

From: Luke Hogg <Luke.Hogg@teneo.com>

Sent: Monday, October 21, 2024 7:33 AM

Subject: COP29 Presidency Publishes Final Text of COP29 Green Energy Pledge: Green Energy Zones and Corridors

Good afternoon

The COP29 Presidency today published the final texts of nine Declarations and Pledges as part of its Action Agenda for the upcoming UN climate summit in Baku this November. These documents provide pathways for all global actors to come together and commit to enhanced ambition across key climate priorities. The COP29 Presidency's Action Agenda is a comprehensive set of initiatives designed to complement the formal UNFCCC negotiation process.

I have included the wider press release below, but given your interest in the Green Energy space, I thought you might be particularly interested in the **COP29 Green Energy Pledge: Green Energy Zones and Corridors**.

This Pledge aims to increase global energy storage capacity six times above 2022 levels, reaching 1,500 gigawatts by 2030. To enhance energy grids, endorsers will also commit to enhance grid capacity through a global grid deployment goal of adding or refurbishing 25 million kilometres of grids by 2030, recognising analysis from the IEA on the need to add or refurbish an additional 65 million kilometres by 2040 to align with net-zero emissions by 2050.

I've attached the final text of the Pledge, which includes further details on what the COP29 Presidency is calling on signatories to commit to. I have also included a quote from UNIDA Director General Gerd Müller:

UNIDO Director General Gerd Müller: *"Multi-stakeholder initiatives to advance green energy storage and hydrogen solutions are key to achieving our climate goals. UNIDO is supporting the COP29 Presidency with our expertise in promoting innovative technologies, partnerships, solutions and policies to drive climate-friendly industrial development and we are ready to start implementing the new initiatives."*

I would be happy to go through any questions you might have, and talk to you more about this Initiative, or any other aspects of COP29. Please contact me at anytime.

All the best,

Luke

PRESS RELEASE

COP29 Presidency publishes final texts of Declarations and Pledges for upcoming UN Climate Summit

- **COP29 Presidency calls on government and non-government stakeholders to endorse COP29 pledges and declarations**
- **COP29 Truce Appeal already supported by 127 countries and 1,100 non-state actors**
- **Full details revealed of COP29 Global Energy Storage and Grids Pledge to increase storage capacity six times to 1,500 GW**
- **Host Azerbaijan to publish full programme of events to galvanise global climate action**

BAKU, 21 October: The COP29 Presidency today published the final texts of nine Declarations and Pledges as part of its Action Agenda for the upcoming UN climate summit in Baku this November. These documents provide pathways for all global actors to come together and commit to enhanced ambition across key climate priorities.

The COP29 Presidency's Action Agenda, first outlined in an open letter to Parties and Constituencies in September, is a comprehensive set of initiatives designed to complement the formal UNFCCC negotiation process. While not part of the official negotiations, these Declarations and Pledges aim to catalyse action and ambition across all sectors of society.

With the final texts now published, government and non-government stakeholders have the opportunity to endorse these documents, which will be formally launched at the COP29 climate summit in November.

The texts, finalised following a period of public consultation, include:

- COP29 Truce Appeal
- COP29 Global Energy Storage and Grids Pledge
- COP29 Green Energy Pledge: Green Energy Zones and Corridors
- COP29 Hydrogen Declaration
- COP29 Declaration on Green Digital Action
- COP29 Declaration on Reducing Methane from Organic Waste
- COP29 Multisectoral Actions Pathways (MAP) Declaration to Resilient and Healthy Cities
- COP29 Declaration on Enhanced Action in Tourism

- COP29 Declaration on Water for Climate Action

The COP29 Truce Appeal has already gained significant traction, with support from 127 countries and nearly 1,100 non-state actors. It calls for a pause in conflicts during the COP29 period to reduce emissions from military activities and promote global peace.

In line with the COP29 Presidency's two-pillar plan for the year, the Declarations and Pledges aim to enhance ambition across all climate pillars. They present opportunities for governments to incorporate sectoral targets into national climate plans and for stakeholders to agree on principles to strengthen collective climate efforts.

Alongside the Declarations and Pledges, the COP29 Presidency will release a programme of Presidency-hosted events for the UN climate summit. These sessions will bring together relevant stakeholders for focused discussions on thematic items and serve as platforms to launch the various declarations.

COP29 President-Designate Mukhtar Babayev said: "These Declarations and Pledges are vital tools to drive progress on climate action. They send strong market signals, help direct financial flows, and foster a sense of shared responsibility. I call on all parties and non-state actors to endorse these documents and help build momentum ahead of COP29. While signing these pledges alone will not deliver the changes we need, they play a significant role in supporting the COP29 Presidency's vision to enhance ambition and enable action."

He added, "The final texts reflect valuable input from a wide range of stakeholders, demonstrating the power of inclusive and transparent processes in addressing the climate crisis. We thank our partners for their collaboration throughout this process. We are particularly encouraged by the early support for the COP Truce Appeal, which highlights the interconnectedness of climate action and global peace."

These initiatives are designed to complement, not replace, the critical work of the formal UNFCCC negotiations. They provide additional avenues for commitment and action, particularly for non-state actors who play a crucial role in the global response to climate change.

The Presidency encourages all stakeholders to review the final texts and consider endorsing these important climate initiatives, which collectively aim to accelerate progress towards the goals of the Paris Agreement.

ENDS

Notes to editors

The COP29 Presidency shared a substantive update on the Action Agenda in its second open letter to Parties and Constituencies in September. This letter, containing descriptions of each Action Agenda initiative, can be found [here](#).

A brief explanation of the declarations and pledges in the Action Agenda can be found below:

COP29 Truce Appeal

The appeal for a COP Truce, modelled on the Olympic Truce, will highlight the importance of peace and climate action. It will aim to remind all nations of the interplay between conflict and climate change and emphasise the imperative of finding collective solutions to protect the most vulnerable.

COP29 Global Energy Storage and Grids Pledge

The outcome Pledge will aim to increase global energy storage capacity six times above 2022 levels, reaching 1,500 gigawatts by 2030. To enhance energy grids, endorsers will also commit to enhance grid capacity through a global grid deployment goal of adding or refurbishing 25 million kilometres of grids by 2030, recognising analysis from the IEA on the need to add or refurbish an additional 65 million kilometres by 2040 to align with net-zero emissions by 2050.

COP29 Green Energy Pledge: Green Energy Zones and Corridors

The outcome Pledge will commit to green energy zones and corridors, including targets to promote investment, stimulate economic growth, develop, modernise and expand infrastructure, and foster regional cooperation.

COP29 Hydrogen Declaration

The outcome Declaration will unlock the potential of a global market for clean hydrogen and its derivatives with guiding principles and priorities, to address regulatory, technological, financing, and standardisation barriers.

COP29 Declaration on Green Digital Action

The outcome Declaration aims to accelerate climate-positive digitalisation and emission reductions in the Information and Communication Technology sector and enhance accessibility of green digital technologies.

COP29 Declaration on Reducing Methane from Organic Waste

The outcome Declaration will streamline work towards 1.5-aligned waste sector commitments in national climate policy documents with quantified targets to reduce methane in waste and food systems.

COP29 Multisectoral Actions Pathways (MAP) Declaration to Resilient and Healthy Cities

The outcome Declaration will seek to enhance multisectoral cooperation to address climate challenges in cities and an initiative to create coherence in all urban climate efforts and catalyse urban climate finance.

COP29 Declaration on Enhanced Action in Tourism

The outcome Declaration will include sectoral targets for tourism in NDCs and promote sustainable practices by reducing emissions and increasing resilience in the sector. A further initiative with outcomes to enhance transparency in the sector and provide frameworks for sustainable food systems in tourism.

COP29 Declaration on Water for Climate Action

The outcome Declaration will call upon stakeholders to take integrated approaches when combating the causes and impacts of climate change on water basins and water-related ecosystems, strengthen regional and international cooperation, integrated water-related mitigation and adaptation measures in national climate policies. The Declaration will launch the Baku Dialogue on Water for Climate Action to enhance COP-to-COP continuity and coherence in the field.

This material is distributed by Teneo Strategy LLC on behalf of COP29. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice at the US Department of Justice in Washington D.C.

Luke Hogg (He/Him)
Associate Director

Teneo
3rd Floor
20 on Hatch
Hatch Street Lower
Dublin 2, D02 XH02
O: +353 1 6342 597
E: luke.hogg@teneo.com



teneo.com

Annex 4: COP29 Green Energy Pledge: Green Energy Zones and Corridors

We, national governments and other stakeholders, including international organisations, financial institutions, philanthropies, private sector entities, and civil society organisations;

Recalling the commitments made by the governments which endorsed the COP28 Global Renewables and Energy Efficiency Pledge to work together to triple global installed renewable energy generation capacity to at least 11,000 gigawatts (GW) by 2030, taking into consideration different starting points and national circumstances, and to collectively double the global average annual rate of energy efficiency improvements from around 2% to over 4% every year by 2030, and to put the principle of energy efficiency as the first fuel at the core of policymaking, planning, and major investment decisions, as well as the call on Parties in the outcome of the first global stocktake under the Paris Agreement to contribute to the global efforts of transitioning away from fossil fuels in energy systems in a just, orderly and equitable manner;

Recognising that renewable energy sources are abundant and high potential renewable and low-emission/clean energy generation may be located in areas far from the centres of consumption both within and beyond national borders, it can be highly advantageous to reap the benefits of larger intraregional and interregional interconnected power grids, and acknowledging that advances in High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) transmission lines enable cost-effective and secure transmission of electricity over long distances with minimal losses;

Recalling our commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG 7 (Affordable and clean energy) and SDG 13 (Climate action);

Recognising green energy corridors as a tool to enable energy transitions and sustainable development through interconnection of electricity systems and noting that many existing and planned interconnection projects aim at increasing the share of renewable and low-emission/clean energy in the electricity system;

Recognising the key role of green energy zones in increasing the efficiency of renewable and low-emission/clean energy generation, while gradually reducing dependence on fossil fuels, lowering greenhouse gas emissions, and reducing environmental impacts by developing clean energy projects, including also through removal and abatement technologies;

Noting that green energy zones serve as strategic zones that harness renewable and low-emission/clean energy to attract investment through targeted incentives and policies, promote eco-industrial development, create employment opportunities, and foster sustainable economic growth through the development of eco-industrial parks and decarbonized sectors such as, inter alia, transport and ecotourism;

Commit to promoting green energy zones for tackling climate change, promoting economic growth and energy security, and improving the quality of life for local communities, such as by:

1. Promotion of efficient use of natural resources: Harnessing clean energy sources while minimising the environmental impact associated with the spread of infrastructure.
2. Stimulating investment and economic viability: Advocating for policies and incentives that attract investment to green energy zones and strengthen competitiveness of sustainable energy projects;
3. Sustainable economic growth and job creation: Maximising the potential of green energy zones to stimulate economic growth and create jobs, while involving communities in planning and decision-making processes. This includes, among others, supporting the development of manufacturing clusters and eco-industrial parks, and promoting eco-tourism.
4. Developing infrastructure and enhanced energy efficiency applications: Developing infrastructure that supports both sustainable energy projects and local communities. This includes improving roads, grid connections, and energy storage solutions, as well as implementing energy efficiency applications that maximise the benefits of renewable energy sources.

Commit to promoting green energy corridors, through a holistic approach such as by:

1. Regional cooperation and policy framework: Fostering regional cooperation for accelerating electricity interconnection. Regional cooperation can promote the joint development of harmonised policies, relevant institutional and regulatory frameworks that incentivise grid integration of renewable and low-emission/clean energy and cross-border collaboration for the transmission of electricity.
2. Institutional framework: Establishing or expanding multilateral platforms for stakeholder cooperation across relevant areas, where appropriate. This may include developing a common methodology for feasibility studies, including the necessary modelling, and ensuring data transparency and reliability.

3. **Infrastructure backbone:** Encourage regional infrastructure planning and developing least-cost energy modelling approaches, including relevant sustainability parameters and a transparent process for connecting renewable and low-emission/clean energy generation to the grid.
4. **Enabling financing:** Partnering with public and private sector entities, as well as philanthropies, to facilitate investments at subnational, national, regional and international levels. This may include the establishment of appropriate financial frameworks to ensure that initiatives are economically viable.
5. **Regulatory frameworks:** Making progress towards the harmonization of grid codes, where appropriate, to encourage interconnection, enable secure and flexible operations and to incentivize flexible demand. Bilateral and multilateral cross-border power trading arrangements can be enabled through harmonised and coordinated procedures that emphasise flexible and least-cost electricity trading, strengthening the resilience of electricity systems.
6. **Transparent procurement mechanisms:** Promoting fair, open, and transparent procurement mechanisms for the realisation of the necessary cross-border and domestic infrastructure, and encouraging contractors to pay particular attention to the treatment of environmental and social aspects.

Through this pledge, we are committed to combining and building on our existing efforts to promote regional cooperation, sustainable investment, and the advancement of infrastructure development. We intend to pursue inclusive stakeholder consultations, particularly with communities impacted by new infrastructure projects. Furthermore, we aim to review progress towards the implementation of the Green Energy Pledge: Green Energy Zones and Corridors through dedicated meetings, including those convened at future UN Climate Change Conferences, and request the International Energy Agency (IEA) and the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) to reflect information on the progress made through this pledge in their relevant reports.

This collective journey will take us towards a climate resilient, equitable, sustainable and clean energy future, and we call on other states and stakeholders to join the Green Energy Pledge: green energy zones and corridors.

National governments and other stakeholders can endorse this Declaration through:

Any official written communications (letter, note verbale, etc.) to the COP29 Presidency or email zonesandcorridors@cop29.az