaptation Fund, which was created in 2001, will serve the Agreement. They adopted a five-year work plan for the [Warsaw International](#)

¹⁹ US Department of State, [Special Envoy for Climate Change at the U.S Department of State Dr. Jonathan Pershing and Director for Energy and Climate Change for the National Security Council John Morton Previewing the COP 22 Climate Conference](#), 3 November 2016

²⁰ The Guardian, [Trump seeking quickest way to quit Paris climate agreement](#), says report, 13 November 2016

[Mechanism](#) for Loss and Damage. The parties endorsed the [Marrakech Action Proclamation](#), which reaffirms their commitment to implementing the Paris Agreement. They established the [Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action](#), a platform that facilitates the involvement of non-state actors in pre-2020 climate action.

Outside the formal negotiations, the '[Climate Vulnerable Forum](#)', a group of 48 developing countries, declared their intention to switch to 100 % renewable energy between 2030 and 2050. Canada, Germany, Mexico, and the USA laid out [strategies](#) for decarbonising their economies by 2050, with more countries to follow.²¹

One of the main issues of contention was the fate of the Adaptation Fund implemented as part of the Kyoto Protocol, under the Paris Agreement. The final wording agreed was that it "should serve the Paris Agreement". Many NGOs [were critical](#) of this outcome:

Andrew Norton, director of the International Institute for Environment and Development, said: "The outcome of the UN climate talks means that the world's poorest people in the most vulnerable countries will have to continue their wait for another two years before substantive decisions are made on how the Paris Agreement is put into action."

Mr Norton also reflected Oxfam's reservations about the "disappointing" progress on climate finance.

"The main obstacle is the lack of funding available to poor countries to adapt to the impacts of climate change," he said. "It is vital that developed countries provide this finance to the poorest countries."²²

More detailed summaries of the outcome of the conference was produced by [CarbonBrief](#) and [C2ES](#)

²¹ European Parliamentary Research Service Blog, [Outcomes of COP 22 climate change conference](#), 24 November 2016

²² The Independent, [Marrakesh climate conference: Campaigners react with 'extreme disappointment' over lack of progress](#), 19 November 2016