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Marrakech Climate Conference: Key Outcomes and its Implications to ASEAN



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The 22nd session of the United Nations Climate Change Conference of Parties to Kyoto Protocol was held in Marrakech in November 2016. The summit was the first meeting conducted to discuss the path ahead and rules for the implementation of Paris Agreement. Despite being overshadowed by the result of the United States' Presidential election, negotiators had critically managed to agree on several key issues below:

Adaptation

The Marrakech talks had emphasized the significance of providing support for developing countries to enhance their resilience to the impacts of climate change. One of the main instruments that will serve this purpose is the Adaptation Fund. Supported by the pledged from Germany, Belgium, Sweden and Italy, the fund gathered around \$81 Million financial commitment. The developed countries' contribution is far from the pre-agreed pledges of "\$100 Billion a year by

2020". Contrary to the expectation of poor and developing countries, negotiation on the priorities and scope of works of the long awaited Adaptation Fund was deferred with countries agreeing to submit their views by March 2017.

Mitigation: Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC)

Paris Agreement is built on the foundation of countries' voluntary pledges - known as NDC - to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Marrakech convention was substantial in developing a road map for negotiators to agree on the "rules of the game" of assessing countries' achievement. The roadmap lays out series of negotiations until 2018 that will dwell on the technical aspects of the "rulebook". In 2018, a "facilitative dialogue" will be held to conduct the first global stock takes of carbon emissions. The exercise will inform the next round of countries pledges review in 2023. Emphasis on transparency was critically voiced in

Marrakech with the establishment of a new fund to support developing countries' capacity to monitor, report and verify its NDC attainment.

Outside Negotiation Rooms

Diverse initiatives committed by cities, the private sector, NGOs and other actors have moved the agenda of tackling climate change forward. A new South-South cooperation has formed among 47 of the world's poorest states under the umbrella of *Climate Vulnerable Forum*. The Forum jointly expressed their intention of generating 100% of their energy from renewable sources in the future.

Another initiative is *2050 Pathways Platform*, which was established to assist countries, the private sectors, and local governments to develop long term plans for carbon emissions reduction.

According to World Resources Institute report, during the two weeks negotiation 200 companies representing \$4.8 trillion worth of businesses have put forward their pledge in reducing carbon emissions by relying on new science and technology.

Implications to ASEAN Priority on Agriculture

Significantly reliant on agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors for the livelihood of millions, South-east Asian region is vulnerable to impacts of climate change. ASEAN Member States (AMS) were jointly expressed their concerns on the implication of climate change on agriculture. Submitted ahead of the Marrakech talks, the joint statements highlighted the AMS priorities in developing climate smart agriculture methods that will be more resilience to climate impacts. The region has es-

tablished the *ASEAN Climate Resilience Network* to foster greater regional collaboration through information exchange and expertise.

To mobilize greater funding and support, the network can quickly tap into the proposed Adaptation Fund when the Fund is up and running. Conversely, the UNFCCC and developed countries can help by prioritising agriculture in the climate negotiations, financing and technology transfers programmes and projects.

Stronger partnerships with the private sector, NGOs, and local governments have to be fostered by AMS to support them in developing efficient, effective and equitable frameworks and tools for climate smart agriculture. One of the principles of equitability will be in the hard work of mainstreaming gender and socio environmental justice.



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Suggested Readings:

- Paris Agreement - Status of Ratification, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- Anna Schulz et al, Earth Negotiations Bulletin (ENB): Summary of the Marrakech Climate Change Conference, IISD Reporting Services, 2016
- Imelda Bacudo and Dhanush Dinesh, Southeast Asian countries call for climate action in agriculture ahead of Marrakech climate talks, Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security, 2016

CLIMATE CHANGE, ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY AND NATURAL DISASTERS

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The Straits Times
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Justin Worland, Time
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Climate change awareness broadcast to include Indonesia

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Paris deal remains world's best chance to tackle climate change

David Fogarty, The Straits Times
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Trump's impending u-turn on climate change: Worry for Southeast Asia?

Margareth Sembiring, RSIS Commentary
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YearEnd: Philippine finally accedes to join Paris deal on climate change

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Climate change and vulnerability to poverty: An empirical investigation in rural Indonesia

Tomoki Fujii, ADBI Working Paper Series
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UN Bahamas Symposium on Implementing the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda in Small Island Developing States (SIDS)
21–23 February 2017
Bahamas

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ENERGY SECURITY

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Julius Cesar Trajano, APLN
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Uranium supply in Spain set to boost EU's energy security

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'Smart' micro power grids to be tested over next five years

Pichaya Sangsorn, The Nation
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China starts building SMR-based floating nuclear plant

Sonal Patel,
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China to plow \$361 billion into renewable fuel by 2020

Reuters
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Carl Baker and Federica Dall'arche
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CSCAP Nuclear Energy Experts Group Meeting

27–28 February 2017
Singapore

40th IAEA International Conference

18–21 June 2017
Singapore

FOOD SECURITY



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Jamie Robertson,
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Governments to integrate biodiversity conservation across agri sectors

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Zika virus: a New Year update

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Uighurs in Kyrgyzstan hope for peace despite violence

Al Jazeera
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22,000 Rohingya 'flee Myanmar to Bangladesh' in a week

Al Jazeera
10 January 2017



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In Paris, the world will try one more time to solve the Israel-Palestinian conflict

The Washington Post
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Leadership change looms for armed group key to Myanmar's peace process

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Yemen conflict: At least 10,000 killed, says UN

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Cambridge University Press
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31 March—1 April 2017
Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA

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TRANSNATIONAL CRIME



Courtesy of Flickr account U.S. Pacific Fleet and used under a creative commons license.

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The Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime
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17-19 May 2017
Lisbon, Portugal

**19th International
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23-24 March 2017
Prague, Czech Republic

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND DISASTER RELIEF



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14–15 February 2017,
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7–9 March 2017,
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RB, USAID and EY launch Hygiene Index on World Toilet Day
DelhiGreens

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2017 Is Pivotal for U.S. Leadership on Global Water Security

New Security Beat

5 January 2017

Changing rainfall patterns linked to water security in India
International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis

9 January 2017

Access to Clean Water is Critical for Community Empowerment

StopHungerNow.org

9 Jan 2017

Beyond the "WEF Nexus" A Critical Nexus: Water, Development And Security

The Water, Energy & Food Security Resource Platform

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Embrace the Water: A cities of the Future Conference

12-14 June 2017

Gothenburg, Sweden

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Paris, France