



European Committee of the Regions

Political messages of the European Committee of the Regions for the UNFCCC

COP24

KATOWICE, Poland

3-14 DECEMBER 2018



European Committee of the Regions

COP24: You can count on us

Visit our dedicated page and access our publications on our positions, opinions and best practise



The European Committee of the Regions (CoR) is the European Union's assembly of regional and local authorities. Created in 1994 following the signing of the Maastricht Treaty, the CoR is composed of 350 members and 350 alternates from all 28 Member States. Members must either hold an electoral mandate or be politically accountable to an elected assembly in their home region or city.

The main mission of the CoR is to involve regional and local governments in the decision-making process of the European Union and be the voice of cities and regions in key areas of local and regional interest.

The CoR is part of the EU delegation to COP24



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UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE





"We know now that we must do more at all levels to fight against global warming. Regions and cities are ready. You can count on us!"

Karl-Heinz LAMBERTZ

President of the European Committee of the Regions

As the voice of cities and regions of the European Union, the European Committee of the Regions:

- Recalls that local communities around the world are the first and the most directly harmed by the effects of global warming, be that rising sea levels, cyclones, droughts or floods.
- Stresses that while some national governments are rowing back on their climate commitments, local and regional governments worldwide continue to show ever greater climate ambition and remain at the forefront of climate action.
- Calls for local and regional governments to be formally integrated in the global climate governance system, including a clear role in the UNFCCC regulatory framework and in the decision-making process for the implementation of the Paris agreement.
- Requests that Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) include an aggregation of Regionally and Locally Determined Contributions (RLDCs) so that the commitments and achievements of sub-national governments in reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions can be formally counted and acknowledged.
- Proposes that national inventory reports of the Paris agreement transparency framework include a section on mitigation actions undertaken by subnational governments to keep track of the progress towards achieving both NDCs and RLDCs.
- Calls on the Parties to make obligatory the consultation and involvement of local and regional authorities during the formulation phase of their submissions to the UNFCCC framework .
- Recalls that cities account for 70% of world GHG emissions and to be priority recipients of climate investments. New financial tools such as green bonds and collective guarantees must be multiplied along with capacity development programmes to facilitate local governments' access to climate finance.
- Recommends that Talanoa dialogues be continued beyond COP24 and to make them a mid-term qualitative evaluation tool within the global stock-taking assessment cycles.



European Committee of the Regions delegation to the UNFCCC COP24



Markku Markkula (FI/EPP)

CoR 1st Vice-President,
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Daiva Matonienė (LT/ECR)

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Valter Flego (HR/ALDE)

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Prefect of the Istra County



Andrew Cooper (UK/EA)

CoR ENVE EA coordinator, CoR rapporteur on post-2020 climate governance, Member of Kirklees Council



André Van De Nadort (NL/PES)

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Marco Dus (IT/PES)

CoR rapporteur on climate finance,
Member of Vittorio Veneto Municipal Council



Andres Jaadla (EE/ALDE)

CoR ENVE ALDE coordinator,
Member of Rakvere City Council



Opinion on "Climate governance after 2020: a European and global perspective – a contribution to the UNFCCC COP24"



Opinion on "Climate finance: an essential tool for the implementation of the Paris agreement"



Opinion on "Towards a new EU climate change adaptation strategy – taking an integrated approach"



Study on Financing climate action: opportunities and challenges for local and regional authorities