



## Is the COP process in doubt?



The UN climate conference in Baku, Azerbaijan, concluded on 24 November with an agreement calling on developed countries to deliver \$300 billion per year to developing countries by 2035 to drastically reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect lives and livelihoods from the worsening impacts of climate change.

Rich countries have pledged to contribute \$300bn a year by 2035 to help poorer nations combat the effects of climate change after two weeks of intense negotiations at the United Nations climate summit (COP29) in Azerbaijan's capital, Baku.

While this marks a significant increase from the previous \$100bn pledge, the deal has been sharply criticised by developing nations as woefully insufficient to address the scale of the climate crisis. In the end, the summit failed to set steps for countries to build on last year's COP28 pledge to transition away from fossil fuels and triple renewable energy capacity this decade.

Many negotiators saw that as a failure - and a sign that fossil fuel interests were overpowering climate talks.



Despite years of celebrated climate agreements, greenhouse gas emissions and global temperatures continue to rise, with 2024 on track to be the hottest year recorded. The intensifying effects of extreme weather highlight the insufficient pace of action to avert a full-blown climate crisis.

The COP29 finance deal has drawn criticism as inadequate.

Adding to the unease, Trump's presidential election victory loomed over the talks, with his pledges to withdraw the US from global climate efforts and appoint a climate sceptic as energy secretary further dampening optimism.

Dursun Yıldız

Director

## **COP29 discusses impact of climate change on transboundary water resources**

November 21, 2024



An event titled "The Role of Climate-Informed Transboundary Water Management in Ensuring Progress on the UAE's Global Climate Resilience Framework" was held on the sidelines of COP29 in Baku, the Azerbaijani Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources told [Report](#).

The event, jointly organized by the Azerbaijani Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ), and the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) discussed the impact of climate change on transboundary water resources and cooperation in sustainable management of these resources.



During discussions with officials and field experts, the importance of climate resilience of transboundary water basins on global and regional scales, and water management based on new and modern technologies was emphasized.

Deputy Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources Vugar Karimov provided information about measures implemented in the field of efficient water resource use, and emphasized the importance of combining all efforts of the UN and other international, and regional organizations, the private sector, and civil society in implementing water-related goals and targets of the "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development."

## **COP29 adopts new collective quantified goal on climate finance**

At the closing plenary of the 29th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP29) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Baku, a new collective quantified goal on climate finance was adopted, [Report](#) informs.

The document outlines that developed countries will jointly mobilize funds for climate action in developing countries, with the aim of increasing the current \$100 billion per year to at least \$300 billion by 2035.

### **EU Commissioner: COP29 to be remembered as beginning of new era in climate finance**

November 24, 2024



The 29th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP29) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change will be remembered as the beginning of a new era in climate finance, European Commissioner for Climate Action Wopke Hoekstra said at the closing plenary of COP29, the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP19), and the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA6), [Report](#) informs.

Hoekstra noted that the world is currently going through an extremely difficult geopolitical period, and it would be wrong to be overly optimistic about the situation improving during such times: "Reaching a final agreement at such a moment is a great achievement. We all worked hard to provide more funding. We tripled the \$100 billion target. This is a more realistic goal. We also accept increasing financing in the future. We worked hard to support countries more vulnerable to climate change, and their access to finance will be ensured."

## Guterres: Agreement at COP29 was absolutely essential to keep 1.5 degree limit alive



November 24, 2024

UN Secretary-General António Guterres expressed gratitude to the government of Azerbaijan, COP29 President Mukhtar Babayev, and his team for their hard work.

Report presents the statement of the UN secretary-general:

"COP29 comes at the close of a brutal year – a year seared by record temperatures, and scarred by climate disaster, all as emissions continue to rise. Finance has been priority number one. Developing countries swamped by debt, pummeled by disasters, and left behind in the renewables revolution, are in desperate need of funds.

An agreement at COP29 was absolutely essential to keep the 1.5 degree limit alive. And countries have delivered. I had hoped for a more ambitious outcome – on both finance and mitigation – to meet the great challenge we face. But this agreement provides a base on which to build.

COP29 also builds on progress made last year on emissions reductions and accelerating the energy transition. And it reaches agreement on carbon markets. This was a complex negotiation in an uncertain and divided geopolitical landscape. I commend everyone who worked hard to build consensus. You have shown that multilateralism – centred on the Paris Agreement – can find a path through the most difficult issues.

I appeal to governments to see this agreement as a foundation – and build on it. First, countries must deliver new economy-wide national climate action plans – or NDCs – aligned with 1.5 degrees, well ahead of COP30 – as promised. The G20 countries, the biggest emitters, must lead.

These new plans must cover all emissions and the whole economy, accelerate fossil fuel phase out, and contribute to the energy transition goals agreed at COP28 – seizing the benefits of cheap, clean renewables.

The end of the fossil fuel age is an economic inevitability. New national plans must accelerate the shift, and help to ensure it comes with justice.

Second, we need swift action to deliver on commitments made in the Pact for the Future. Particularly on effective action on debt; increasing concessional finance and improving access; and substantially increasing the lending capacity of the Multilateral Development Banks, with adequate recapitalization.

I thank the government of Azerbaijan for their hospitality – and COP29 President Mukhtar Babayev, and his team, for their hard work. I am grateful to UNFCCC Executive Secretary Simon Stiell and his colleagues for their superb support – and of course the United Nations team. And I commend all the delegates, young people, and civil society representatives who came to Baku to push parties for maximum ambition and justice.

I end with a message directly to them. Keep it up. The United Nations is with you. Our fight continues. And we will never give up."





## Uganda minister: Developing countries need more climate financing



November 20, 2024

Developing countries need more climate financing, Uganda's Minister of Housing, **Persis Princess Namuganza**, said in an exclusive statement to [Report](#).

She noted that despite Uganda's accelerated transition to a "green economy," many African countries need climate financing.

"The issue of financing is very important because it will lead to the emergence of organized settlements that can carry out activities without damaging the environment. These measures are expensive," she said.



## COP29 approves full operationalization of Loss and Damage Fund



23.11.2024

At COP29, a decision was made to ensure the full operationalization of the Loss and Damage Fund, long awaited by developing countries, including small island states, least developed countries, and African nations. This aligns with the priority set by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, to address the challenges posed by climate change impacts on small island states under the COP29 Presidency. The establishment of the Loss and Damage Fund was agreed upon during COP27 held in Egypt. The fund aims to provide financial assistance to countries most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

During COP28 in the United Arab Emirates, a decision was made to launch the Fund's operations.

The COP29 Presidency has taken significant steps to ensure the Fund's operationalization, working closely with its Board and the World Bank. In September of this year, during the Fund's third Board meeting held in Baku, critical measures were taken to commence its operations, including the appointment of Ibrahima Cheikh Diong as the Fund's Executive Director. Within the framework of COP29, several important agreements related to the Loss and Damage Fund were signed. These include the "Trustee Agreement" and "Secretariat Hosting Agreement" between the Fund's Board and the World Bank, as well as the "Host Country Agreement" between the Fund's Board and the host country, the Republic of the Philippines.

To date, the total pledged financial support for the Fund exceeds \$730 million.

With these achievements, the Loss and Damage Fund will be able to start financing projects beginning in 2025. This marks yet another success of Azerbaijan's COP29 Presidency.

# The emerging new discipline of Hydropolitics & Future Studies

By Samirul Ariff Othman -

August 5, 2024



Hydropolitics, the study of the interplay between water resources and political power, is indeed an emerging and increasingly significant field.

As water scarcity becomes a critical global issue, exacerbated by climate change, population growth, and industrial demands, the political dimensions of water management are becoming more pronounced.

Hydropolitics examines how countries negotiate, share, and sometimes compete over water resources that cross borders. It involves understanding the political, economic, and social implications of water distribution and usage. This field is not just about conflict; it also focuses on cooperation and the creation of agreements to manage shared water resources sustainably. Examples include the Nile River Basin, the Indus River, and the Mekong River, where multiple countries depend on a single water source.

In the context of Future Studies, hydropolitics is certainly relevant. Future Studies, or Foresight, involves analysing and anticipating potential future scenarios to inform policy and decision-making. Water security and hydropolitics are integral to these studies because water is essential for human survival, economic development, and environmental sustainability. Future scenarios often explore the potential for water-related conflicts, .

the impact of climate change on water availability, and the innovations required to ensure sustainable water management.

Thus, hydropolitics is not only an emerging field but also a crucial component of Future Studies, helping policymakers and researchers anticipate and prepare for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead in managing one of our most vital resources

## Potential for Global Conflict?

As climate change intensifies and water resources become scarcer, the potential for global conflict over water rights increases. The urgency for nations to revisit and recalibrate water agreements grows, demanding visionary leadership to navigate the intricate web of regional geopolitics, geoeconomics, and geostrategy.

It's a classic case of interdependence, the future of their water relationship hinges on cooperation, innovation, and a willingness to adapt to changing realities. Only through collaboration can we avoid conflict and ensure sustainable water management for all.

\*The writer is an international relations analyst and a senior consultant with Global Asia Consulting. He has a background as a senior researcher at the Malaysian Institute of Economic

The full article is available at



Source: <https://www.nst.com.my/business/insight/2024/08/1086771/emerging-new-discipline-hydropolitics-future-studies>



## Water is a global priority: from politics to hydro-diplomacy

*From the President of the World Water Council*



Step by step, water is becoming a political issue through the ‘water is politics’ message that we have been asserting for a decade at every event, every meeting and every speech.

The World Water Council is being heard, and month after month, we are more and more understood.



Heads of State and government, ministers, members of parliament, local and basin representatives understand that beyond innovations, they must take purely political decisions.

This political will for water is asserted within an international framework, particularly in cross-border situations. It calls for increased cooperation, technological exchanges, new funding and shared governance.

This is the essence of the hydro-diplomacy that we are striving to promote. It is also the meaning of this tour around the world, which we are undertaking throughout these months and in 2025.

The cause of water requires it. It is also the cause of peace, dignity and prosperity.

Loïc Fauchon

## The Climate Crisis is a Water Crisis



The effects of climate change are largely felt through water. Flooding, multi-year droughts, saltwater intrusion and long-term changes to groundwater, seriously threaten the availability of household water supply.

Today 1 in 4 people – or 2 billion people – around the world lack safe drinking water, and climate change is expected to increase water scarcity around the world. Women and girls are hit particularly hard as they are responsible for securing water and food. At the same time women continue to have less access to resources and decision making than men.



## **UNEP's 2024 Emissions Gap Report** **Warns: "No More Hot Air, Please"**

24 October 2024

Emissions Gap Report 2024



**Authors:** UNEP

As climate impacts intensify globally, the *Emissions Gap Report 2024: No more hot air ... please!* finds that nations must deliver dramatically stronger ambition and action in the next round of Nationally Determined Contributions or the Paris Agreement's 1.5°C goal will be gone within a few years.

The report is the 15th edition in a series that brings together many of the world's top climate scientists to look at future trends in greenhouse gas emissions and provide potential solutions to the challenge of global warming.

**[Full report](#)**

### **What's new in this year's report?**

The report looks at how much nations must promise to cut off greenhouse gases, and deliver, in the next round of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), due for submission in early 2025 ahead of COP30. Cuts of 42 per cent are needed by 2030 and 57 per cent by 2035 to get on track for 1.5°C.

A failure to increase ambition in these new NDCs and start delivering immediately would put the world on course for a temperature increase of 2.6-3.1°C over the course of this century. This would bring debilitating impacts to people, planet and economies.



It remains technically possible to get on a 1.5°C pathway, with solar, wind and forests holding real promise for sweeping and fast emissions cuts.

To deliver on this potential, sufficiently strong NDCs would need to be backed urgently by a whole-of-government approach, measures that maximize socioeconomic and environmental co-benefits, enhanced international collaboration that includes reform of the global financial architecture, strong private sector action and a minimum six-fold increase in mitigation investment.

G20 nations, particularly the largest-emitting members, would need to do the heavy lifting.





November 2024

News Coordinator: Dr. Nuran YILDIZ  
Dr. Doğan YILDIZ  
Content : HPA Technical Unit – [www.hidropolitikakademi.org](http://www.hidropolitikakademi.org)  
Editor: Dursun Yıldız  
Design : ada Strateji Türkiye

The contents of the articles in this document is the sole responsibility of writers and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the HPA

<http://hidropolitikakademi.org>



We need to build a future,  
Where people live in harmony with nature

**HPA**

*Think Forward .Lead Forward*