

COP24

Key outcomes agreed at the UN climate talks in Katowice, Poland

COP24 annual UN climate conference concluded in Katowice, Poland, after two weeks of tension-filled talks. Nearly 23,000 delegates descended on the coal-tinged city with a deadline for hashing out the Paris Agreement “rulebook”, which is the operating manual needed for when the global deal enters into force in 2020.

This was mostly agreed, starting a new international climate regime under which all countries will have to report their emissions - and progress in cutting them - every two years from 2024. But as countries wrestled with the “four-dimensional spaghetti” of competing priorities - as one delegate put it to Carbon Brief - they clashed over how to recognise the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) special report on 1.5⁰C and whether to clearly signal the need for greater ambition to stay below this temperature limit.

The final outcome included hints at the need for more ambitious climate pledges before 2020, leaving many NGOs disappointed at the lack of more forceful language. Meanwhile, new research released at the COP showed global emissions were going up, not down.

With tension mounting across the fortnight of the talks, UN secretary-general António Guterres had to visit the COP several times to force progress. Despite settling on large parts of the Paris rulebook, countries failed to agree the rules for voluntary market mechanisms, pushing part of the process onto next year's COP25 in Chile.

Key outcomes in Katowice

- Polish COP
- 'Welcoming' the IPCC 1.5C report
- Paris rulebook agreed
- Rulebook - Climate pledge guidance (Article 4)
- Rulebook - Market mechanisms (Article 6)
- Rulebook - Climate finance reporting (Article 9)
- Rulebook - Transparency (Article 13)
- Rulebook - Global stocktake (Article 14)
- Rulebook - Loss and damage
- Rulebook - Other matters
- Talanoa dialogue
- Pre-2020
- Protests at the talks
- Financial pledges
- Displacement
- Reaction
- The year ahead

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