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Call for Action

The European Committee of the Regions calls on all Parties to the UNFCCC:

- **To support a formal recognition of the role of cities and regions in tackling climate change** as in the implementation of the Paris agreement and to include both references into the COP24 final declaration;
- **To back a system of Regionally and Locally Determined Contributions (RLDCs)** as a way to formally acknowledge, monitor and encourage the reduction of carbon emissions by cities and regions globally;
- **To include in the Paris agreement rulebook a system of Regionally and Locally Determined Contributions (RLDCs) that complement Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)** as to reduce the current emissions gap and encourage further climate ambition.

Regionally and Locally Determined Contributions (RLDCs)

From what it means to how it will make us win the fight against global warming

- Human activities are estimated to have caused approximately 1.0°C of global warming above pre-industrial levels.
- The 2015 Paris Agreement sets a global goal of limiting warming to “well below” 2°C above preindustrial levels, and to “pursue efforts” to limit warming to no more than 1.5 °C.
- However, Nationally Determined Contributions, which are the climate commitments made by national governments under the Paris agreement, are today clearly insufficient and will lead to temperatures rise by 3°C above pre-industrial levels.
- There is therefore a clear gap between the commitments made and the levels of emissions' reduction needed to avoid irreversible global temperature rise. And the solution is called RLDCs.
- RLDCs stands for Regionally and Locally Determined Contributions. These are a set of commitments and accomplishments made by sub-national governments in reducing GHG emissions.
- Today, local and regional governments worldwide continue to show ever greater climate ambition and remain at the forefront of climate action. Yet, the Paris climate agreement does not foresee any formal counting and reporting method that accounts for cities and regions efforts and achievements in reducing GHG emissions.
- For that reason, a system of Regionally and Locally Determined Contributions (RLDCs) should be included in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) so that the commitments and achievements of sub-national governments in reducing GHG emissions can be formally counted and acknowledged.
- Equally, national inventory reports of the Paris agreement transparency framework should include a section on mitigation actions undertaken by subnational governments to keep track of the progress towards achieving both NDCs and RLDCs.
- The Parties of the Paris agreement must involve local and regional authorities during the formulation of their reduction plans and throughout the implementation of the Paris agreement.
- COP23 Bonn-Fiji Commitment both support the development of Regionally and Locally Determined Contributions to achieve the objectives of the Paris agreement. The Climate Change Special Envoy and Poland's High Level Climate Champion Tomasz Chruszczow as well as Ashok-Alexander Sridharan, the President of ICLEI – Local governments for sustainability and Mayor of Bonn, both have referred to RLDCs in their statements at the plenary session of the European Committee of the Regions in July 2018.

Andrew Cooper is the originator of the concept Regionally and Locally Determined Contributions (RLDCs), endorsed by the European Committee of the Regions in July 2018 with the adoption of the opinion on climate governance post-2020.

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Watch Andrew Cooper's video statement at the CoR plenary session in July 2018 for the adoption of the opinion on Climate governance after 2020



Access the CoR opinion on climate governance after 2020 by rapporteur Andrew Cooper here. Available in all 23 EU official languages



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European Committee of the Regions

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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European Committee of the Regions

Regionally and Locally Determined Contributions



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