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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Preparations for the 31st Conference of the Parties (COP31) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (Antalya, Türkiye, 9 – 20 November 2026) - Council conclusions

Delegations will find in the Annex the Council conclusions on the abovementioned subject, as approved by the Council at its 4200th meeting held on 12 October 2026.

**Preparations for the 31st Conference of the Parties (COP31) of the United Nations
Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
(Antalya, Türkiye, 9 – 20 November 2026)**

- Council conclusions -

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

1. STRESSES the urgency of achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement, in particular its 1.5°C temperature goal.
2. WELCOMES that, since the adoption of the Paris Agreement, the collective mitigation ambition expressed in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategies has resulted in a reduction of projected increase in the global temperature, but HIGHLIGHTS WITH CONCERN that current ambition and implementation remains insufficient to limit warming to 1.5°C.
3. NOTES WITH CONCERN that global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions have continued to increase and that warming of 1.5°C is likely to be exceeded in the coming decades. URGES all Parties, particularly major emitters, to act with the highest possible ambition and make all efforts to return to a 1.5°C compatible trajectory and to minimise the magnitude and duration of the overshoot. UNDERSCORES that reducing global emissions now and avoiding every additional fraction of degree of warming is necessary to minimise the irreversible impacts of climate change. STRESSES the overshoot, peak and decline pathway as the best remaining option to bring the temperature increase to or below 1.5°C by the end of the century.
4. RECALLS its relevant previous UNFCCC COP Council conclusions and REAFFIRMS that they remain fully applicable, as well as the April 2026 conclusions on EU energy and climate diplomacy.¹

¹ 14285/23, 14459/24, 14310/25, 8417/26

OVERALL OBJECTIVE

5. STRESSES that COP31 must deliver tangible progress on the implementation of the Paris Agreement and contribute meaningfully to closing the global ambition and implementation gaps, including through the Global Climate Action Agenda.
6. UNDERLINES that COP31 must set the direction for the second Global Stocktake (GST-2) and the Paris Agreement ambition cycle, building on the outcomes of the first Global Stocktake (GST-1), accelerating the implementation of the Paris Agreement and contributing to the achievement of its goals.

STRATEGIC FRAMING

7. NOTES WITH CONCERN the accelerating impacts of climate change and the ongoing global energy crisis on citizens and businesses globally. UNDERLINES that climate change is an existential threat to humanity, ecosystems and biodiversity, as well as to peace and security, which spares no country, territory or region.
8. RECOGNISES the importance of transitioning away from fossil fuels in a just, orderly and equitable manner, and further RECOGNISES the transition towards renewable and low-carbon energy sources and energy efficiency as essential to ensuring energy security, affordability, and availability for all while strengthening energy system resilience and reducing strategic dependencies.
9. FURTHER REITERATES the critical importance of the clean transition and circular economy, including bioeconomy, as drivers of innovation, jobs, economic growth, sustainable development, public health, sustainable food systems, food security, and competitiveness, and the key response to the climate and environmental crises.
10. HIGHLIGHTS the importance of climate resilience as a prerequisite for safe, sustainable and prosperous societies and economies. UNDERScores that mitigation and adaptation are complementary and essential to tackle climate change. RECALLS that the availability of early-warning systems is a key component of climate resilience, especially in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs).

11. REITERATES the resolute condemnation of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, which constitutes a manifest violation of the UN Charter and international law. REITERATES strong concerns regarding the situation in the Middle East as expressed by the European Council in its conclusions from June 2026.

STRENGTHENING MULTILATERALISM

12. EMPHASISES the EU's commitment to multilateralism and REAFFIRMS the central role of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement to international climate action. LOOKS FORWARD to progressing discussions on reform of the multilateral climate regime including strengthening its effectiveness, efficiency, integrity, and inclusiveness to ensure it is fit for purpose.
13. UNDERLINES the importance of the participation of all EU Member States at COP31 in Antalya, Türkiye, from 9 to 20 November 2026, as well as in relevant high-level events held in connection with the Conference, and REAFFIRMS the principle of solidarity among EU Member States in this regard.
14. RECOGNISES the interlinkages between climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution, desertification, land use, deforestation and changes in the water cycle. Further RECOGNISES the critical role of the Ocean and the increasing and interconnected impacts on marine and coastal ecosystems and communities, particularly in SIDS and in the Arctic. CALLS for closer cooperation and strengthened synergies with other international organisations and processes, in particular between the Rio Conventions and the Paris Agreement.
15. RECOGNISES the multilateral regime is predicated on the sharing of information and analysis. UNDERLINES that science must remain the compass of global climate action and STRESSES the need to safeguard its independence, integrity and policy relevance. REAFFIRMS the importance of the best available science as provided by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and the Global Climate Observing Systems (GCOS) and URGES the continued sharing of knowledge in the spirit of genuine international cooperation and efforts on information integrity. RECOGNISES that further action is needed at national and international level to counter the increased spread of climate misinformation and disinformation and to strengthen information integrity.

16. EMPHASISES that, when taking action to address climate change, all Parties must protect, respect, promote, and fulfil their obligations under international human rights law. STRESSES the need to protect and empower civil society, environmental human rights defenders, children and youth, gender equality, including women and girls in all their diversity in all spheres of public and political life, as per the EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy 2020-2024², local communities, Indigenous Peoples, persons with disabilities, and people in vulnerable situations.
17. RECOGNISES the synergies between climate action and trade and LOOKS FORWARD to continuing to share best practices and experiences with partners in the context of the Dialogue on Trade and Climate Change, as mandated by CMA.7.

REALISING THE PARIS AGREEMENT AMBITION CYCLE

18. CALLS for the effective implementation of NDCs and URGES those Parties who have not yet done so, to submit their NDCs ahead of COP31, demonstrating progression, the highest possible ambition, and alignment with a 1.5°C pathway and the best available science. REITERATES the importance of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and RECALLS the GST-1's call to all Parties to submit NAPs.
19. RECOGNISES the role of NDCs and NAPs as central tools of national development, mitigation and adaptation planning and CALLS ON Parties to incorporate them into national investment plans and country platforms. EMPHASISES the commitment of the EU to work with Parties to help to implement their NDCs and NAPs. RECALLS the solutions available across sectors to accelerate implementation. UNDERSCORES the significant contribution of local and regional governments in achieving climate objectives.
20. RECOGNISES the Enhanced Transparency Framework, including its Facilitative, Multilateral Consideration of Progress, as a crucial input to the Paris Agreement's ambition cycle and LOOKS FORWARD to the submissions of the second Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs) by 31 December 2026 and CALLS ON parties that have not yet submitted their first BTRs to do so as soon as possible.

² As per the EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy 2020-2024. The action plan has been extended to 2027.

21. EMPHASISES the need to collectively implement all outcomes of GST-1 and to build on the lessons learned from that process as we begin preparations for GST-2. RECOGNISES the importance of timely delivery of the IPCC's Seventh Assessment Report, reports from expert organisations such as UNEP, IEA and IRENA, the UNFCCC NDC and BTR Synthesis Reports, and outputs from the Global Climate Action Agenda, Presidency led and multistakeholder initiatives, as critical inputs for GST-2.

PRACTICAL OUTCOMES AND IMPLEMENTATION

22. UNDERLINES the importance of COP31 delivering an outcome that contributes to accelerated mitigation ambition and implementation aligned with 1.5°C pathways. To that end, CALLS for accelerating the clean energy transition through increased clean electrification, and delivering on the GST-1 outcomes including the transition away from fossil fuels in a just, orderly and equitable manner; the tripling of renewable energy, the doubling of energy efficiency improvements, the reduction of non-carbon-dioxide emissions globally, in particular methane emissions as well as halting and reversing deforestation by 2030, while also building on the Global Climate Action Agenda.
23. CALLS for COP31 to provide an adequate space in the negotiations to discuss mitigation efforts and IS COMMITTED to actively explore ways to strengthen mitigation ambition and implementation by enhancing and better linking existing and new arrangements and agenda items. RECOGNISES the Mitigation Work Programme, Belém Mission to 1.5°C, the Global Implementation Accelerator, the Global Climate Action Agenda and Presidency initiatives, including the COP30 Presidency Roadmaps as potential avenues for delivering on this. In this context, HIGHLIGHTS the importance of continuing and strengthening the Mitigation Work Programme at COP31.
24. REAFFIRMS the EU's commitment to a just transition globally, underpinning public acceptance of climate policies and enabling climate ambition. CALLS ON PARTIES to operationalise the Just Transition Mechanism to contribute to 1.5°C-aligned domestic climate policies that are socially just and inclusive with emphasis placed on guidance, coordination, inclusive stakeholder participation and capacity building.

25. Given the increasing impacts of climate change globally REAFFIRMS the EU's commitment to the achievement of the Global Goal on Adaptation and the implementation of the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience as key instruments of climate resilient development.
26. REAFFIRMS the EU's commitment to the implementation of the Baku Workplan of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform, the Belém Gender Action Plan, and the delivery of an ambitious, intergenerational and intersectional Action for Climate Empowerment Action Plan, to further strengthen the role of civil society in planning and implementing climate action and to reinforce information integrity and access to reliable and best available science.

CLIMATE FINANCE AND SUPPORT

27. RECALLS the Council conclusions on international climate finance as approved on 9 October 2026.³
28. STRESSES the importance of scaling up the mobilisation of climate finance for developing countries through the transparent implementation of the New Collective Quantified Goal, including support for mitigation and adaptation, including loss and damage, particularly for the most vulnerable countries, such as LDCs and SIDS, and RECONFIRMS in that context the call for efforts to triple adaptation finance by 2035. RECOGNISES that public finance alone is inadequate to address the scale of finance required to deliver on the Paris Agreement goals and that finance from all sources and a broader pool of contributors must be scaled up.
29. UNDERSCORES the importance of reducing existing constraints, challenges, systems inequities and barriers to access climate finance. WELCOMES ongoing efforts to improve access to climate finance and EMPHASISES its readiness to continue such efforts while CALLING ON all actors to work together to improve access to finance by developing countries, particularly for LDCs and SIDS, including under the leadership of the COP31 Presidencies, to take concrete steps this year to make further progress.

³ 14090/26

30. RECALLS that the EU and its Member States, together with the European Investment Bank, are the largest providers of international public climate finance.
31. UNDERLINES that making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low GHG emissions and climate-resilient development is both a domestic and international effort which is essential to scale up climate finance from all sources and shift capital away from high-emission investments. RECOGNISES the emerging role of innovative potential sources of finance, including carbon pricing, emissions trading, and carbon markets.
32. UNDERScores the importance of effective domestic carbon pricing instruments as among the most efficient and cost-effective ways to reduce emissions, and their potential for redirecting finance flows towards climate action.

ROLE OF COALITIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

33. RECOGNISES the growing importance of the Global Climate Action Agenda in advancing implementation and delivering progress and WELCOMES the efforts by the COP30 Presidency to bring more structure and accountability to this agenda. ENCOURAGES current and future COP Presidencies to build on this. Further RECOGNISES the important role of plurilateral initiatives in advancing global implementation of climate action, such as the First Conference on Transitioning Away from Fossil Fuels in Santa Marta, Colombia.
34. UNDERLINES in particular that accelerating clean electrification globally will be key to increase ambition, scale up implementation and strengthen international partnerships and coalitions for climate action and therefore NOTES the Joint Statement on the launch of the Electrify Now initiative as a high-level platform to accelerate the electrification of the global economy.
35. LOOKS FORWARD TO discussing the implementation of the initiatives proposed by the incoming COP31 Presidency, in the following fields: electrification, zero waste & methane reduction, resilient cities & buildings, green industrialization, awareness across all areas, and climate implementation bridge.

CONCLUSION

36. STRESSES that COP31/CMA8 must mark a step-change in the delivery and implementation of the Paris Agreement. REAFFIRMS that, through ambitious and coordinated international action, the global community can still deliver on the objectives of the Paris Agreement and keep the 1.5°C temperature goal within reach.
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