



**The COP29 Simulation
Toolkit**

**The British University in Egypt
Cairo -Egypt**

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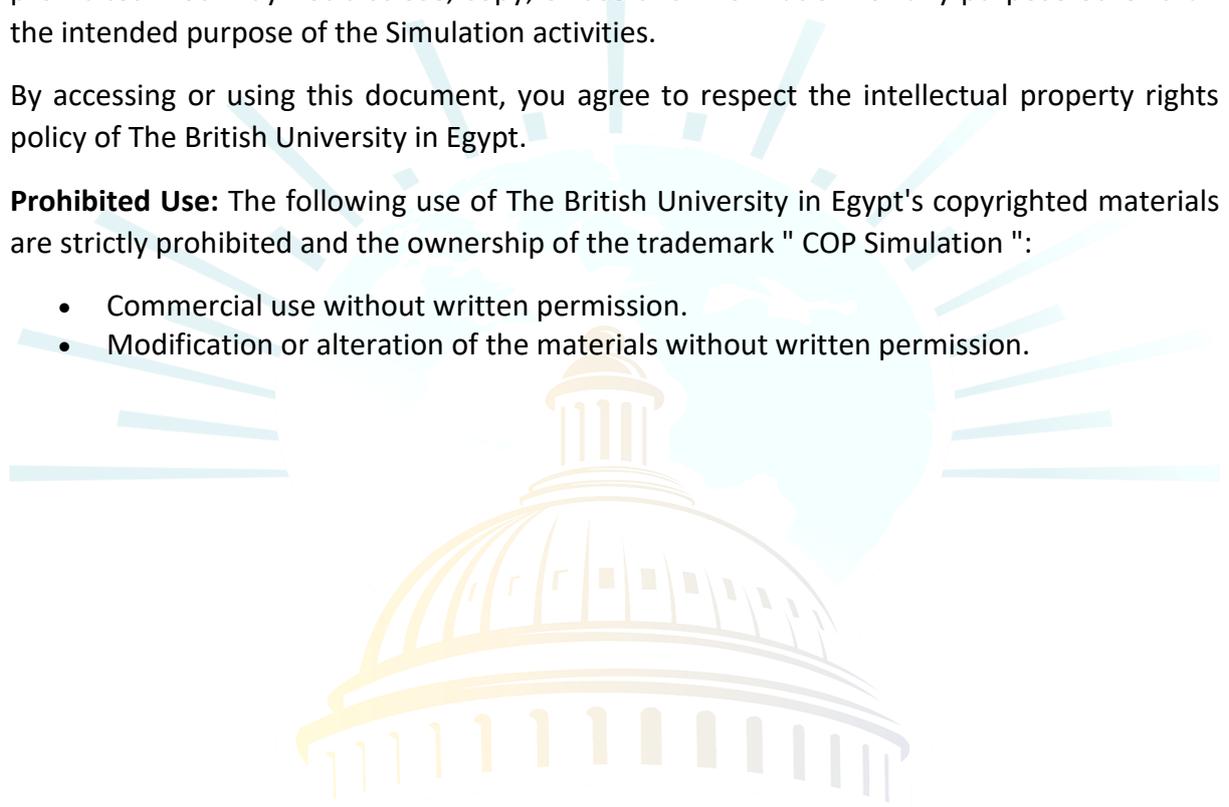
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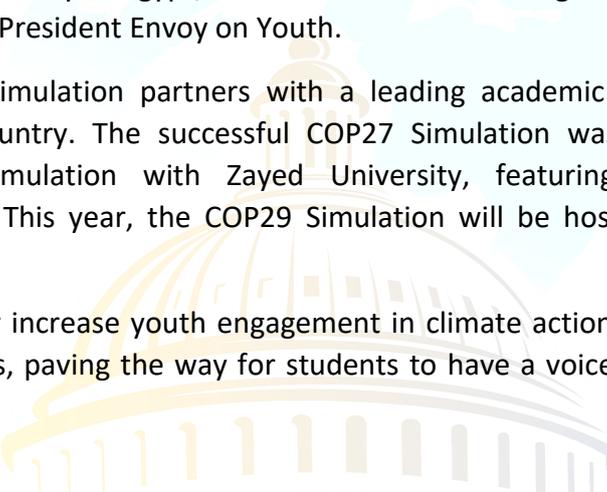
Preamble

The British University in Egypt and the United Nations Development Programme organize the annual [COPSimulation](#) , **youth-led climate Programme** that brings students worldwide to simulate the COP and engage in discussions to providing solutions for climate action. Participants are recruited from around the globe to develop skills in diplomacy, negotiations, critical thinking, compromise, public speaking, writing, and research. They are trained to become country delegates, technical experts, and representatives of international climate stakeholders.

Three versions of the Simulation have been implemented: COP27, COP28 and COP29 Simulation. Noting its significant impact, the COPsimulation is held with the support of COP27 Presidency, the Egyptian Ministries of Higher Education and Scientific Research and Youth and Sports, the British Embassy in Egypt, and the UN Climate Change High-Level Champion for Egypt and the COP27 President Envoy on Youth.

Each year, the COPsimulation partners with a leading academic institution in the COP Presidency's host country. The successful COP27 Simulation was followed by a highly impactful COP28 Simulation with Zayed University, featuring the largest student representation ever. This year, the COP29 Simulation will be hosted by ADA University-Azerbaijan.

Our goal is to further increase youth engagement in climate action, share knowledge, and exchange experiences, paving the way for students to have a voice and be represented at COP29.



Dr Sarah El-khishin,
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Acknowledgment

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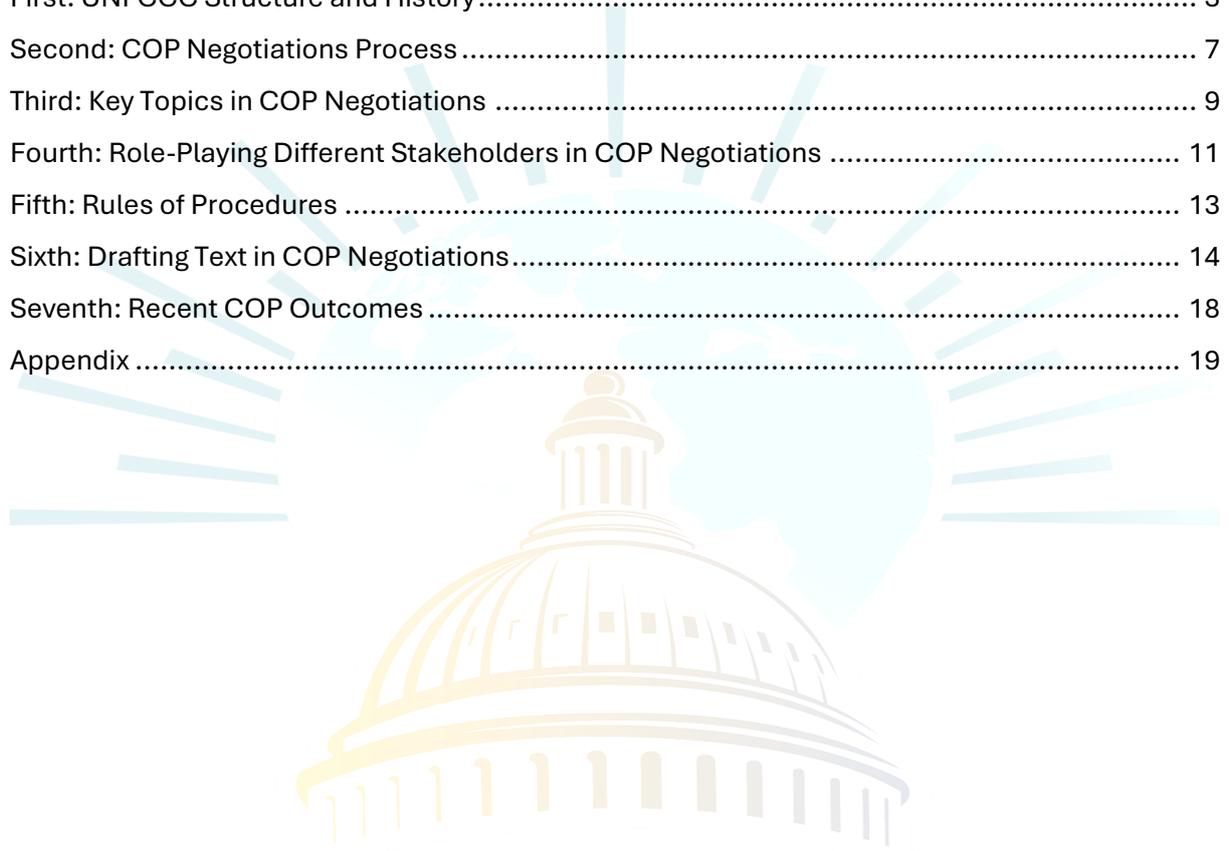


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First: UNFCCC Structure and History

1. What is the UNFCCC?

The **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)** was established in 1992 at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. Its primary goal is to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations and prevent dangerous human interference with the climate.

- **Key Objective:** Reduce global emissions, promote sustainable development, and provide support (finance, technology transfer, capacity building) to developing countries.
- **Membership:** 198 parties, nearly all countries worldwide.

2. What is a UN Convention?

A **UN Convention** is a binding agreement between countries. Parties meet annually at **Conferences of the Parties (COPs)** to review progress and set new goals. The UNFCCC is one of the "Rio Conventions" established in 1992, alongside the **Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)** and the **Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)**.

3. What is the Conference of the Parties (COP)?

The **COP** is the decision-making body of the UNFCCC. Parties meet annually to assess progress and negotiate new climate commitments.

- **Key Role:** The COP finalizes key climate agreements (e.g., **Kyoto Protocol, Paris Agreement**).
- **Annual Meetings:** Each COP focuses on global goals like emissions reductions, adaptation, and finance.

4. Historical Milestones in COP Negotiations

- **COP1 (1995, Berlin):** Established the process for reviewing national climate commitments.
- **COP3 (1997, Kyoto):** Adopted the Kyoto Protocol, setting binding emissions targets for developed countries.
- **COP15 (2009, Copenhagen):** Produced the Copenhagen Accord, emphasizing the need to limit warming to 2°C.
- **COP21 (2015, Paris):** Adopted the Paris Agreement, aiming to keep global temperature rise well below 2°C, targeting 1.5°C.

5. The Paris Agreement (2015)

The Paris Agreement marked a turning point in global climate negotiations, committing all countries to climate action.

- **Key Features:**
 - **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs):** Countries set their own emissions reduction targets.

- Emphasizes financial and technical support for developing countries.
- Includes a **Global Stocktake** every five years to review progress and increase ambition.

6. UNFCCC Organizational Structure

- **COP:** Supreme decision-making body.
- **Subsidiary Bodies:**
 - **SBSTA:** Provides scientific and technological advice.
 - **SBI:** Monitors the implementation of agreements.
- **Secretariat:** Based in Bonn, Germany, it facilitates negotiations.
- **IPCC:** Provides scientific assessments on climate change to support decisions.

Second: COP Negotiations Process

The Conference of the Parties (COP) negotiation process is complex and multi-layered, involving both formal and informal discussions that shape climate action agreements. Understanding this process is crucial for simulating realistic COP negotiations.

1. Opening Statements

The negotiations begin with opening statements from countries and groups. These statements outline each party's priorities and red lines, setting the tone for the negotiations. Observers can also deliver statements but do not participate directly in negotiations.

2. Informal Consultations

After opening statements, countries break into informal consultations, where they engage in discussions outside the formal setting to find common ground. Key negotiating groups include:

- **G77 + China:** Represents the interests of developing countries.
- **Small Island Developing States (SIDS):** Focuses on climate vulnerability, particularly sea-level rise.
- **European Union (EU):** Advocates for higher climate ambition.
- **Umbrella Group:** Developed countries like the US, Japan, and Canada, focusing on pragmatic approaches.
- **African Group:** Prioritizes climate finance and adaptation.

3. Negotiation Tracks

COP negotiations are divided into specific thematic tracks, where countries work on key issues:

- **Mitigation:** Efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

- **Adaptation:** Measures to cope with climate impacts.
- **Finance:** Support for developing countries to finance mitigation and adaptation.
- **Loss and Damage:** Compensation or assistance for countries suffering from climate impacts.
- **Technology Transfer & ACE:** Action for Climate Empowerment is one of the main tracks along with accessibility to most novel technologies.
- **GST and Updated NDCs:** Following the process of the Global Stocktake and updating the National Determined Contributions is a key priority on the agenda at COP29
- **Climate Security:** With the rising global tension, climate security and geopolitics has become key in the agenda of climate action and negotiations.

4. Negotiation Techniques

Decisions are made by consensus, requiring countries to compromise. Negotiating blocs or coalitions are often formed to increase influence, with countries making trade-offs on various issues to reach agreement.

5. Negotiation Texts

Negotiators draft and revise texts that outline the commitments parties are willing to make. These texts evolve as compromises are reached, with the wording being critical in determining the strength of commitments.

6. Plenaries and Adoption

At the end of COP, plenary sessions are held to review the progress made. Once consensus is reached on the texts, they are adopted. Consensus means no formal objections, though countries may express reservations.

Common Challenges in Negotiations

1. **Differing Priorities:** Developed countries prioritize mitigation, while developing nations focus on adaptation and finance.
2. **Climate Finance:** The issue of how much developed countries should contribute to help developing nations remains contentious, particularly around the \$100 billion annual target.
3. **Loss and Damage:** Developing countries push for compensation mechanisms, while wealthier nations are hesitant due to concerns over liability.
4. **Ambition Levels:** Disagreements over how ambitious climate goals should be often arise, with developing countries calling for stronger commitments from developed nations.
5. **Influence of Non-State Actors:** External actors such as NGOs, the private sector, and geopolitical events (e.g., energy crises) also shape the negotiation process.

Third: Key Topics in COP Negotiations

Several key themes dominate COP negotiations and are crucial for driving global climate action. Countries must reach consensus on these areas to progress effectively. The main topics include **Mitigation, Adaptation, Finance, Loss and Damage, GST and Capacity Building (ACE)**.

1. Mitigation

Mitigation focuses on reducing greenhouse gas emissions to slow global warming.

- **NDCs (Nationally Determined Contributions):**
Countries submit climate action plans outlining emissions reduction targets. There is ongoing pressure for more ambitious NDCs to meet the 1.5°C or 2°C goals.
- **Net-Zero Targets:**
Many countries aim for net-zero emissions by 2050. Debates center on timelines, fairness between developed and developing nations, and strategies for achieving these goals.
- **Carbon Markets (Article 6):**
Carbon markets allow countries to trade emissions reductions. The key challenge is ensuring transparency and preventing double counting.

2. Adaptation

Adaptation involves preparing for and managing the impacts of climate change.

- **National Adaptation Plans (NAPs):**
Countries, particularly developing ones, create NAPs to build resilience, protect ecosystems, and secure food and water supplies.
- **Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA):**
The Paris Agreement established the GGA to enhance countries' adaptive capacity, but funding remains insufficient, particularly for the most vulnerable.

3. Climate Finance

Climate finance provides resources to help developing countries mitigate and adapt to climate change.

- **\$100 Billion Goal:**
Developed countries pledged to mobilize \$100 billion per year by 2020, but this goal has not been fully met, prompting calls for greater transparency.

- **Loss and Damage Finance:**

Developing countries seek dedicated funding to address irreparable climate impacts. This remains a contentious issue, with developed countries reluctant to provide compensation.

4. Loss and Damage

Loss and damage address the irreversible impacts of climate change beyond adaptation efforts.

- **Warsaw International Mechanism:**

Established at COP19 (2013) to provide technical and financial support to vulnerable countries.

- **Loss and Damage Fund:**

Agreed at COP27, the fund is still being operationalized, with challenges surrounding contributions and governance.

5. Capacity Building (ACE)

Capacity building enhances developing countries' ability to meet their climate commitments.

- **Technology Transfer:**

Developing countries need access to clean technologies. Technology transfer initiatives aim to ensure that developed countries share these innovations equitably.

- **Challenges:**

Financial constraints and skills gaps hinder capacity-building efforts, particularly in the Global South.

6. Cross-Cutting Issues

Several issues intersect across these key topics:

- **Equity and CBDR:**

The principle of **Common but Differentiated Responsibilities** acknowledges that while all countries share the responsibility for climate action, developed nations, having contributed more to emissions, must take greater action.

- **Just Transition:**

Ensuring the shift from fossil fuels to clean energy is fair, especially for communities reliant on fossil fuel industries.

- **Non-State Actors:**

Businesses, NGOs, and cities play an increasingly important role in shaping climate action, particularly in finance, technology, and innovation.

Fourth: Role-Playing Different Stakeholders in COP Negotiations

In COP negotiations, various actors—including countries, regional blocs, and non-state actors—bring different perspectives, interests, and priorities. When simulating these negotiations, accurately representing the positions and strategies of these stakeholders is key to a realistic and dynamic simulation.

A) Country-Level Interests

- 1. Developed Countries (e.g., USA, EU Members, Japan):**
Focus on ambitious climate action, including emissions reductions, carbon markets, and renewable energy promotion.
- 2. Emerging Economies (e.g., China, India, Brazil):**
Advocate for technology transfer, capacity building, and ensuring that developed nations take on a greater burden in climate action.
- 3. Vulnerable Countries (e.g., Maldives, Bangladesh):**
Prioritize securing climate finance for adaptation and addressing loss and damage.
- 4. Oil-Dependent Countries (e.g., Saudi Arabia, Russia):**
Emphasize energy security and gradual transitions, advocating for carbon capture and storage (CCS) over immediate cuts in fossil fuel use.

B) Key Country Groupings and Blocs

- 1. G77 + China:**
Represents the interests of developing countries, focusing on climate finance, technology transfer, and capacity building. The group often emphasizes “**common but differentiated responsibilities**” (CBDR) and equity, balancing economic development with climate action.
- 2. Like-Minded Developing Countries (LMDCs):**
A coalition of countries including China, India, and Saudi Arabia, which advocates for the right of developing nations to prioritize economic growth. They call for greater commitments from developed countries while maintaining flexibility for their own emissions reductions.
- 3. Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS):**
Comprised of island nations that are highly vulnerable to climate change impacts such as rising sea levels. AOSIS pushes for ambitious climate action, particularly in mitigation, adaptation, and securing loss and damage funding.
- 4. Least Developed Countries (LDCs):**
The LDCs advocate for stronger global support through climate finance, adaptation, and loss and damage mechanisms, given their limited capacity to deal with climate impacts.

5. **Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and Jordan:**

The GCC countries, along with Jordan, emphasize energy security and advocate for a gradual transition away from fossil fuels. They often support carbon capture and storage (CCS) technologies and highlight the need for economic diversification.

6. **European Union (EU):**

The EU plays a leadership role in advocating for high climate ambition, pushing for aggressive emissions reduction targets, net-zero goals, and commitments to renewable energy and carbon markets.

7. **Umbrella Group:**

A coalition of developed countries, including the US, Japan, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand, that support pragmatic, market-based approaches to climate action. They often emphasize voluntary commitments and carbon trading mechanisms.

8. **Environmental Integrity Group (EIG):**

A group of countries, including Switzerland, Mexico, and South Korea, that advocate for environmentally sound climate solutions. The EIG emphasizes transparency and robust environmental standards in global climate agreements.

C) Non-State Actors

1. **Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs):**

Push for more ambitious climate policies and accountability. Environmental NGOs focus on mitigation, while development NGOs advocate for equity and climate justice.

2. **Private Sector:**

Key in mobilizing climate finance and fostering innovation in renewable energy and adaptation technologies.

3. **Indigenous Peoples:**

Advocate for nature-based solutions and inclusive climate policies that protect vulnerable communities.

4. **Youth Movements:**

Push for stronger mitigation targets, greater involvement in decision-making, and climate justice for future generations.

D) Strategies in Role-Playing Stakeholders

When role-playing stakeholders in COP negotiations, use these strategies to effectively represent your assigned country or group:

1. **Understand National Interests:**

Know your country's economic priorities, geopolitical alliances, and climate vulnerabilities. Tailor your stance to align with these factors.

2. **Leverage Alliances and Blocs:**

Coordinate with allies within your negotiating bloc (e.g., G77, Umbrella Group) to strengthen your position and amplify your voice in negotiations.

3. **Prioritize Key Issues:**

Focus on your country's top priorities, whether that's mitigation, adaptation, finance, or loss and damage.

4. **Use Diplomatic Language:**

Push for your interests while maintaining a collaborative tone. Use phrases like “we urge” or “we remain committed” to advocate strongly while avoiding alienation.

5. **Understand Opponents' Perspectives:**

Know the interests of opposing stakeholders. This helps in proposing compromises or anticipating areas of resistance.

6. **Know When to Compromise:**

Identify areas where you can make concessions, while protecting core national interests.

7. **Influence Key Stakeholders:**

If representing a smaller country or bloc, align with powerful stakeholders who can advocate for your interests. Engaging non-state actors, like NGOs or youth movements, can also help build moral and expert support.

8. **Stick to Your Red Lines:**

Know your country's non-negotiable points and stand firm on them, even while making concessions in other areas.

Fifth: Rules of Procedures

The following rules are the guide to the COP29 simulation to ensure structured and effective negotiations, based on UNFCCC practice.

1. **General Rules**

- **Participation:** All delegates must attend their assigned negotiation tracks and represent their country's official position.
- **Official Language:** English is the official language for all discussions and documents.

2. **Role of Chairs and Co-Chairs**

- The **Chair** moderates the sessions, ensuring adherence to the rules, maintaining order, and guiding discussions.
- **Co-Chairs** assist in managing sessions and may lead in the Chair's absence.

3. **Speaking Rules**

- **Right to Speak:** Delegates request the floor by raising their country nameplate. The Chair calls speakers in order, typically limiting speeches to 2-3 minutes.
- **Observer Participation:** Observers may only speak in formal sessions if recognized by the Chair.

4. Decision-Making Process

- **Consensus:** Decisions are ideally made by consensus. If consensus isn't reached, a **vote** may be called, with a simple majority required to pass a decision.
- **Voting:** Each country has one vote. In case of a tie, the proposal is sent back for negotiation.

5. Drafting Texts and Amendments

- **Draft Texts:** Each negotiation track must produce a draft text by the end of the session, forming the basis of the final declaration.
- **Amendments:** Proposed amendments must be submitted in writing and debated before acceptance.

6. Points of Order

- Delegates can raise a **Point of Order** if they believe the rules are being violated. The Chair must immediately address the point.

7. Informal Consultations (INF-INF)

- Informal discussions provide opportunities for **off-the-record negotiations**. These outcomes can be proposed during formal sessions for adoption.

8. Closing Plenary and Final Voting

- Draft texts are presented for final voting during the **Closing Plenary**. Once adopted, all texts are combined into the **Final Declaration**.

9. Media and Public Relations

- **Media Involvement:** Student journalists will cover the simulation, and delegates may participate in press interviews.
- **Press Conferences:** Delegations can present their positions or updates at designated press conferences.

Sixth: Drafting Text in COP Negotiations

Drafting COP texts translates discussions and compromises into formal language that forms part of the COP outcomes. Here's a streamlined guide to drafting texts, with examples included for clarity. Check the Appendix for more examples and resources.

1. Types of COP Documents

- **Agreements and Treaties:** Legally binding documents like the **Paris Agreement** that require ratification by parties.
- **COP Decisions:** Non-binding agreements guiding how countries implement climate policies.
- **Informal Notes:** Early drafts subject to revision and debate before finalization.

2. The Language of Negotiation

The choice of words is critical. Small wording changes can significantly alter the obligations of parties.

- **Shall vs. Should:**
 - *Shall* indicates a legally binding obligation.
 - *Should* is non-binding, implying a recommendation.
Example: "*Parties shall provide climate finance...*" (*binding*) vs. "*Parties should consider increasing finance...*" (*non-binding*).
- **Urges, Encourages, Invites:**
Used in non-binding decisions to encourage action without legal obligation.
Example: "*Urges developed countries to scale up climate finance contributions.*"
- **Brackets:**
Disputed language is placed in brackets to signal it's still under negotiation.
Example: "*[well below 2°C]*" vs. "*[1.5°C]*".

3. Negotiation Process

Drafting texts is a multi-stage process with opportunities for revision at each stage.

- **Initial Drafting:**
Working groups or experts draft the text based on discussions, previous agreements, and country submissions.
- **Review and Comments:**
Parties review the draft, suggest revisions, and may propose new language reflecting national interests.
- **Bracketed Text:**
Controversial sections remain in brackets until consensus is reached through negotiation between countries or blocs (e.g., G77+China, EU, LDCs).
- **Informal Groups:**
Smaller, informal groups can break deadlocks through more flexible discussions and political bargaining.
- **Final Compromise:**
In the final hours, ministers or high-level negotiators engage to resolve outstanding issues and agree on compromise texts.

4. Key Sections of COP Texts

Each section of a COP text has its own function, and the precise language is key to shaping the outcome.

- **Preambular Paragraphs:**

Context-setting and non-binding, often referencing past agreements.

Example: *“Recalling the Paris Agreement adopted under the UNFCCC...”*

- **Operative Clauses:**

These are the actionable parts of the text.

Example:

1. *“Decides to implement immediate and sustained reductions in greenhouse gas emissions in line with the Paris Agreement.”*
2. *“Urges developed countries to scale up financial resources for adaptation and mitigation.”*

- **Review Mechanisms:**

Outline how and when progress will be reviewed, such as setting dates for updating **NDCs** or conducting a **Global Stocktake**.

5. Role of Facilitators and Chairs

- **Neutral Role:** Facilitators guide negotiations, ensuring all parties are heard. They may propose compromise language to bridge differences.
- **Chair’s Text:** If negotiations stall, the Chair may issue a **Chair’s Text** to push forward a compromise.

6. Common Challenges in Drafting

- **Vague Language:**
Can help reach consensus but weakens impact.
Example: *“Calls upon Parties to consider increasing ambition”* vs. *“Decides that Parties shall increase ambition.”*
- **Ambition vs. Flexibility:**
Balancing strong commitments with flexibility for countries at different levels of development.
Example: **SIDS** advocate for stronger targets, while **oil-producing nations** request flexibility.
- **Interpretation Differences:**
Different countries may interpret the same language in varying ways, leading to future disputes. This often arises with climate finance commitments.

7. Finalization and Adoption

- The final text is presented to the **COP Plenary** for adoption by consensus. In cases of last-minute objections, quick revisions are made.
- Once adopted, the commitments are implemented, and countries may issue **reservations** if they have concerns but will not block the agreement.

Draft Writing Guidelines

When drafting resolutions or final declarations, a formal and structured approach ensures clarity and effectiveness.

1. Title

- Titles should clearly state the subject of the resolution.
Example: *“Declaration of the 29th Session of the Conference of Parties Simulation”*.

2. Preamble

The preamble outlines the context and justifications for the decision, referencing past agreements and reports.

- **Introductory Phrases:**
 - *Recalling:* References past agreements.
 - *Acknowledging:* Notes significant facts.
 - *Recognizing:* Highlights the importance of an issue.
 - *Expressing concern:* Indicates dissatisfaction.

Example:

“Recalling the Paris Agreement...”

“Recognizing the urgent need for immediate reductions in greenhouse gas emissions...”

3. Operative Clauses

Operative clauses outline specific commitments or actions.

- **Structure:**
 - Numbered for clarity.
 - Begin each clause with a strong verb: *“Decides,” “Urges,” “Requests.”*
Example:
 - *“Decides to implement immediate reductions in global emissions.”*
 - *“Urges developed countries to increase financial support for adaptation.”*

4. Language and Tone

- Use **formal, diplomatic language** to promote cooperation and avoid confrontation.
- Reference vulnerable communities, such as **indigenous peoples, women, and youth**.
Example: *“Urges all Parties to take stronger action, in line with their respective capabilities.”*

5. Formatting

- **Formal numbering** for each clause.
 - Include **footnotes** or references where needed.
-

Seventh: Recent COP Outcomes

COP outcomes shape global climate action by setting new goals and refining processes. Here's a summary of the most recent COPs and key takeaways:

1. COP26 (Glasgow, 2021) – Glasgow Climate Pact

Context: COP26 was a pivotal moment after the COVID-19 delay and marked the first opportunity for countries to submit updated NDCs under the Paris Agreement.

- **1.5°C Target:** Emphasized the urgency of limiting global warming to 1.5°C. Called for countries to revise NDCs by 2022.
 - **Coal and Fossil Fuels:** The final text called for a "phasedown" of coal and a reduction of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies.
 - **Climate Finance:** Highlighted the failure to meet the \$100 billion/year goal, further widening the trust gap between developed and developing countries.
 - **Carbon Markets (Article 6):** Agreed on the rules for carbon markets, setting the stage for international trading of emissions reductions.
 - **Adaptation and Loss & Damage:** Progress on adaptation finance, but disappointment in lack of significant action on loss and damage.
-

2. COP27 (Sharm El-Sheikh, 2022) – Africa's COP

Context: COP27 was expected to address the needs of developing countries, focusing on adaptation, finance, and loss and damage.

- **Loss and Damage Fund:** Historic decision to establish a fund for vulnerable countries, but governance details were left for COP28.
- **Limited Ambition:** No significant increase in emissions reduction targets, with a focus on implementing existing commitments.
- **Global Stocktake:** Advanced the process of assessing global progress toward climate goals.
- **Adaptation Finance:** Commitments to double adaptation finance by 2025, though developing countries argued it was insufficient.

- **Methane and Agriculture:** More attention was given to methane emissions and agriculture, particularly in African nations.

3. COP28 (Dubai, 2023) – The Year of Accountability

Context: Expectations were high for COP28 to deliver on climate finance and finalize the loss and damage fund.

- **Global Stocktake:** Highlighted the gap between current climate commitments and what is needed to meet the 1.5°C target.
- **Operationalizing Loss and Damage Fund:** Progress made, but challenges remain regarding funding contributions and governance.
- **New Climate Finance Goals:** Began discussions on setting a new post-2025 finance goal, with a focus on accessibility for adaptation and loss and damage.
- **Nature-Based Solutions:** Strong focus on integrating nature-based solutions, such as reforestation and ecosystem restoration, into climate strategies.
- **Clean Energy Transition:** Major announcements on scaling up renewable energy investments, particularly in developing countries.
- **Private Sector:** Increased involvement from businesses committing to net-zero and sustainable finance.

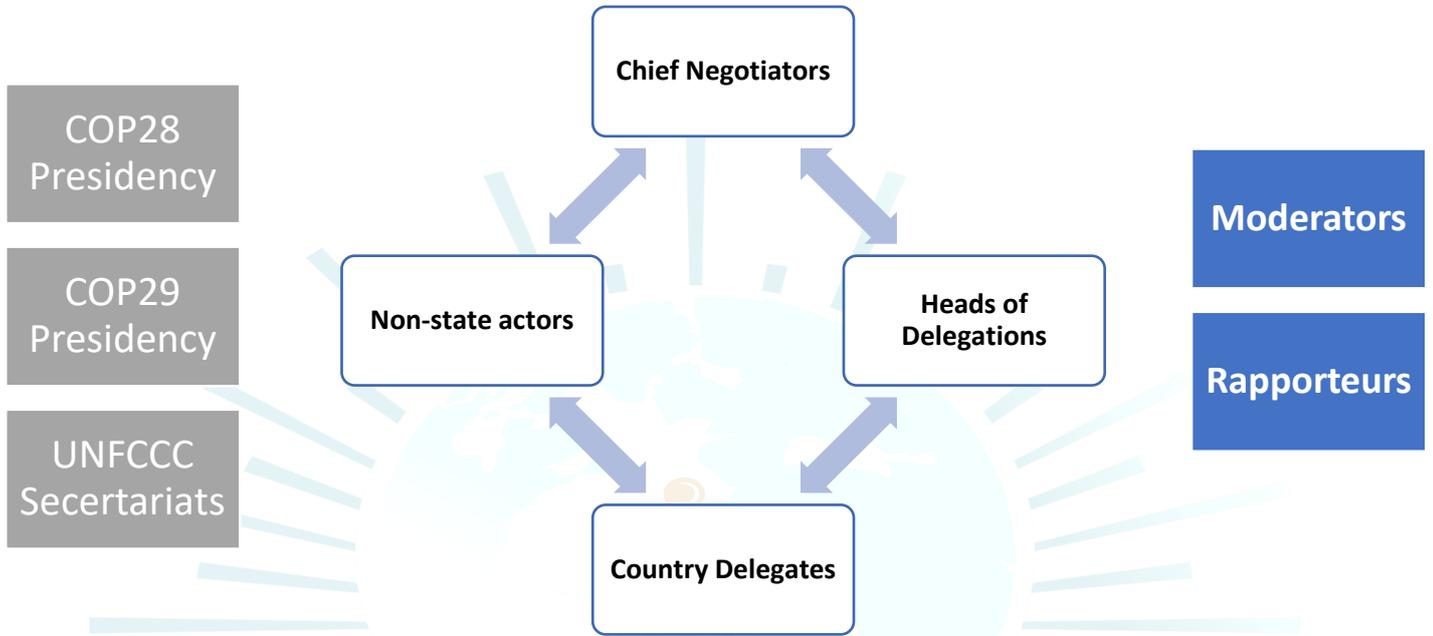
4. What to Expect for COP29 (2024)

COP29 will focus on operationalizing key initiatives and raising ambition:

- **Finalizing the Loss and Damage Fund:** Securing contributions and setting up governance mechanisms for effective disbursement.
- **Strengthening NDCs:** Push for more ambitious targets to close the gap highlighted by the Global Stocktake and with focus on 2025 updated NDCs.
- **Post-2025 Climate Finance:** Continuing discussions on new finance goals, particularly for adaptation and loss and damage.
- **Energy Transition:** Focus on accelerating renewable energy deployment with support for developing countries.
- **Nature-Based Solutions:** Continued emphasis on integrating these into national and international climate strategies.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Technical Roles of Delegates in COP29 Simulation



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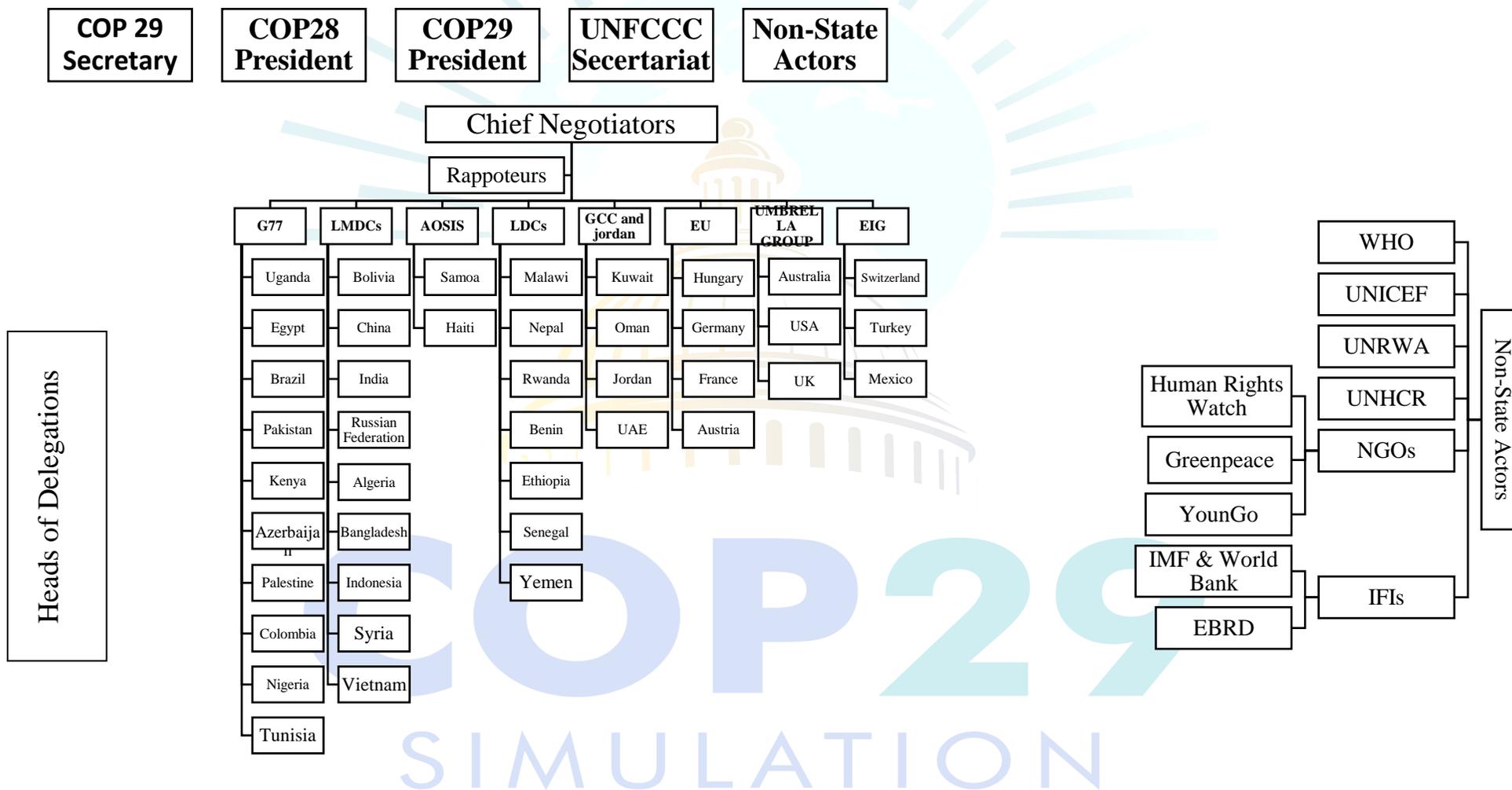
Appendix 2: Negotiation Groups



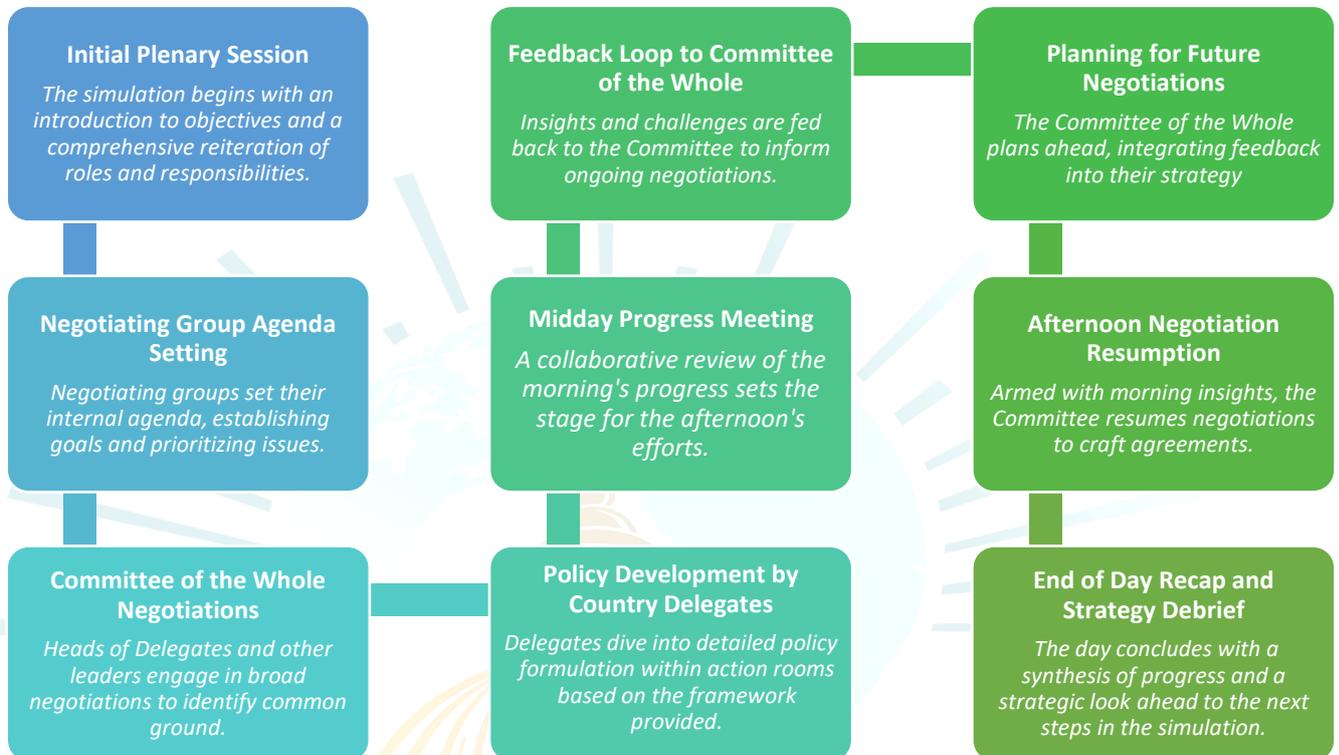
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Appendix 3: Structure of the COP29 Simulation



Appendix 4: Technical Agenda Setting for COP29 Simulation



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Appendix 5: Negotiating Groups main interests and negotiation positions

<p>G77</p> <p>Venue: Action Room (1)</p>	<p>The G-77 and China includes all developing countries, it is heterogeneous in nature but stuck to a common position on critical issues such as the need for climate finance from rich nations. Apart from that, various countries and blocs within the group often articulate differences on specific issues.</p>
<p>LMDC Meeting</p> <p>Venue: Action Room (2)</p>	<p>The group of Like-Minded Developing Countries (LMDC) comprises of a diverse group of developing states. This group insists on the importance of the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and calls foremost for ambitious action and support from the part of developed countries.</p> <p>The Like-Minded Developing Countries (LMDC) Group is a shifting band of more than 20 countries, which has been seen as a stumbling block by many others. The main demand of the LMDC Group is to maintain the differentiation between developed and developing countries. It asks developed countries to meet the commitments they have made, without necessarily spelling out the actions to be taken by developing countries. China, India and oil-exporting countries like Saudi Arabia are all in the group.</p>
<p>AOSIS group meeting</p> <p>Venue: Action Room (3)</p>	<p>The Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) has always had a strong presence in climate negotiations, pointing out that the survival of their countries is at stake as sea levels rise due to global warming.</p> <p>Moderator:</p>
<p>LDCs Group meeting</p> <p>Action Room (1)</p>	<p>The 48 countries defined by the UN as Least Developed Countries (LDCs). This group has been most vocal in seeking capacity building for its people so that they can handle climate change impacts; it has also sought compensation for the loss and damage these countries are suffering due to climate change impacts such as floods, storms and droughts.</p>
<p>EU Meeting</p> <p>Action Room (2)</p>	<p>The European Union conducts climate negotiations as a group. It also reports its greenhouse gas emissions as a group to the UNFCCC.</p>
<p>Environmental Integrity Group Meeting</p> <p>Action Room (6)</p>	<p>This group contains Mexico, Liechtenstein, Monaco, South Korea, Georgia and Switzerland, which is its most frequent spokesperson. It often takes up positions close to the Umbrella Group; it is strongest when demanding that emission reductions in</p>

	<p>developing countries must be independently verified by international auditors.</p>
<p>Umbrella Group Meeting (following up on Koyoto Protocol)</p> <p>Action Room (6)</p>	<p>This is a group of mostly developed countries, with some middle-income economies too. Large industrialised countries that are high-carbon emitters like the United States, Australia and Canada are an integral part of the Umbrella Group. The group has maintained that the greenhouse gas emission reductions needed to keep global temperature rise within 2C – preferably within 1.5C – as per the Paris Agreement must come from all countries, including developing countries/.</p>



COP29

SIMULATION

Appendix 6: Research/Simulation Themes

COP 29 simulation Research Themes

Theme 1: The Sharm ElSheikh Adaptation Agenda (SAA): Increasing resilience to accelerate transformation in Agriculture, Infrastructure and transport and Restoring Ecosystems

- Sustainable Agriculture: Technology for Climate-Resilient Farming
- Transportation: Infrastructure systems - in particular energy and transport systems - are critical to human livelihoods, health and resilience to climate change.
- Nature-Based Solutions: Restoring Ecosystems for Climate Resilience

Pillar Adaptation

Theme 2: Green Energy and the Renewable Energy Revolution: Paving the Way to Net Zero Emissions

Pillar: Mitigation

Theme 3: Bridging the Digital Divide for Equitable Climate Action – Technology and AI

Pillar Mitigation

Theme 4: Closing the Loop: Advancing the Circular Economy, climate justice, role of behavior and community

Theme 5: Finance: Climate Finance, Investment and Trade. Advance with the Sharm-ElSheikh Adaptation agenda and moving towards a more climate-resilient global financial system and an effective bridging the climate finance gap

Pillar Finance

Theme 6: Geopolitics, Climate security, international political economy, global financial architecture and **Climate Action**

Pillar Adaptation

Theme 7: Investing in Human Capital, Health and Jobs for Climate Resilient Future

Ensuring investments in education, skills, health, and well-being, in particular for children and youth, and strengthening synergy across these areas.

Pillar: Adaptation

Appendix 7: Terminologies toolkit:

Examples of formal and diplomatic terminologies and their legal implications:

- **Decides:** Used when making firm decisions, often regarding future actions or policies.
 - *Example:* "Decides to establish a new funding mechanism to address loss and damage caused by climate change."
- **Requests:** Calls upon a specific entity or group (such as the Secretariat, a Party, or an organization) to take an action.
 - *Example:* "Requests the UNFCCC Secretariat to provide technical assistance to developing countries in implementing adaptation strategies."
- **Urges:** Strongly encourages action from Parties or other stakeholders. It indicates a high priority without making it legally binding.
 - *Example:* "Urges developed countries to scale up their financial commitments to meet the \$100 billion climate finance goal."
- **Invites:** Politely requests participation or action from specific entities, including non-state actors or observers.
 - *Example:* "Invites non-governmental organizations to contribute their expertise on renewable energy solutions."
- **Encourages:** Recommends actions that are desirable but not mandatory, often directed at a broad group of stakeholders.
 - *Example:* "Encourages Parties to enhance cooperation in areas of clean energy technology transfer."
- **Calls upon:** A strong but non-binding request directed at specific actors, often used to address international cooperation.
 - *Example:* "Calls upon all Parties to submit updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) before the next COP session."
- **Affirms:** Used to confirm a previous decision or stance.
 - *Example:* "Affirms the centrality of the Paris Agreement in guiding global climate action efforts."
- **Takes note of:** A neutral phrase used to acknowledge reports, submissions, or actions without expressing agreement or disagreement.
 - *Example:* "Takes note of the report of the Standing Committee on Finance regarding the gap in climate finance."
- **Resolves:** A formal commitment to a specific course of action, often used to signify intent to pursue a goal.
 - *Example:* "Resolves to pursue further efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 50% by 2030."
- **Welcomes:** Indicates approval or support for actions already taken by a Party or organization.
 - *Example:* "Welcomes the adoption of the Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan as a key milestone in global climate action."
- **Expresses its appreciation:** A formal way to thank or recognize contributions or actions taken by specific entities.
 - *Example:* "Expresses its appreciation to the Government of Egypt for hosting COP27."
- **Invites:** Suggests involvement or participation, often directed toward Parties or observer groups without imposing obligations.
 - *Example:* "Invites stakeholders from the private sector to support adaptation efforts in vulnerable regions."

- **Notes with concern:** A phrase used to highlight worrying trends or issues without proposing immediate action.
 - *Example:* "Notes with concern the rising levels of greenhouse gas emissions despite global reduction efforts."

The following table summarises the legally binding vs non-binding terms for your reference:

Legally Binding Terminology	Legally Non-Binding Terminology
Decides	Encourages
Requests	Invites
Urges	Notes
Calls upon	Takes note of
Establishes	Welcomes
Mandates	Acknowledges
Requires	Recommends

