

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

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

**Subject:** COP29 Presidency Publishes Final Text of COP29 Hydrogen Declaration

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 Hydrogen space, I thought you might be particularly interested in the **COP29 Hydrogen Declaration**.

The Declaration aims to 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.

I've attached the final text of the Declaration, 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.***

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## Annex 5: COP29 Hydrogen Declaration

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

**United** in our commitments to urgently address climate change and achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement, particularly pursuing efforts to limit temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, and meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

**Recalling**, in particular, the goal to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all under SDG7;

**Recognising** the positive momentum generated by the outcomes of the 28th UN Climate Change Conference (Dubai, United Arab Emirates), G7 (Turin, Italy) and G20 (New Delhi, India) that acknowledge the role of renewable, clean/zero-emission and low-carbon hydrogen and its derivatives in accelerating the global clean energy transition;

**Raising concern** that while governments and the private sector have taken first steps to promote the adoption of renewable, clean/zero-emission and low-carbon hydrogen and its derivatives, these actions remain insufficient to align with global climate objectives;

**Noting** the IRENA and IEA estimates that renewable, clean/zero-emission and low-carbon hydrogen and its derivatives currently account for less than one million tonnes (Mt) while 95 Mt of hydrogen globally is produced from unabated fossil fuels, resulting in over 900 Mt of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per year;

**Building** on the outcome of the first Global Stocktake under the Paris Agreement as part of the UAE Consensus, particularly decision 1/CMA.5, paragraphs 27, 28 and 29, highlighting the need for deep, rapid and sustained reductions in greenhouse gas emissions in line with 1.5°C pathways and calling on governments to contribute to various global efforts, including accelerating zero- and low-emission technologies, including, inter alia, renewables, nuclear, as well as abatement and removal technologies;

**Underscoring** the unique role that renewable, clean/zero-emission and low-carbon hydrogen and its derivatives can play in contributing to these objectives by facilitating the integration of renewable energy, supporting the clean energy transition particularly in hard-to-abate sectors, and promoting economic opportunities and infrastructure development, while facilitating just and equitable transitions, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, including non-CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, particularly methane, in alignment with global climate objectives;

**Noting** the importance of leveraging existing international efforts, such as the Hydrogen Breakthrough and partner initiatives, to advance our commitments, including by helping to advance coordinated international action and to review progress in line with this Declaration;

**We, the endorser, hereby declare our commitment to:**

Work together to scale up renewable, clean/zero-emission and low-carbon hydrogen production and deployment and accelerate decarbonisation of existing hydrogen production from unabated fossil fuels to facilitate energy transitions and achieve near-zero GHG emissions from hydrogen production, targeting particularly end-use sectors that are difficult to decarbonise, taking into consideration national circumstances.

**We highlight the need to strengthen efforts, collective and individual, to fulfil this commitment, including by way of:**

**Stimulating demand** for renewable, clean/zero-emission and low-carbon hydrogen and its derivatives, including through the advancement of demand-side measures, such as targets, incentives, mandates, public procurement initiatives and public-private partnerships to advance deployment particularly in end-use sectors that are difficult to decarbonise;

**Accelerating the development of global standards to support the process of mutual recognition of certification schemes** through continued international cooperation on improving compatibility, consistency, transparency, sustainability and interoperability of relevant frameworks and instruments, including by consideration of the adoption of or consistency with globally recognised standards for evidencing carbon intensity;

**Supporting financial and technical assistance** to deploy effective, efficient, and scalable instruments, particularly in developing countries, to accelerate investment in renewable, clean/zero-emission and low-carbon hydrogen and its derivatives across the value chain;

**Promoting just transitions and capacity building** to assist in reskilling and upskilling industry workforces and providing essential information to policymakers to unlock quality jobs and new economic opportunities, green industrialisation and socio-economic growth, particularly in emerging markets and developing economies, to facilitate safe, inclusive and equitable just transitions while pursuing the acceleration of renewable, clean/zero-emission and low-carbon hydrogen and its derivatives;

**Advancing global trade** through international collaboration and public-private partnerships to support the development of cross-border value chains, including enabling infrastructure and the wider supply chain, as well as pursuing a level-playing field to pave the way for an international market for renewable, clean/zero-emission and low-carbon hydrogen and its derivatives;

**Investing in research, development and demonstration (RD&D)** and knowledge-exchange across the renewable, clean/zero-emission and low-carbon hydrogen value chain and working together with other governments and stakeholders to support continued innovation and sharing of best practices, and increase the number and geographical distribution of hydrogen demonstration projects across high-value end-use sectors;

**Promoting climate and environmental stewardship and actively addressing the sustainability aspects of hydrogen** through pursuing actions to help ensure hydrogen systems are maximally beneficial to the climate across the hydrogen value chain and conducted in an environmentally and socially responsible manner, including by minimising greenhouse gas emissions associated with hydrogen production and use, minimising energy and hydrogen losses throughout the value chain, and mitigating potential impacts to air quality, water resources and land use;

**Encouraging the integration of renewable, clean/zero-emission and low-carbon hydrogen and its derivatives into national climate and energy plans**, where relevant and possible, and subject to national circumstances.

This Declaration represents our collective intent to drive forward the global agenda for renewable, clean/zero-emission and low-carbon hydrogen and its derivatives, placing our climate commitments at the centre, working to ensure sustainable, just and equitable energy transitions for all.

**We commit to reconvene at the 30th UN Climate Change Conference to discuss progress in our collective efforts.**

**National governments and other stakeholders can endorse this Declaration through:**

Any official written communications (letter, note verbale, etc.) to the COP29 Presidency or email [hydrogen@cop29.az](mailto:hydrogen@cop29.az)