DRAFT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to Questions for Oral Answer B9-0000/2022 and B9-0000/2022 pursuant to Rule 136(5) of the Rules of Procedure on the 2022 UN Climate Change Conference in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt (COP27) (2022/2673(RSP))

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European Parliament resolution on the 2022 UN Climate Change Conference in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt (COP 27) (2022/2673(RSP))

The European Parliament,

– having regard to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol thereto,

– having regard to the Agreement adopted at the 21st Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP21) in Paris on 12 December 2015 (the Paris Agreement),

– having regard to the 26th Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP26), the 16th session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP16), and the third session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA3), held in Glasgow, UK, from 31 October to 13 November 2021,

– having regard to the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),

– having regard to its resolution of resolution of 21 October 2021 on the 2021 UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, UK (COP26)¹,

– having regard to its resolution of 28 November 2019 on the climate and environment emergency²,

– having regard to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) special report on global warming of 1.5°C, its sixth assessment report (AR6) and its synthesis report thereon,

– having regard to its resolution of 17 December 2020 on the EU strategy on adaptation to climate change³,


– having regard to the Communication from the Commission of 11 December 2019 entitled ‘The European Green Deal’ (COM(2019)0640),

– having regard to its resolution of 15 January 2020 on the European Green Deal⁵,

¹ OJ C 184, 5.5.2022, p. 118.
⁵ OJ C 270, 7.7.2021, p. 2.
having regard to its resolution of 16 September 2020 on the EU’s role in protecting and restoring the world’s forests6,

having regard to the UNFCCC Synthesis Report on Nationally Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreement of 17 September 2021,

having regard to the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) latest emissions gap report 2021 entitled ‘The Heat Is On’ of 26 October 2021,


having regard to the United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat (UNFFS) Global Forest Goals Report 2021,

having regard to the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) report on the state of the global climate in 2020 of April 2021,

having regard to the European Council conclusions of …,

having regard to the Council conclusions of …,

having regard to the questions to the Commission and to the Council on the 2022 UN Climate Change Conference in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt (COP27) (O-0000/2022 – B9-0000/2022 and O-0000/2022 – B9-0000/2022),

having regard to Rules 136(5) and 132(2) of its Rules of Procedure,

A. whereas the Paris Agreement entered into force on 4 November 2016; whereas by September 2022, 193 of the 197 Parties to the UNFCCC had filed their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with the UN;

B. whereas on 17 December 2020, the EU and its Member States submitted their updated intended nationally determined contributions (NDCs) to the UNFCCC, which commits the EU to a binding target of an economy-wide net domestic reduction of at least 55 % in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared to 1990 levels;

C. whereas, according to the UNEP emissions gap report 2021, the commitments made so far by the signatories to the Paris Agreement will not be sufficient to achieve its common goal and will result in global temperature rise of 2.7° C by the end of the century; deplores the fact that many national climate plans delay action until after 2030 and that many Parties to the UNFCCC have not yet taken sufficient action to even be on the path to meeting their NDCs;

D. whereas, according to the UNEP’s emissions gap report 2021, limiting warming to around 1.5° C requires global greenhouse gas emissions to peak before 2025 at the latest, and be reduced by 43 % by 2030, while at the same time, methane would also need to be reduced by about a third; whereas the global economic recovery from the COVID-19 crisis has not been the desired sustainable recovery according to the IEA;

whereas the increase in global CO$_2$ emissions by over 2 billion tonnes in 2021 was the largest in history in absolute terms, more than offsetting the previous year’s pandemic-induced decline; whereas coal accounted for over 40% of the overall growth in global CO$_2$ emissions in 2021;

E. whereas, the invasion of Ukraine and the energy shortages it has caused should be seen as an incentive to prioritise investments in decarbonisation, energy efficiency, renewable energy and sustainable technologies and to develop a socioeconomic model that is compatible with planetary boundaries;

F. whereas extreme weather events, biodiversity loss, land degradation and water scarcity are displacing people and affecting their health; whereas according to the World Health Organization, projected climate change will cause approximately 250,000 additional deaths a year by 2030 and the costs of direct damage to health are estimated to rise to between USD 2 and 4 billion per year by 2030;

G. whereas the preamble to the Paris Agreement recognises the ‘importance of ensuring the integrity of all ecosystems, including oceans’ and whereas Article 4(1)(d) of the UNFCCC stresses that the Parties thereto must promote sustainable management, and the conservation and enhancement of sinks and reservoirs of all greenhouse gases, including biomass, forests and oceans, as well as other terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems; whereas the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) global assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services underlines that the sustainable use of nature will be vital for adapting to and mitigating dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system;

1. Recalls that climate change and biodiversity loss are among the most important challenges facing humanity and that all governments worldwide must do their utmost to fight them without delay; underlines that international cooperation, the involvement of non-state actors, solidarity and a coherent action underpinned by science and an unwavering commitment to ramping up ambition are necessary to fulfil our collective responsibility of limiting global warming and preventing biodiversity loss, and thus safeguard the entire planet and the well-being of all;

2. Expresses concern at the findings of the UNEP’s emissions gap report 2021, in particular that, despite more ambitious climate pledges in the last year, predicted emissions leave the world on a path to a 2.7°C temperature rise if national pledges are fully implemented with other mitigation measures, far beyond the Paris Agreement goals of limiting global warming to well below 2°C and pursuing 1.5°C; stresses that the world needs to halve annual greenhouse gas emissions in the next eight years to keep global warming below 1.5°C;

3. Underlines that according to the UNEP’s emissions gap report 2021 the reduction of methane emissions from the fossil fuel, waste and agriculture sectors as well as carbon markets could help close the emissions gap and reduce warming in the short term, but this would only happen if rules are clearly defined and aim to achieve actual reductions in emissions, while being supported by arrangements to track progress and provide transparency; is of the opinion that governments should make every effort to bring their
pledges into line with the Paris Agreement goals and enhance their NDCs before COP27;

4. Welcomes the growing number of countries committing to net zero emissions goals by mid-century but underlines that these commitments must be urgently translated into robust short-term policies, action and financial resources, and reflected in NDCs;

**The Glasgow Pact and the way ahead**

5. Takes note of the progress made during COP26 and the Glasgow Climate Pact, which keeps alive the hope of limiting the global warming to 1.5°C; stresses, however, that this will be achieved only if all Parties deliver on what they have pledged; calls therefore on all Parties to the UNFCCC, in cooperation with regions and non-state actors, to strengthen and honour their commitments with a view to COP27;

6. Welcomes the completion in Glasgow of the Paris Agreement Rulebook, which should ensure strong environmental integrity and deliver the highest level of ambition;

7. Takes note, with regard to adaptation, that 45 countries submitted Adaptation Communications or National Adaptation Plans in the last year, and calls for further action to be taken; welcomes the creation of a new Glasgow Dialogue on Loss and Damage funding arrangements;

8. Welcomes also the progress made on climate financing during COP26 and calls on developed countries to further progress towards delivering on the USD 100 USD billion climate finance goal by 2023 and to further detail the way forward for the new post-2025 climate finance goal;

**An ambitious EU climate policy**

9. Expects the ‘Fit for 2030’ legislative package to deliver the measures for achieving the EU’s 2030 target and to put the EU and its Member States on a trajectory to climate neutrality by 2050 at the latest;

10. Reiterates the need to mainstream climate ambition into all EU policies; urges the Commission to implement Article 5(4) of the European Climate Law in the way it conducts impact assessments in all EU policy areas;

11. Emphasises that all climate policies should be pursued in line with the principle of a just transition towards climate neutrality and in close cooperation with civil society and social partners both at national and EU level;

**Adaptation and loss and damage**

12. Welcomes the new financial pledges made in Glasgow to the Adaptation Fund and to the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF); notes however that support for mitigation remains greater than support for adaptation, and strongly supports the call for developed nations to at least double their collective provision of adaptation finance from 2019 levels by 2025, in line with the Glasgow Climate Pact, in order to achieve a better balance; welcomes, further, the Sharm el-Sheikh work programme on the global goal on
adaptation, established and launched at COP26, and highlights the need to translate the goal into measurable outcomes based on a thorough understanding of risk at multiple levels, availability of consistent and comparable data, and the use of quantitative and qualitative progress on resilience over time;

13. Reiterates that adaptation action is an inevitable necessity for all countries if they are to minimise the negative effects of climate change and achieve climate resilience and sustainable development; calls on the EU and the Member States to step up adaptation action in order to fully honour the engagements under the Paris Agreement and ensure that EU adaptation policies match the EU’s global leadership in climate change mitigation;

14. Emphasises that green infrastructure contributes to adaptation to climate change through the protection of natural capital, the conservation of natural habitats and species, good ecological status, water management and food security; highlights the devastating environmental, social and economic impacts of desertification and the need for common approaches to properly adapt to and address this issue; stresses the need to pay close attention to water management in the context of adaptation;

15. Notes that Article 8 of the Paris Agreement (on loss and damage) states that the Parties should take a cooperative approach to loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change; highlights, therefore, the importance of supportive global action in areas especially vulnerable to climate change impacts;

**Climate change and biodiversity**

16. Recalls, further, the crucial role played by biodiversity in enabling humans to combat and adapt to global warming and increase their level of resilience; stresses that by restoring degraded ecosystems and effectively and equitably conserving 30 to 50% of the earth’s land, freshwater and ocean habitats, society can benefit from nature’s capacity to absorb and store carbon, and that we can accelerate progress towards sustainable development, but that for this to happen adequate finance and political support are essential;

17. Recalls that climate change is one of the main direct drivers of biodiversity loss and land degradation; underlines that the negative effects of climate change on nature and biodiversity, on ecosystems, and on oceans and food security are projected to become critical in the decades to come; underlines that a stronger, binding and more ambitious international framework is needed in order to protect global biodiversity, to stop its current decline and to restore it as much as possible; acknowledges in this context the importance of the Biodiversity Conference in Kunming, China, of August 2022;

**Sustainable climate finance**

18. Highlights that the EU and its Member States are the largest providers of public climate finance; recognises the importance of climate finance for climate actions, as many developing countries have conditional NDCs, the achievement of which depends on financial support; welcomes, therefore, that by 2025, a new collective quantified goal on climate finance will be set, starting from a floor of USD 100 billion per year and taking into account the needs and priorities of developing countries;
19. Stresses the importance of operationalising the global goal on adaptation and of mobilising major new funds for adaptation in developing countries; notes with concern that adaptation costs and needs are rising, and that they are five to ten times greater than current international public adaptation finance flows, leading to a widening adaptation finance gap; calls for the EU and its Member States to commit to a significant increase in the adaptation finance they provide;

20. Recognises the need for progress on the issue of loss and damage, for which additional resources should be raised through innovative sources of public finance under the Warsaw International Mechanism;

21. Reiterates the need to urgently end fossil fuel subsidies and other environmentally harmful subsidies in the EU and worldwide; notes that fossil fuels subsidies in the EU still amount to some EUR 50 billion, and calls on all Member States to implement concrete policies, timelines and measures to phase out all direct and indirect fossil fuel subsidies by 2025 at the very latest; calls on all other Parties to adopt similar measures;

22. Considers it essential for major international financial institutions to swiftly adopt and develop green finance in order to bring about a successful decarbonisation of the global economy; recalls the role of the European Investment Bank (EIB) as the EU’s climate bank and its recently adopted Climate Bank Roadmap and updated Energy Lending Policy; urges multilateral development banks, including the EIB, and development finance institutions to finance more climate investments and to align their portfolios with the Paris Agreement;

**Efforts across all sectors**

23. Welcomes the Global Methane Pledge that the EU, the US and a number of other countries signed up to at COP26, which aims to reduce all methane emissions caused by human action by 30% by 2030 compared to 2020 levels; notes that approximately 60% of the world’s methane is emitted by sources such as agriculture, landfill sites, waste water facilities, and the production and pipeline transport of fossil fuels; recalls that methane is a potent greenhouse gas with a 100-year global warming potential and is 28 times more powerful than CO\(_2\) in terms of its climate impact; welcomes in this context the proposal to reduce methane emissions presented by the Commission in December 2021 and calls on all Parties to take action against methane emissions;

24. Highlights that the transport sector is the only sector in which EU emissions have risen since 1990 and that this is not compatible with the long-term climate neutrality objective, which requires greater and faster reductions in emissions from all sectors of society, including the aviation and maritime sectors; considers that in order to ensure the consistency of NDCs with the economy-wide commitments required by the Paris Agreement, the Parties should be encouraged to include emissions from international shipping and aviation in their NDCs and to agree on and implement measures at international, regional and national level to reduce emissions from these sectors, including non-CO\(_2\) impacts from aviation; recalls, further, that according to the IEA, in order to reach net zero emissions by 2050 all new passenger cars placed on the market globally need to be zero emission by 2035;

25. Encourages the EU to take a leading role in promoting carbon pricing as an efficient
climate policy tool as part of a broader regulatory framework, to explore links and other forms of cooperation with existing carbon pricing mechanisms in third countries and regions, to accelerate cost-efficient emissions reductions worldwide and to reduce at the same time the risk of carbon leakage, all of which should contribute to ensuring a global level playing field;

**Role of the European Parliament**

26. Believes, since it must give its consent to international agreements and plays a central role in the domestic implementation of the Paris Agreement as co-legislator, that it should be an integral part of the EU delegation; expects, therefore, to be allowed to attend EU coordination meetings at COP27 in Sharm El-Sheikh and to be guaranteed access to all preparatory documents from the moment negotiations begin;

27. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the governments and parliaments of the Member States and the Secretariat of the UNFCCC, with the request that it be circulated to all non-EU Parties to that convention.