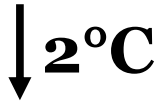


196 Countries Approve Landmark Climate Agreement Following Paris Talks

Overview and Key Details of Agreement



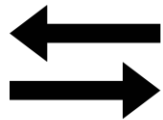
The overarching goal of the climate accord is to bring down pollution levels so that the rise in global temperatures is limited to **no more than 2 degrees Celsius**. Language was added to set a more ambitious goal of 1.5 degrees Celsius, if possible



The agreement **does not legally require** any of the countries to meet an emissions target or provide a financial commitment for their climate initiatives. Because it does not set binding emissions reductions, **the climate pact does not require Congressional approval** to go into effect.



While parties are free to pursue their own methods to reduce emissions, the climate pact specifically encourages countries to incorporate **forest preservation** into their plans. The agreement outlines policy suggestions and positive incentives to promote the protection of the world's remaining intact forests



Developed countries should take the lead on mobilizing climate finance. The accord suggests a goal of at least \$100 billion in contributions from rich countries; however the **agreement does not specify a specific amount** that developed countries must contribute

Next Steps for the Paris Climate Deal

- The agreement will go to the UN headquarters in New York City, where ambassadors representing their countries will begin signing in **April 2016**.
- At least **55 countries**, contributing to 55% of greenhouse gas emissions, must ratify the deal for it to go into effect by January 1, 2020