

The Paris Agreement and the COP 22 of Marrakech

Will we save the Planet?

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***Workshop on the Science of Climate Change
A focus on Central America and the Caribbean Islands
La Antigua Guatemala, 14 - 16 March 2017***

The official birth of the international dialogue on Climate Change is 21 March 1994, when the UNFCCC entered into force

Drafted: 9 May 1992; more than 24 years ago

Signed: 4 June 1992 at the Rio Earth Summit; more than 24 years ago

Effective: 21 March 1994; 22 years ago

Ratifiers: 197 UN Member States, as well as the State of Palestine, Niue, Cook Islands and the European Union

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

*“The ultimate objective of this Convention is to
achieve stabilization of greenhouse gas
concentrations in the atmosphere...*

*... at a level that would prevent **dangerous**
anthropogenic interference with the climate
system”*

Governments and scientists have been talking to each other about climate change for almost 40 years under the umbrella of the United Nations

- **February 1979: First World Climate conference**
- **1988, 1989, 1990: numerous Resolutions of the General Assembly**
- **November 1990: Second Climate Conference**
- **1990 and 1991: More Resolutions of the General Assembly**

- **June 1992 : The UN Conference on Environment and Development, the “Earth Summit”, Rio de Janeiro**
- **June 1992: The Framework Convention on Climate Change is signed**

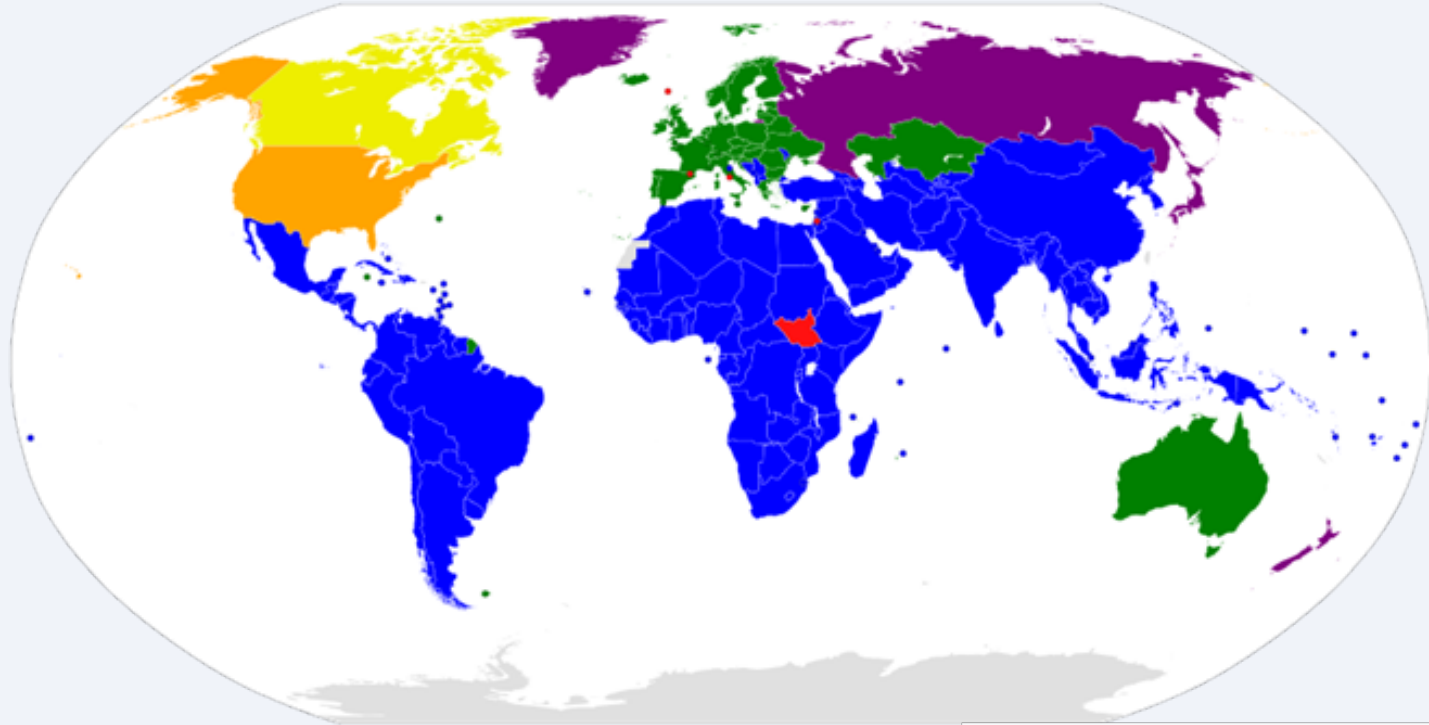
**At Rio de Janeiro in June 1992
the general enthusiasm for the
UNFCCC was high**







**What happened in the following 23 years ,
before the historic gathering of the Parties
to UNFCCC in Paris, in December 2015?**

The Good News

**Major Climate Change activities
occurred under the UNFCCC
umbrella between 1992 and 2015**

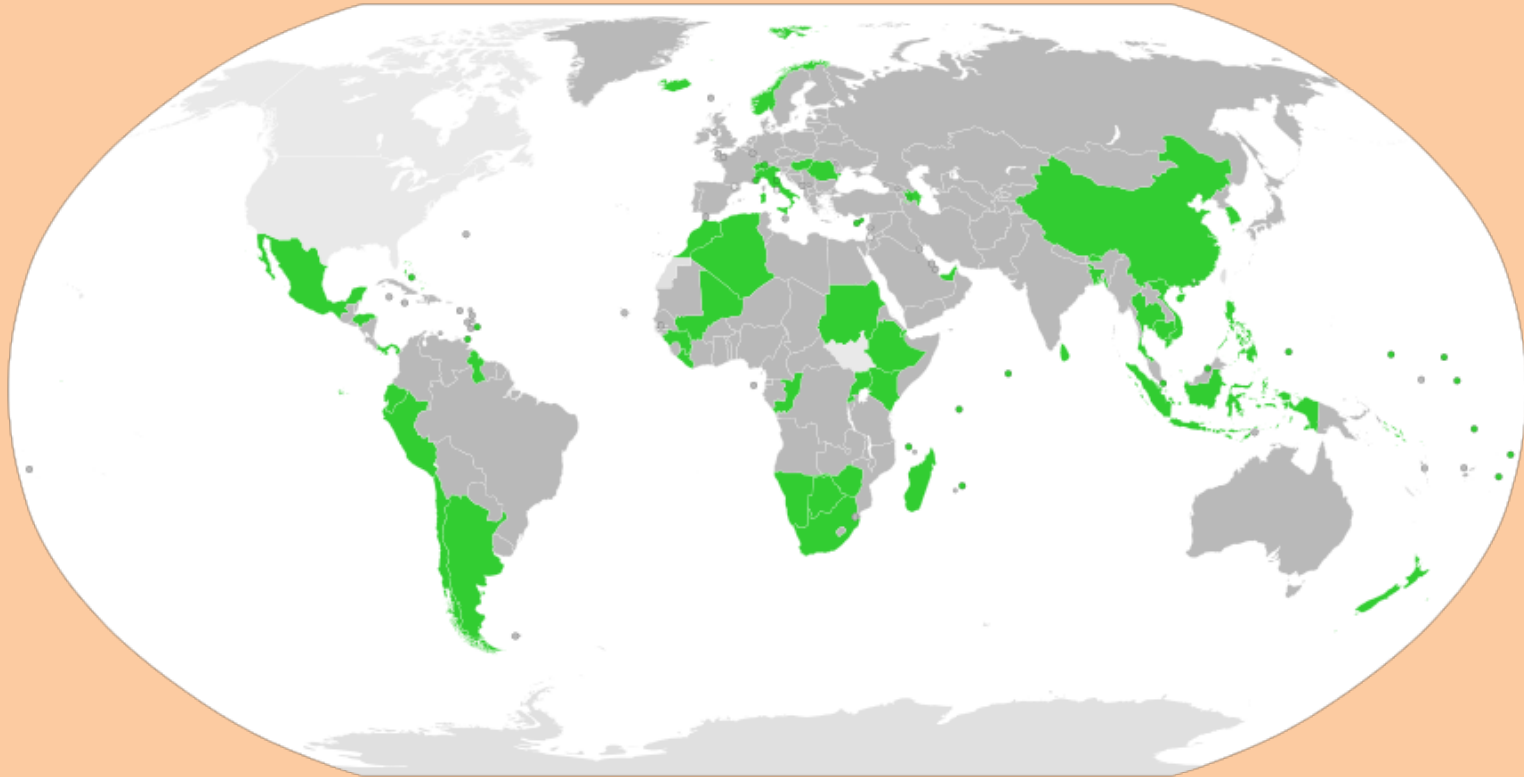
Kyoto Protocol to the UNFCCC



-  Annex B parties with binding targets in the second period
-  Annex B parties with binding targets in the first period but not the second
-  non-Annex B parties without binding targets
-  Annex B parties with binding targets in the first period but which withdrew from the Protocol
-  Signatories to the Protocol that have not ratified
-  Other UN member states and observers that are not party to the Protocol

Signed	11 December 1997
Location	Kyoto, Japan
Effective	16 February 2005
Expiration	in force (first commitment period expired 31 December 2012)
Signatories	84

Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol



Acceptance of the Doha Amendment

- States that ratified
- Kyoto protocol parties that did not ratify
- Non-parties to the Kyoto Protocol

Drafted	8 December 2012
Location	Doha, Qatar
Effective	not in effect
Condition	ratification by 144 (3/4 of 192 Parties) required
Ratifiers	75



**Message to the delegates to COP 20 in Lima, on top of
the archeological site Huaca Pucllana**

- **COP 20 (Lima, 2014) produced Elements for a draft negotiating text**
- **COP 21 (Paris, 2015) The Paris Agreement is adopted**
- **COP 22 (Marrakech, 2016)**

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adopted by consensus on 12 December 2015

- **Opened for signature: 22 April 2016 (Earth Day)**
- **Gone into effect: 4 November 2016**
- **Signed by 194 States: December 2016**
- **Ratified by 134 States: December 2016**

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Basic Decisions

- The increase in the global average temperature must be held to well below **2°C** above pre-industrial levels
- Pursue to limit the temperature increase to **1.5°C** above pre-industrial levels

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Basic Decisions

- Adapt to climate change and foster climate resilience
- Support the development low greenhouse gas emissions in a manner that does not threaten food production

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How?

- reach global peaking of greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible
- undertake rapid reductions thereafter in accordance with best available science
- achieve a balance between anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks between the years 2050 and 2100

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On which Basis?

- On the basis of equity
- In the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty

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With what methodology?

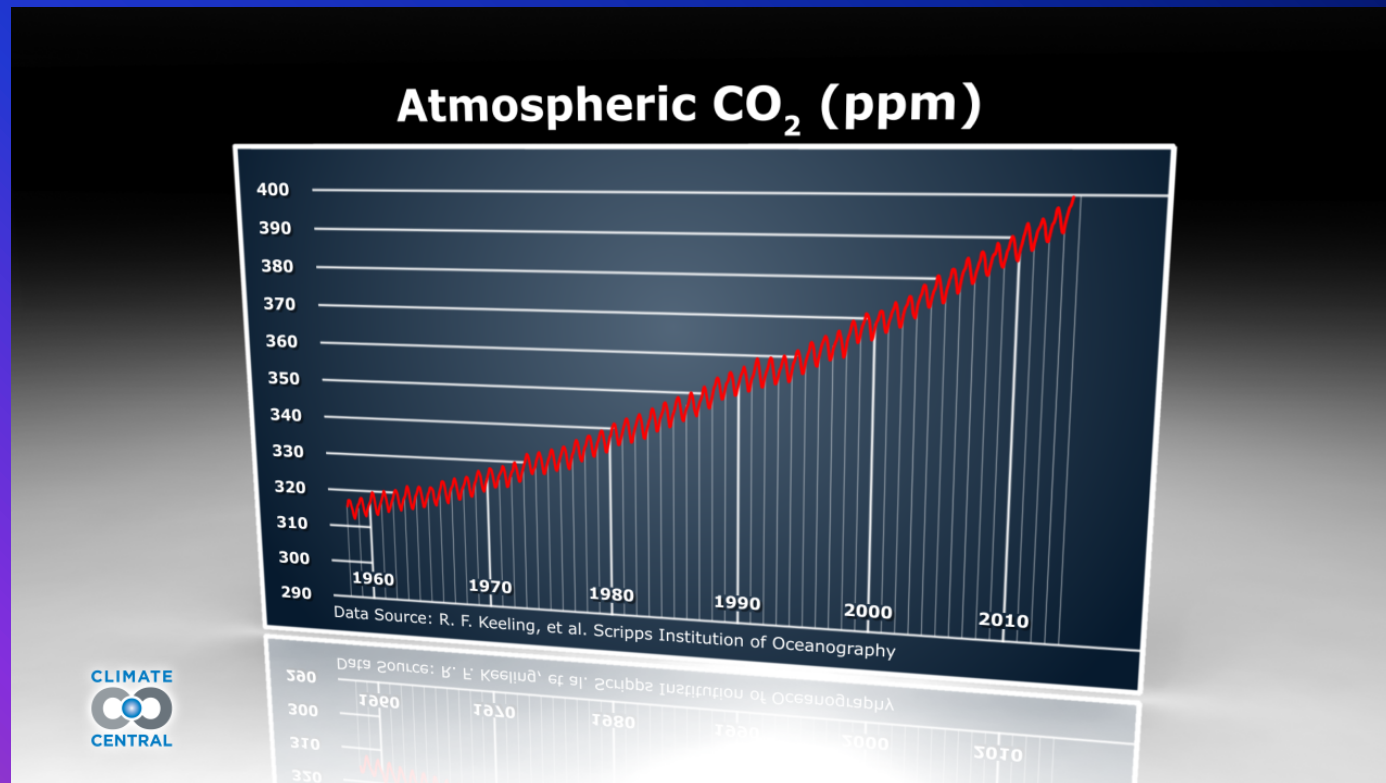
- Each country determines, prepares, communicates and maintains successive nationally determined contributions (NDCs) that it intends to achieve
- The NDCs are the Contributions that each individual country should make to achieve the worldwide goal
- Article 3 requires them to be "ambitious"

COP 22

The Marrakech Action Proclamation is a confirmation of principles already enunciated, solidarity with more vulnerable countries and willingness to act to implement the Paris Accord

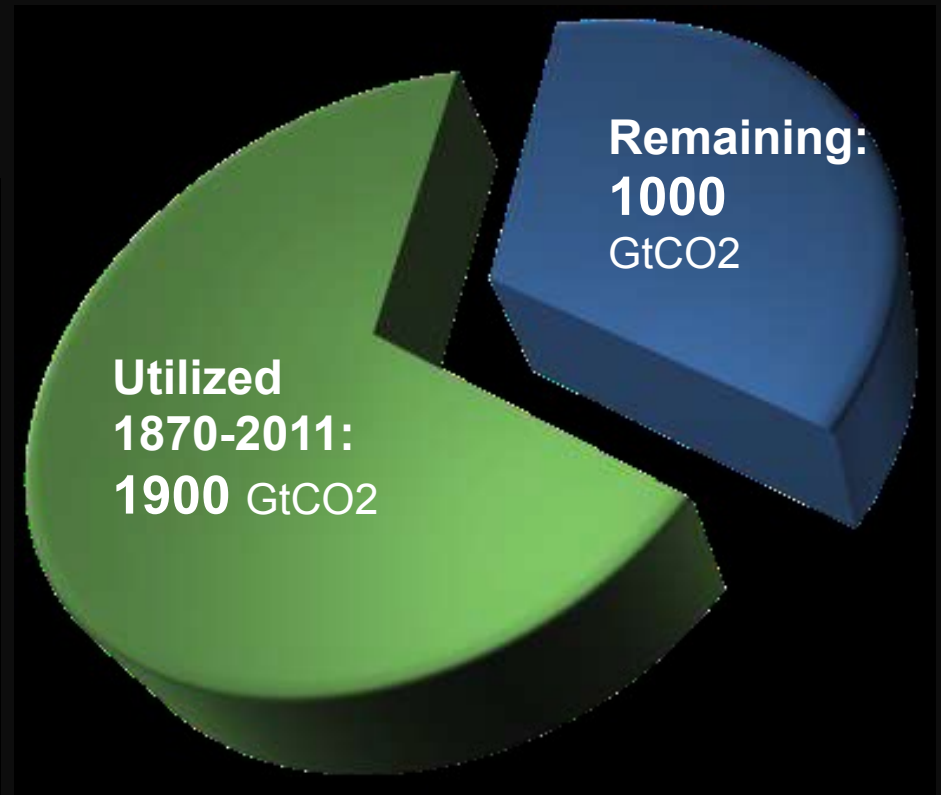
Now the bad news

CO₂ concentration in the atmosphere kept increasing unabated and passed 400ppm in 2016



Carbon Budget

65% of the carbon budget compatible with the 2°C objective has been used



To conclude

"Since 1992, when the world's nations agreed at Rio de Janeiro to avoid 'dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system,' they've met 20 times without moving the needle on carbon emissions. In that interval we've added almost as much carbon to the atmosphere as we did in the previous century"

National Geographical Magazine, 2015

WHY?

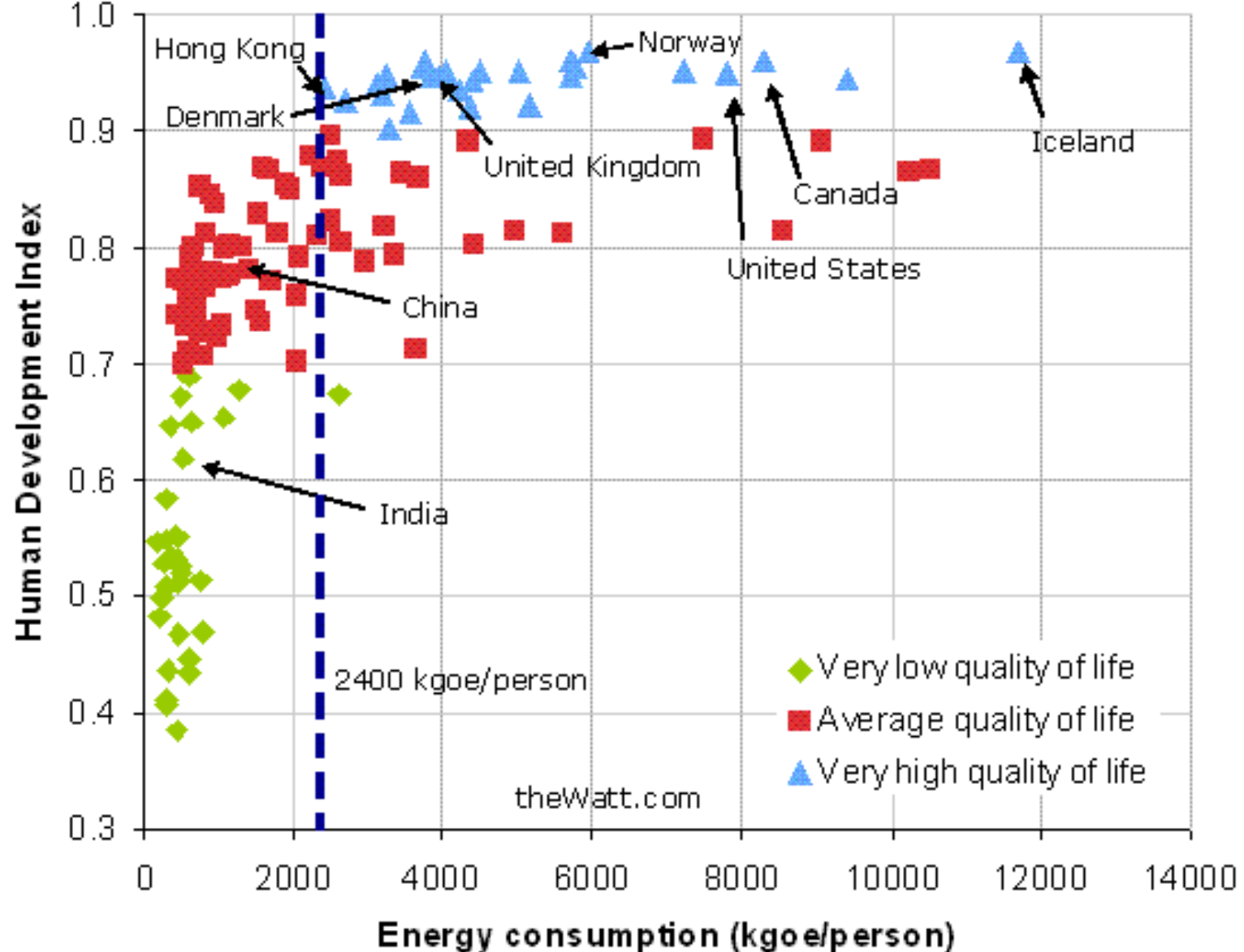
Efforts to curb CO2 emissions are in conflict with currently held principles and beliefs :

- ☐ **Right to development**
- ☐ **Equity**
- ☐ **Sustainability of growth**
- ☐ **Globalization**

**Matemos el hambre,
no el hombre**

Fidel Castro

Rio de Janeiro, 1992



Connection between development and Energy consumption

There is no way this can be done without fundamentally changing the American way of life, choking off economic development, and putting large segments of our economy out of business

Thomas J. Donohue, President of the US Chamber of Commerce, on ambitious Carbon reduction

Will we save the planet?

We must.

At what conditions?

Thank you!

Starting 1995 the COPs met every year, 20 times

- COP3 (Kyoto, 1997) adopted the Kyoto protocol
- COP4 (Buenos Aires, 1998) adopted the Buenos Aires Plan of Action
- COP7 (Marrakech, 2001) adopted a package deal for compliance and banking by units generated by CDM
- COP10 (Buenos Aires, 2004) adopted decisions on technology transfer and land use change and forestry

- COP13 (Bali, 2007) adopted the Bali Road Map for strengthened international Climate change agreement
- COP14 (Poznan, 2008) launched the Adaptation Fund under the Kyoto Protocol
- COP16 (Cancun, 2010) produced the Cancun Agreement with commitment to 2Deg maximum temperature rise and establishment of the Green Climate Fund

- COP18 (Doha, 2012) adopted the timetable for reaching agreement by 2015 to come into effect in 2020 and produced the Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol
- COP 19 (Warsaw, 2013) established the Warsaw international mechanism for loss and damage

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Other salient aspects

- The need for adaptation measures and climate resilience is recognized
- The importance of addressing Loss and Damage is recognized
- An expert-based watchdog mechanism for compliance is established

The Products of the Rio Earth Summit

- **The Rio Declaration:** a short document consisting of 27 principles on which to construct future **sustainable development**
- **Agenda 21:** a non-binding, voluntarily implemented action plan of the UN with regard to **sustainable development**

“Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

Our Common Future (the Brundtland Report),
1987

The Rio Principles

PRINCIPLE 2: States have

- the sovereign right to exploit their own resources
- the responsibility to not causing damage to the environment of other States beyond the national jurisdiction.

The Rio Principles

PRINCIPLE 3

- The right to development must be fulfilled
- Developmental and environmental needs of present and future generations must be met equitably

PRINCIPLE 4

- environmental protection is an integral part of the sustainable development process and cannot be considered in isolation from it.

The Rio Principles

PRINCIPLE 7

- States have common but differentiated responsibilities
- The developed countries acknowledge their responsibilities deriving from the pressures of their societies on the environment and of the technologies and financial resources they command.

The Rio Principles

PRINCIPLE 10

- Environmental issues are best handled with the participation of all citizens
- Each individual must have access to information concerning the environment, and
- the opportunity to participate in decision-making

The Rio Principles

PRINCIPLE 13

- States must develop national law regarding compensation for the victims of pollution and other environmental damage

PRINCIPLE 15

- Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty must not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation.

The Earth Summit 2002

Johannesburg

- Eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today
- Fundamental changes in the way societies produce and consume are indispensable for achieving global sustainable development

The Earth Summit 2012

Rio de Janeiro

“The Future We Want”

- poverty eradication, changing unsustainable patterns of consumption and production and protecting the natural resource base of economic and social development are the overarching objectives of sustainable development
- climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

New York 21 October 2015

“Transforming our world”

a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity
which contains

17 Sustainable Development Goals

**Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate
change and its impacts**

**Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the
oceans, seas and marine resources for
sustainable development**

- Human activities are having an increasing impact on the integrity of ecosystems that provide essential resources and services for human well-being and economic activities
- Change in the Earth's climate and its adverse effects are a common concern of humankind