

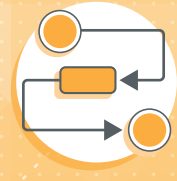
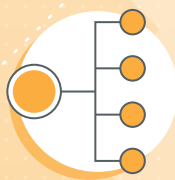
# NDC TRANSPARENCY CHECK



## EU ASSESSMENT

### MAKING EU'S 2020 NDC UPDATE MORE TRANSPARENT

September 2020



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The NDC Transparency Check provides recommendations on what information countries should provide in their 2020 NDC Update to ensure its clarity, transparency, and understanding.

This is done by evaluating existing NDCs and assessing information provided in the annex of 4/CMA.1 under Article 4.8. of the Paris Agreement, to come up with clear and practical recommendation on which information should be included in the 2020 NDC Update in order to be in full conformance with international agreements.

## 01

## INTRODUCTION TO THE 'NDC TRANSPARENCY CHECK'

The Paris Agreement was adopted in 2015 at the 21<sup>st</sup> United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of the Parties (UNFCCC COP 21), and came into force a year later. Almost all countries are currently signatories of the Agreement.<sup>1</sup>

The objective of the NDC Transparency Check is to provide a robust reference to assess whether Parties have communicated their mitigation efforts through Nationally Determined Contribution (NDCs) that are clear, transparent and understandable, in terms of the requirements set out in the Paris Agreement, its accompanying decision (1/CP.21) and Annex I to decision 4/CMA.1, which sets out the “information to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding of nationally determined contributions”.

Legally, the Annex is only binding from the second NDC onwards. However, Parties are “strongly encouraged” to apply the Annex to updated NDCs, due in 2020.

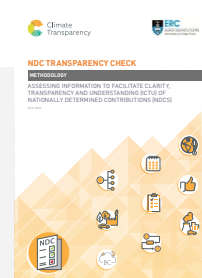
The European Commission is revising its current NDC, first submitted as an intended nationally-determined contribution to the UNFCCC in 2015 and which became the EU's NDC in 2016 upon EU ratification. The assessment is applied to the existing NDC, mindful of the fact that provision of the relevant information was not a legal requirement at the time and there was not a common guideline in place for its elaboration.

The NDC Transparency Check aims to provide information to support the NDC revision process, by identifying gaps in the information provided in previous NDCs on the EU's mitigation goals and their underlying policies and measures that is needed for clarity, transparency and understanding, and useful to provide greater clarity on the likely outcome of NDCs collectively.

While the approach taken for this assessment is based on conformance with the Annex, this 'NDC Transparency Check' aims to assess both:

- i. Conformance of a country's NDC with the Katowice Rule Book, and;
- ii. The extent to which a country has provided additional information in relation to each element of the Annex which enhances clarity, transparency and understanding.

The detailed methodology as well as other assessment are available on: [www.climate-transparency.org](http://www.climate-transparency.org)



<sup>1</sup> A possible exception is the United States of America, which is currently a signatory, but has started the withdrawal process from the Agreement, and is expected to withdraw formally in November 2020.

## 02

## SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The European Green Deal, announced in December 2019, is a plan for a sustainable economy for the EU. It is the flagship initiative and a strategy priority for the European Commission. It provides an action plan to boost the efficient use of resources by moving to a clean, circular economy; to restore biodiversity; and to cut pollution.

The EU aims to be climate-neutral in 2050. As part of the European Green Deal, the European Commission proposed the European Climate Law in March 2020 to turn this political commitment into a legal obligation.

On 16 September 2020, the Commission revealed the proposal to reduce emissions by at least 55% by 2030 compared to 1990 (the current target is the reduction of at least 40%), based on an impact assessment of costs and benefits. The EU will decide whether the proposed target will replace the existing target in its NDC Update, expected for the end of 2020.

However, it is not just the stated target that is important. The target needs to be accompanied by additional information in

order to ensure clarity, transparency and understanding of the NDC. Transparency is key for accountability. In turn, accountability drives action!

This assessment provides a detailed analysis of the existing NDC and highlights the opportunities for a transparent and enhanced new NDC in 2020, based on the requirements set out in the Paris Agreement.

The assessment shows that the EU's current NDC already covers several elements as prescribed by the Paris Agreement. However, it also shows that when revising its NDC, the EU should enhance the information included.

From a political perspective, the EU's leadership is more important than ever. By raising its target in the updated NDC and increasing its transparency, the EU would send an important signal to other big emitters, would underline its position as an important international player and would set an example for other countries.

The current EU NDC was submitted by the Latvian Presidency of the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on behalf of the European Union and its Member States as an INDC in March 2015. It became the EU's NDC in October 2016, when the EU formally ratified the Paris Agreement.

It is a unique case within the UNFCCC process since, although all EU Member States are formally Parties of the Paris Agreement, they all present one common NDC, which is first negotiated at the EU level. Thus, the EU's NDC goes through a more complex process of negotiations among its Member States compared to other NDCs.

Additionally, after the withdrawal of the UK from the European Union on 31 January 2020, the former Member State of the European Union will need to submit its own NDC. The EU will at the same time present the revised NDC on behalf of not 28 as in 2015, but 27 Member States.

An assessment of the NDC target can be found in the Brown to Green Report: [www.climate-transparency.org](http://www.climate-transparency.org)  
A detailed analysis is provided by the Climate Action Tracker: [www.climateactiontracker.org](http://www.climateactiontracker.org)

## EU's current NDC target



At least  
**40%**  
reduction of greenhouse gasses by  
2030 compared to 1990 levels.

## New target proposed by the European Commission



At least  
**55%**  
reduction of greenhouse gasses by  
2030 compared to 1990 levels.

To enhance the transparency of its 2020 NDC Update, the EU should implement the following key recommendations (further information on the recommendations can be drawn from the detailed assessment below):

ICTU Category	Current NDC	Room for improvements for NDC Update 2020
 <b>Reference point</b>	The EU's NDC is relative to a 1990 base year.	State source of data for quantifying the reference point as well as provide information under which the EU would update the value of the reference indicators. If EU target contains a separate target for the land sector, provide or confirm the reference point or period for this separate target.
 <b>Time frame</b>	Period of implementation provided in the form of a start date: 1 January 2021 and end date: 31 December 2030.	Provide a single-/multi-year reference in the time frames for implementation.
 <b>Scope and Coverage</b>	No specific information was provided on carbon pools and it is not clear on what terms the land sector will be included in the target.	Expressly cover the land sector and explain how the land sector is included in the EU target. Explain whether the EU has a separate target for the land sector or for removals, and if so how this target relates to the EU's emission reduction target.
 <b>Planning process</b>	No information was provided in the EU's NDC on the arrangements in place to prepare the NDC. No information was provided on the relevant stakeholder processes, or whether the NDC was conducted in a gender-responsive manner, whether local communities and indigenous peoples were consulted.	Provide information on institutional arrangements for developing and implementing the NDCs, incl. consultation processes public participation and engagement with local communities and indigenous peoples, in a gender-responsive manner.
 <b>Assumptions, and methodological approaches</b>	No information is provided on how emissions and removals will be accounted for (other than the specification that it will be a "comprehensive accounting approach"), and the NDC states that the way in which the land sector will be accounted for will be decided in future.	Provide detailed information on removal of emissions and detailed description of how the EU will account for the land sector in its NDC. Clarify whether EU's LULUCF emissions are included in the base year.
 <b>Fairness and ambition</b>	The EU NDC implies, in the relevant section, that its NDC is fair and ambitious. No grounds are however provided for why this would be fair and only very few grounds other than a reference to per capita emissions as to how its NDC could be considered fair.	Provide link to the long term temperature goal of the Paris Agreement. Include grounds on why the NDC target is fair and why it constitutes the EU's "highest possible ambition".
 <b>Contribution to UNFCCC Article 2</b>	The EU's NDC does not contain any references to Article 2 of the Convention. The EU's NDC states that EU emissions peaked in 1979. No other relevant information is provided.	Provide more specific information on the consistency of the EU's target with the now more ambitious long-term temperature goal adopted under the Convention. Provide information on when a balance between emissions and removals will be achieved within the EU.

## 03

## DETAILED ASSESSMENT

The following assessment is undertaken on the basis of Annex I to 4/CMA.1 (agreed in 2018), which contains information necessary for clarity, transparency and understanding that Parties are strongly encouraged to provide in relation to their first NDCs, including when communicating or updating these NDCs by 2020. The European Commission is revising its current NDC, first submitted as an intended nationally-determined contribution to the UNFCCC in 2015 and which became the EU's NDC in 2016 upon EU ratification.

The NDC assessed is the NDC as contained in the UNFCCC's interim NDC registry, as submitted on 13 October 2016. The EU's NDC is dated 'Riga, 6 March 2015'; and can be found in the UNFCCC's interim NDC registry at <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/ndcstaging/PublishedDocuments/Sweden%20First/EU%20First%20NDC.pdf>



## 1. Quantifiable information on the reference point (including, as appropriate, a base year):

Element of ICTU	Included in NDC	Category of assessment	Information in NDC and assessment
(a) reference year(s), base year(s), reference period(s) or other starting point(s)	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Partly <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> n/a	<input type="radio"/> Reference year(s) – including for reduction against a baseline <input checked="" type="radio"/> Base year(s) <input type="radio"/> Reference period(s) <input type="radio"/> other starting point(s)	The EU's NDC specifies its target (at least 40% domestic reduction in emissions by 2030) relative to a 1990 base year.
(b) Quantifiable information on the reference indicators, their values in the reference year(s), base year(s), reference period(s) or other starting point(s), and, as applicable, in the target year; (If 1 (c) is completed, this is not applicable)	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> Partly <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> n/a	<input type="radio"/> Quantified – in CO <sub>2</sub> or CO <sub>2</sub> -eq or in other emissions units <input type="radio"/> Quantified – other units <input checked="" type="radio"/> Quantifiable information provided – to quantify in CO <sub>2</sub> or CO <sub>2</sub> -eq <input type="radio"/> Quantifiable information provided – to quantify in other units <input type="radio"/> No quantifiable information	Information is provided which would allow quantification in the base year in terms of the EU's GHG inventory. However, insufficient clarity is provided on how land sector emissions and removals would be quantified and applied in relation to the EU target (i.e. based on UNFCCC reporting categories or based on Kyoto Protocol categories/activities).
(c) For strategies, plans and actions referred to in Article 4, paragraph 6, of the Paris Agreement, or policies and measures as components of nationally determined contributions where paragraph 1(b) above is not applicable, Parties to provide other relevant information; (If 1 (b) is completed, this is not applicable, unless a country has provided policies and measures as well)	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Partly <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> n/a	<input type="radio"/> The country has provided reference points for relevant quantified goals for specific PAMs. <input type="radio"/> The country has provided reference point for qualitative goals for PAMs with non-quantified goals.	Not applicable to the EU's NDC.
(d) Target relative to the reference indicator, expressed numerically, for example in percentage or amount of reduction;	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> n/a	<input checked="" type="radio"/> % reduction from base year <input type="radio"/> % reduction from BAU <input type="radio"/> % intensity reduction from base year <input type="radio"/> Other	The EU's target is defined as "at least 40% domestic reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared to 1990".
(e) Information on sources of data used in quantifying the reference point(s);	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Partly <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> n/a	<b>Source:</b> <input type="radio"/> GHG inventory <input type="radio"/> Reference to underlying data sources <input type="radio"/> Other studies <b>Enhanced conformance – traceability:</b> <input type="radio"/> Source readily found	The source of data for quantifying the reference point is not stated. It is assumed that this will be the GHG inventory.

Element of ICTU	Included in NDC	Category of assessment	Information in NDC and assessment
(f) Information on the circumstances under which the Party may update the values of the reference indicators.	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> n/a	<b>GHG inventory:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> How values may be updated</li> <li><input type="radio"/> When</li> </ul> <b>Baseline projections:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Information on whether the baseline will be updated, when and why.</li> </ul> <b>Intensity:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> If, whether and how the country will update its intensity reference indicator.</li> </ul>	No information provided. It is assumed that the reference point may change with GHG inventory recalculations.



## 2. Time frames and/or periods for implementation:

(a) Time frame and/or period for implementation, including start and end date, consistent with any further relevant decision adopted by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA);	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Partly <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Stated time frame of 5 years <input type="radio"/> Stated time frame of 10 years <input type="radio"/> Other stated time frame <input checked="" type="radio"/> Start date: 1 January 2021 <input checked="" type="radio"/> End date: 31 December 2030	Period of implementation provided: 1 January 2021-31 December 2030.
(b) Whether it is a single-year or multi-year target, as applicable.	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Single-year target <input type="radio"/> Multi-year target	Implied single year target for 2030, but information not explicitly provided.



## 3. Scope and coverage:

(a) General description of the target	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Key goals of the target – emissions reduction/limitation, intensity, BAU reduction, PAMs, mitigation co-benefits, in quantitative or qualitative terms. <input checked="" type="radio"/> Time frame, period of implementation, target year(s).	General description provided – reduction by at least 40% by 2030 relative to 1990 levels, economy-wide.
(b) Sectors, gases, categories and pools covered by the nationally determined contribution, including, as applicable, consistent with Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) guidelines;	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> Partly <input type="radio"/> No	<b>Sectors:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="radio"/> Energy</li> <li><input checked="" type="radio"/> IPPU</li> <li><input type="radio"/> AFOLU – specified separately for land use and agriculture</li> <li><input checked="" type="radio"/> LULUCF (if specified separately from above)</li> <li><input checked="" type="radio"/> Agriculture (if specified separately from above)</li> <li><input checked="" type="radio"/> Waste</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Other</li> </ul> <b>Categories:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Categories and sub-categories used for each sector above in the NDC</li> </ul> <b>Gases:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="radio"/> Carbon dioxide: CO<sub>2</sub></li> <li><input checked="" type="radio"/> Methane: CH<sub>4</sub></li> <li><input checked="" type="radio"/> Nitrous oxide: N<sub>2</sub>O</li> <li><input checked="" type="radio"/> Perfluorocarbons: PFCs</li> <li><input checked="" type="radio"/> Hydrofluorocarbons: HFC</li> <li><input checked="" type="radio"/> Sulphur hexafluoride: SF<sub>6</sub></li> <li><input checked="" type="radio"/> Nitrogen trifluoride: NF<sub>3</sub></li> </ul> <b>Pools:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Aboveground biomass</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Belowground biomass</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Dead wood</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Litter</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Soil organic matter</li> </ul>	Information provided on coverage of IPCC sectors, on gases, and on applicable IPCC guidelines (2006 and KP land use supplement from 2013). No specific information was provided on carbon pools. It is not clear on what terms the land sector will be included in the target.

Element of ICTU	Included in NDC	Category of assessment	Information in NDC and assessment
<p>(c) How the Party has taken into consideration paragraph 31(c) and (d) of decision 1/CP.21;</p> <p>("(c) Parties strive to include all categories of anthropogenic emissions or removals in their nationally determined contributions and, once a source, sink or activity is included, continue to include it"; "(d) Parties shall provide an explanation of why any categories of anthropogenic emissions or removals are excluded")</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Yes</li> <li>● Partly</li> <li>● No</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Comparison of categories of anthropogenic emissions and removal included in previous NDC and current NDCs.</li> <li>● Explanation for the omission of any categories.</li> </ul>	<p>The EU does mention its existing commitment under the UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol but does not compare coverage between the two commitments.</p>
<p>(d) Mitigation co-benefits resulting from Parties' adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans, including description of specific projects, measures and initiatives of Parties' adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Yes</li> <li>● Partly</li> <li>● No</li> <li>● n/a</li> </ul>	<p><b>Economic diversification:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Energy Efficiency</li> <li>● Renewable energy</li> <li>● Carbon Capture and Utilization/Storage</li> <li>● Utilization of gas</li> <li>● Methane recovery and flare minimization</li> <li>● Other</li> </ul> <p><b>Adaptation actions with mitigation co-benefits:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Water and waste-water management</li> <li>● Urban planning</li> <li>● Marine Protection</li> <li>● Reduced desertification</li> <li>● Other</li> </ul> <p><b>Mitigation co-benefits:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Stated – yes / no</li> <li>● Quantified</li> <li>● In t CO<sub>2</sub>-eq</li> </ul>	<p>Not applicable to the EU's NDC.</p>



Element of ICTU	Included in NDC	Category of assessment	Information in NDC and assessment
 <b>4. Planning processes:</b>			
(a) Information on the planning processes that the Party undertook to prepare its nationally determined contribution and, if available, on the Party's implementation plans, including, as appropriate:			
(i) Domestic institutional arrangements, public participation and engagement with local communities and indigenous peoples, in a gender-responsive manner;	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Partly <input type="radio"/> No	<b>Domestic institutional arrangements:</b> <input type="radio"/> No information provided <input type="radio"/> Some information provided <input type="radio"/> Detailed information provided  <b>Public participation and engagement:</b> <input type="radio"/> No information provided <input type="radio"/> Some information provided <input type="radio"/> Detailed information provided  <b>Information on stakeholder engagement:</b> <input type="radio"/> No information provided <input type="radio"/> Information on engagement with local communities provided <input type="radio"/> Information on engagement with indigenous peoples provided <input type="radio"/> Information on other stakeholder engagement provided  <b>Does the country report on whether the NDC process was conducted in a gender-responsive manner?:</b> <input type="radio"/> No information provided <input type="radio"/> Some information provided <input type="radio"/> Detailed information provided	No information was provided in the EU's NDC on the arrangements in place to prepare the NDC. No information was provided on the relevant stakeholder processes, or whether the NDC was conducted in a gender-responsive manner, whether local communities and indigenous peoples were consulted.
((i).cont.) ..if available, information provided on a Party's implementation plans;		<b>Implementation plans:</b> <input type="radio"/> No information provided <input type="radio"/> Some information provided  <b>Enhanced conformance:</b> <input type="radio"/> Detailed information on how implementation plans will achieve the objectives of its NDC.	Some information was provided on the implementation of EU climate policy. It is implied and not stated that this will constitute the implementation of the NDC.

Element of ICTU	Included in NDC	Category of assessment	Information in NDC and assessment
(ii) Contextual matters, including, inter alia, as appropriate:	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Partly <input type="radio"/> No	<b>a. Inclusion of relevant national circumstances, such as geography, climate, economy, sustainable development and poverty eradication</b> <input type="radio"/> No information provided <input type="radio"/> Some information provided <input type="radio"/> Detailed information provided  <b>b. Reporting on best practices and experience related to the preparation of the nationally determined contribution;</b> Best practices and experience shared: <input type="radio"/> None <input type="radio"/> Some <input type="radio"/> Many  <b>c. Information provided on other contextual aspirations and priorities acknowledged when joining the Paris Agreement:</b> <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	No information was provided on the EU's or its member states' national circumstances. No information was provided on best practices and/or experiences developing the NDC.
(b) Specific information applicable to Parties, including regional economic integration organizations and their member States, that have reached an agreement to act jointly under Article 4, paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreement, including the Parties that agreed to act jointly and the terms of the agreement, in accordance with Article 4, paragraphs 16–18, of the Paris Agreement;	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Partly <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> n/a	<input type="radio"/> Terms of the agreement to act jointly. <input type="radio"/> Emission level allocated to each Party within the relevant time period  <b>Enhanced conformance:</b> <input type="radio"/> Detailed description of the basis for burden-sharing within the REIO.	No information provided on either the terms of the agreement to act jointly, or on the emissions level allocated to each Party. This will be particularly relevant to the updated NDC on account of the departure of the UK from the EU.
(c) How the Party's preparation of its nationally determined contribution has been informed by the outcomes of the global stocktake, in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 9, of the Paris Agreement;	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<b>Information on how the previous global stock-take (GST) informed the NDC:</b> <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No  <b>Enhanced conformance:</b> <input type="radio"/> Consideration of the Secretariat's synthesis paper in the 2020 update.	No information included on this.
(d) Each Party with a nationally determined contribution under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement that consists of adaptation action and/or economic diversification plans resulting in mitigation co-benefits consistent with Article 4, paragraph 7, of the Paris Agreement to submit information on:			
(i) How the economic and social consequences of response measures have been considered in developing the nationally determined contribution;	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> n/a	<input type="radio"/> The NDC contains information on how the economic and social consequences of response measures have been considered in developing the NDC.	Not applicable.

Element of ICTU	Included in NDC	Category of assessment	Information in NDC and assessment
(ii) Specific projects, measures and activities to be implemented to contribute to mitigation co-benefits, including information on adaptation plans that also yield mitigation co-benefits, which may cover, but are not limited to, key sectors, such as energy, resources, water resources, coastal resources, human settlements and urban planning, agriculture and forestry; and economic diversification actions, which may cover, but are not limited to, sectors such as manufacturing and industry, energy and mining, transport and communication, construction, tourism, real estate, agriculture and fisheries.	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> n/a	<p><b>The NDC contains information on specific projects, measures and activities for adaptation resulting in mitigation co-benefits in:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Energy resources</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Water resources</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Coastal resources</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Human settlements</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Urban planning</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Agriculture and forestry</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Other</li> </ul> <p><b>Specific projects, measures and activities for economic diversification actions in sectors resulting in mitigation co-benefits:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> Manufacturing and industry</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Energy and mining</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Transport and communication</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Construction, tourism</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Real estate</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Agriculture and fisheries</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Other</li> </ul>	Not applicable.



## 5. Assumptions and methodological approaches, including those for estimating and accounting for anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions and, as appropriate, removals:

(a) Assumptions and methodological approaches used for accounting for anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions and removals corresponding to the Party's nationally determined contribution, consistent with decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 31, and accounting guidance adopted by the CMA;	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> A general description of the accounting approach.</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Detailed description of how the country will account for the land sector in its NDC.</li> </ul>	No information is provided on how emissions and removals will be accounted for (other than the specification that it will be a "comprehensive accounting framework, activity or land-based approach, for emissions and removals from land use, land use change and forestry"), and the NDC states that the way in which the land sector will be accounted for will be decided in future.
(b) Assumptions and methodological approaches used for accounting for the implementation of policies and measures or strategies in the nationally determined contribution;	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Partly <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> No information provided</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Some information provided</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Detailed information provided</li> </ul>	Not applicable – the EU's NDC is not stated in terms of policies and measures.
(c) If applicable, information on how the Party will take into account existing methods and guidance under the Convention to account for anthropogenic emissions and removals, in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 14, of the Paris Agreement, as appropriate;	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Partly <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="radio"/> The country has specified that they will use existing methods and guidance.</li> <li><input type="radio"/> The country has specified that they will not use existing methods and guidance.</li> <li><input checked="" type="radio"/> The country has not provided any information on this.</li> </ul>	No information provided on this. The approach to the land sector is undefined.
(d) IPCC methodologies and metrics used for estimating anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions and removals;	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Partly <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="radio"/> The country has specified in their NDC whether they have used 1996 or 2006 IPCC guidelines for estimating emissions and removals, and/or other IPCC guidance.</li> <li><input checked="" type="radio"/> The country has specified which GWP values it is using (from which IPCC assessment report).</li> <li><input type="radio"/> The NDC target is not expressed in GHG emissions terms, and contains no relevant information on GHG emissions (not applicable).</li> </ul>	The EU NDC specifies that IPCC 2006 guidelines and the IPCC 2013 KP Supplement have been used for estimating emissions, and that GWPs from the IPCC 4 <sup>th</sup> Assessment Report were used.

Element of ICTU	Included in NDC	Category of assessment	Information in NDC and assessment
(e) Sector-, category- or activity-specific assumptions, methodologies and approaches consistent with IPCC guidance, as appropriate, including, as applicable:			
(i) Approach to addressing emissions and subsequent removals from natural disturbances on managed lands:	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> n/a	<input type="radio"/> Approach to addressing emissions and removals on managed lands reported in the NDC. <input type="radio"/> No information included in the NDC.	No information included.
(ii) Approach used to account for emissions and removals from harvested wood products;	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> n/a	<input type="radio"/> Approach to harvested wood products reported. <input type="radio"/> No information included in the NDC.	No information included.
(iii) Approach used to address the effects of age-class structure in forests;	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> n/a	<input type="radio"/> Approach to age-class structure in forests reported. <input type="radio"/> No information included in the NDC.	No information included.
(f) Other assumptions and methodological approaches used for understanding the nationally determined contribution and, if applicable, estimating corresponding emissions and removals, including:			
(i) How the reference indicators, baseline(s) and/or reference level(s), including, where applicable, sector-, category- or activity-specific reference levels, are constructed, including, for example, key parameters, assumptions, definitions, methodologies, data sources and models used;	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Partly <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> n/a	<p><b>If the Party has chosen a mitigation target relative to a reference level, including emissions reference levels, base years, intensity targets etc:</b></p> <input type="radio"/> Method for estimating the reference level. <input type="radio"/> Sources of data, as applicable.	Approach to the land sector is not specified.
		<p><b>If the Party has chosen a mitigation target relative to a baseline scenario:</b></p> <input type="radio"/> Base year <input type="radio"/> Key assumptions (GDP, population, etc) <input type="radio"/> Methodology (analytical tool) and <input type="radio"/> Resulting projection at least up to the end year <input type="radio"/> Data sources	
(ii) For Parties with nationally determined contributions that contain non-greenhouse-gas components, information on assumptions and methodological approaches used in relation to those components, as applicable;	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Partly <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> n/a	<p><b>Assumptions and methodologies for non-GHG components:</b></p> <input type="radio"/> Quantified in a manner where mitigation outcomes are clear. <input type="radio"/> Quantifiable, but requiring assumptions to understand mitigation outcomes. <input type="radio"/> Not quantifiable.	Not applicable.
(iii) For climate forcers included in nationally determined contributions not covered by IPCC guidelines, information on how the climate forcers are estimated;	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> n/a	<input type="radio"/> The NDC includes black carbon, and includes information on how it is estimated. <input type="radio"/> The NDC includes other short-lived climate forcers, and information on how these are estimated.	Not applicable.


Element of ICTU	Included in NDC	Category of assessment	Information in NDC and assessment
(iv) Further technical information, as necessary;	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> n/a	<b>Further information provided:</b> <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Applicable	The EU's NDC would be sufficiently transparent if all information required by the Annex to 4/CMA.1 was provided; hence additional technical information is not required.
(g) The intention to use voluntary cooperation under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, if applicable.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Information on whether the country intends to participate in Article 6 activities during the NDC implementation period. <input checked="" type="radio"/> Information on whether the country intends to use ITMOs to achieve its NDC.  <b>Enhanced conformance:</b> <input checked="" type="radio"/> The extent to which the target depends on use of ITMOs.	The EU's NDC states that it does not intend to use any contribution from international market mechanisms to achieve its target.



## 6. How the Party considers that its nationally determined contribution is fair and ambitious in the light of its national circumstances:

(a) How the Party considers that its nationally determined contribution is fair and ambitious in the light of its national circumstances;	<b>Fair</b> <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No  <b>Ambitious</b> <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Inclusion of grounds for why the NDC target is fair. <input checked="" type="radio"/> Inclusion of grounds for why the NDC target is ambitious.	The EU NDC implies, in the relevant section, that its NDC is fair and ambitious. The EU NDC supports this with the following: a) the 2030 target is consistent with a developed-country emissions outcome in 2050 of 80-95% reduction compared to 1990 levels (referenced to the IPCC without more details), b) that this is a considerable progression on the 2020 target, and c) that EU per capita emissions are projected to fall to 6 tons/capita in 2030. No grounds are provided for why this would be a fair outcome.
b) Fairness considerations, including reflecting on equity;	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> Partly <input type="radio"/> No	<b>The country has provided in its NDC:</b> <input type="radio"/> References to equity analyses by international experts. <input type="radio"/> References to equity analyses by in-country experts. <input checked="" type="radio"/> References to indicators found in equity literature. <input type="radio"/> References to the application of preferred equity indicators to other countries.	The EU provides very few grounds other than a reference to per capita emissions as to how its NDC could be considered fair.

Element of ICTU	Included in NDC	Category of assessment	Information in NDC and assessment
<p>(c) How the Party has addressed Article 4, paragraph 3, of the Paris Agreement;</p> <p>("Each Party's successive nationally determined contribution will represent a progression beyond the Party's then current nationally determined contribution and reflect its highest possible ambition, reflecting its common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances");</p>	<p><b>Progression</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Yes</li> <li>● Partly</li> <li>● No</li> </ul> <p><b>Ambition</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Yes</li> <li>● Partly</li> <li>● No</li> </ul> <p><b>CBDRRC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Yes</li> <li>● Partly</li> <li>● No</li> </ul>	<p><b>Progression:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The NDC contains a statement that the mitigation target in NDC is more stringent than the country's previous NDC or emissions target under the Convention or Kyoto Protocol.</li> <li>● If a developing country, the target type has changed to an economy-wide absolute emissions target, and/or more sectors have been included in the target.</li> <li>● An assessment of progression is provided, with reference to mitigation potential analyses.</li> </ul> <p><b>Highest possible ambition, referring to 6 (a) above:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A reference to ambition in terms of the 1.5 °C target.</li> <li>● A reference to ambition in terms of the "well below 2 °C" target.</li> <li>● A reference to a national mitigation potential analysis.</li> <li>● An explanation in terms of national circumstances for the level of ambition chosen, with reference to the national mitigation potential analysis.</li> </ul> <p><b>Common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances (CBDRRC-ILONDC):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Explanation of ambition in terms of common but responsibilities and respective capabilities.</li> <li>● Explanation of ambition in terms of national circumstances.</li> <li>● None.</li> </ul>	<p>The EU compares its 2030 NDC target (-40% compared to 1990 levels) to its 2020 target (-20% compared to 1990 levels), and asserts that its 2030 target is significantly more ambitious, but without providing any further grounds for this claim. No link is provided to the long term temperature goal of the Paris Agreement. No reference is provided to the EU's target in terms of its national circumstances, and no reference is provided to common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. No grounds are provided as to why the 2030 target would constitute the EU's "highest possible ambition" as required by the Paris Agreement's Article 4.3, and no mitigation potential analyses are provided to substantiate this.</p>
<p>(d) How the Party has addressed Article 4, paragraph 4, of the Paris Agreement;</p> <p>("Developed country Parties should continue taking the lead by undertaking economy-wide absolute emission reduction targets. Developing country Parties should continue enhancing their mitigation efforts, and are encouraged to move over time towards economy-wide emission reduction or limitation targets in the light of different national circumstances");</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Yes</li> <li>● No</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Developed country NDCs – reference to leadership via economy-wide absolute emission reduction targets.</li> <li>● Developing country NDCs – reference to enhancing their mitigation efforts.</li> <li>● Developing country NDCs – timing to move to an economy-wide emission reduction or limitation target indicated.</li> </ul>	<p>No reference to Article 4.4. or to the leadership role of developing countries.</p>
<p>(e) How the Party has addressed Article 4, paragraph 6, of the Paris Agreement.</p> <p>("The least developed countries and small island developing States may prepare and communicate strategies, plans and actions for low greenhouse gas emissions developing reflecting their special circumstances").</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Yes</li> <li>● No</li> <li>● n/a</li> </ul>	<p><b>NDCs of LDCs and SIDS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Fairness addressed in strategies, plans and actions communicated.</li> <li>● Ambition addressed in strategies, plans and actions communicated.</li> <li>● Neither of the above.</li> </ul>	<p>Not applicable to the EU's NDC.</p>

Element of ICTU	Included in NDC	Category of assessment	Information in NDC and assessment
 <b>7. How the nationally determined contribution contributes towards achieving the objective of the Convention as set out in its Article 2:</b>			
(a) How the nationally determined contribution contributes towards achieving the objective of the Convention as set out in its Article 2;	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> Partly <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> The NDC refers to Article 2 of the Convention in relation to mitigation ambition. <input type="radio"/> The NDC contains information on how it contributes to the reduction of emissions in terms of Article 2 of the Convention. <input type="radio"/> The NDC contains information on how natural sinks are being maintained and enhanced.	The EU's NDC does not contain any references to Article 2 of the Convention.
(b) How the nationally determined contribution contributes towards Article 2, paragraph 1(a), and Article 4, paragraph 1, of the Paris Agreement.	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> Partly <input type="radio"/> No	<input checked="" type="radio"/> The NDC contains a reference to the peaking year – either when it occurred or when it is projected to be. <input type="radio"/> For countries whose emissions have peaked, the NDC provides grounds for the NDC target being consistent with “rapid reductions thereafter”. <input type="radio"/> The NDC contains a reference to a national policy goal of net zero emissions, and by which year. <input type="radio"/> The NDC contains a clear link between the Paris Agreement's Article 2.1(a) and the country's NDC.	The EU's NDC states that EU emissions peaked in 1979. No other relevant information is provided.

## For questions, please contact

**Sebastian Wegner**

International Secretariat of Climate Transparency  
 swegner@governance-platform.org

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For further details please refer to the methodology which can be downloaded under [www.climate-transparency.org](http://www.climate-transparency.org).



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Climate Analytics was formed in 2008 to bring cutting edge science and policy analysis to bear on one of the most pressing global problems of our time: human-induced climate change.



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