

Paris Agreement, Past & Future

Acronym List

June 24, 2016

ADP – *Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action*

COP subsidiary body established by decision 1/CP.17 to develop a "new" legal framework (which became the Paris Agreement) under the Convention by 2015.

APA – *Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement*

COP subsidiary body established by 1/CP.21 decision to prepare for entry into force of the Paris Agreement.

Art. – *Article of the Paris Agreement*

CBDRRC – *Common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities*

International environmental law principle expressing "the need to evaluate responsibility for the remediation or mitigation of environmental degradation based on both historical contribution to a given environmental problem and present capabilities."

CDM – *Clean Development Mechanism*

Emissions-reduction commitment defined by KP Art. 12.

CMA – *Conference of the Parties serving as the first meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement*

Will convene upon [entry into force](#) of the Paris Agreement.

COP – *Conference of the Parties*

Highest decision-making authority under the UNFCCC.

EU – *European Union*

GCF – *Green Climate Fund*

Multilateral financial mechanism under the UNFCCC that aims to support adaptation and mitigation goals in equal proportions in developing countries.

GEF – *Global Environment Facility*

Financial mechanism for the UN Convention on Biological Diversity and the UNFCCC.

GHG – *Greenhouse Gas*

INDC – *Intended Nationally Determined Contributions*

Emissions-reduction and other climate-action pledges that national governments submitted to the UNFCCC in anticipation of COP21 and the Paris Agreement.

IPCC – *Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*

Scientific body under the COP that publishes periodic assessment reports pertaining to climate change.

ITMOs – *Internationally transferred mitigation outcomes*

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International trading in mitigation activities that Arts. 6.2–6.3 allow Parties to the Paris Agreement to may make while implementing NDCs.

KP – *Kyoto Protocol*

International climate agreement adopted in 1997 that commits its Parties to binding emissions-reduction targets.

LDC – *Least Developed Country*

48 countries the UN deems to be "the poorest and weakest segment of the international community" and that tend to be highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

LDCF – *Least Developed Country Fund*

Fund established to support LDCs in developing and implementing national adaptation programmes of action; operated by the GEF.

LEG – *Least Developed Countries Expert Group*

Expert group established to provide technical support and advice to LDCs on adaptation activities.

NDC – *Nationally Determined Contributions*

Climate change actions Parties will be committed to once the Paris Agreement becomes effective (INDCs will transition into NDCs).

Para. – *Paragraph of the COP21 Decision text*

REDD+ – *Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries*

Mechanism to reduce GHG gas emissions through sustainable forest management in developing countries.

SBSTA – *Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technical Advice*

One of two permanent subsidiary bodies established under the UNFCCC; specializes in "research and systematic observation of the climate system."

SCCF – *Special Climate Change Fund*

Financial mechanism that supports adaptation and technology transfer in developing countries; operated by the GEF.

SIDS – *Small Island Developing States*

Negotiating block consisting of ~40 low-lying islands that are extremely vulnerable to climate change impacts, namely sea-level rise.

UNFCCC – *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*, or the Convention

International environmental treaty adopted in 1992 to serve as the institutional framework for addressing climate change; its objective is to stabilize "greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system."

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WIM – *Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change*
Loss and Damage mechanism created at COP19 that now serves as the governance mechanism for loss and damage under the Paris Agreement.