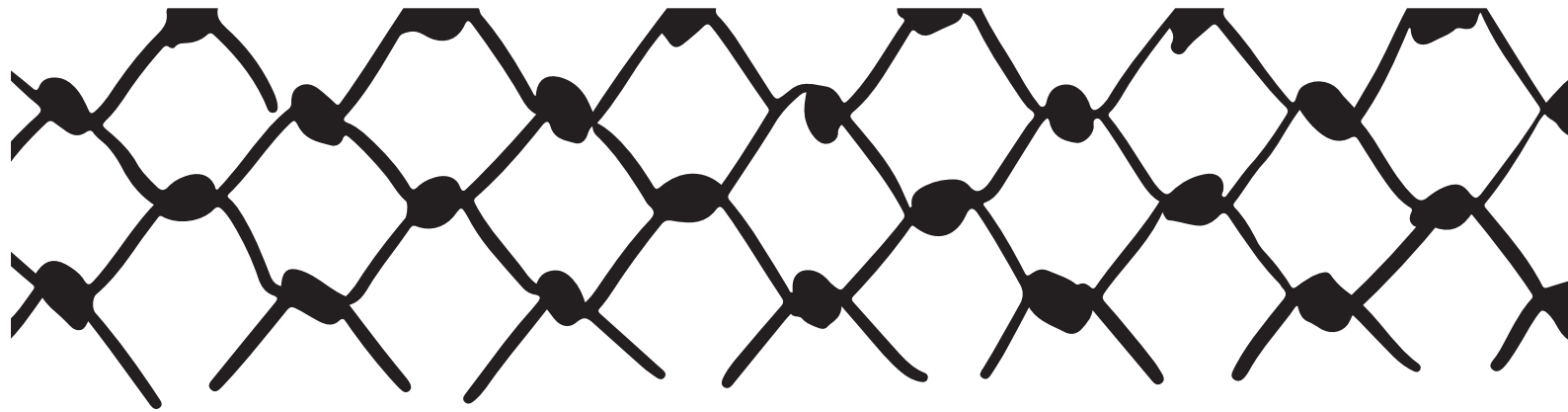


ECO

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CEASEFIRE

NOW



Don't stop til you get enough! It's time for renewable action!

ECO loves renewables and has heard that more than 100 states have signed on to a "pledge" to triple renewable energy and double energy efficiency by 2030. That's a great start, but a pledge without commitment in the formal outcome is like buying a gym membership and only using the sauna – warm, comfortable, but missing the point.

This COP, ECO wants to see Parties follow through on their pledge and include the target to triple fair, safe and clean renewable energy capacity and double energy efficiency gains by 2030 as part of a formal COP28 decision.

But a renewable goal without a commitment from all Parties to get rid of fossil fuels - and ECO means all fossil fuels - is like a showy gym dude, appearing committed to flexing climate muscles while not being able to do the heavy lifting.

ECO is here to help you avoid that. Delegates, here is a tailored workout plan for you to effectively train your climate justice muscles:

- Exercise 1: Real climate gym influencers immediately scale up their financial muscles to *really* deliver a credible energy package. Start by acknowledging the financing need in the scale of billions at this COP and make a plan to follow up. ECO has read reports estimating at least \$100 billion in concessional loans and \$200 billion in grants are needed each year for the transition towards renewables. This would be a start, but these figures and do not even

include the costs of a just transition, investment in workforce, training/skilling and many other crucial components. Considering the historic responsibilities of richer OECD countries that have polluted the atmosphere with carbon since about 1850, we'll be looking to them to do more of the heavy lifting.

- Exercise 2: Build trust by delivering action towards reaching 1.5°C, instead of more "I will go to the gym tomorrow" rhetoric. Of course, dear delegates, this transformation will be hard to achieve. But bear in mind that you will lose more trust than ever if you fall behind pledges over and over again! The world has seen that happen too many times, so let us not make the same mistake for this historic, one-time-only chance again.
- Exercise 3: ECO also wants to remind you that this transformation must be done in a way that benefits and does not harm people, communities, and ecosystems, and does not further replicate racial and colonial injustices and extractivism of critical minerals from the Global South to the North. So we suggest '3 Ps' for your motivational workout mantra: Participation, Parity and Planning.

After this climate workout, ECO is more optimistic that you can keep your promises and deliver the comprehensive energy package as part of the COP decision ECO has been asking for.

Put a ring on it

Thursday night ECO couldn't sleep because of the excitement of going to the first Contact Group on the Work Programme on Just Transition Pathways (JTWP). ECO anticipated important discussions on how international cooperation will accelerate justice when implementing the Paris Agreement.

Several Parties mentioned the need for a Just Transition based on human, labour, gender, and Indigenous Peoples' rights, and social dialogue and inclusion. There was also consensus that the scope of the JTWP should cover the labour as well as the social

and economic dimensions of the implementation of the Paris Agreement. Not bad for a first day.

However, ECO has had another sleepless night - but this time out of concern, as it seems that many Parties think Just Transition for workers and communities will happen by simply discussing their domestic experiences. The JTWP can't stay there. **It needs to recommend decisions** and show how multilateralism can improve peoples' lives.

A dialogue without decisions is like dating long-term without proposing. COP28 must put a ring on it.

Unwelcome guests

ECO has seen some strange guests attend COP over the years. But this Friday morning, ECO was especially concerned about one. Swaddled by a 100-person convoy of oil crony delegates, the Premier of the Canadian province of Alberta Danielle Smith arrived at COP28.

While the world is here to achieve a fossil fuel phase-out, Smith is here to deny, delay and distract on behalf of the oil and gas industry. ECO knows Canada as an underperforming climate laggard, but few understand the root cause of its stagnation: a fierce oil & gas lobby that has captured obstructionist petro-provinces. Smith, the leader of the province known for its tar sands, is an especially hostile actor. ECO hears from its Canadian and Albertan friends that Smith is effectively attempting to hold their federal government hostage, dragging every climate policy through court and placing a moratorium on renewable energy projects, all while greenlighting carbon bombs and false solutions at home. At COP, Smith will grandstand her province's tepid, targetless climate "plans", but ECO won't lose sight of Smith's real agenda.

Smith is here to puncture holes in Article 6, vying to collect carbon credits for expansion of Liquefied Natural Gas and expand its international markets. When discussing COP28 in a press conference on Tuesday, Smith equated the phase-out of fossil fuels to the phase-out of energy production, period. It seems as though this fossil has forgotten about renewable energy production entirely

— ECO wasn't surprised to hear of her attempts to block Alberta's booming clean electricity sector, though it's a puzzling decision for someone who claims to be a friend to industry and investment.

Smith is here to buy Big Oil precious time with false solutions like Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage (CCUS). The proof is in the pudding: while Alberta approves massive new subsidies for CCUS, they permit the destruction of carbon-dense peatlands, which already naturally hold at least triple the storage potential of CCUS.

Smith is here to subvert the Canadian government's efforts to meet its Paris commitment, both by fighting a much-needed and long-overdue cap on the oil and gas industry's emissions, the sector responsible for an incredible 28% of Canada's emissions (and growing), and by threatening to flout the country's law on clean electricity. Sadly, she's also here to subvert the wishes of the majority of people in her province who want economic diversification away from oil and gas dependency – including Indigenous nations whose lands, waters, and health are threatened by toxic tailings spills.

Like all leaders who represent fossil-captured governments, Smith is here at COP28 to sacrifice a climate-safe future, sling political mud and enrich her oil buddies. ECO thinks it's time industry-captured politicians like Smith stayed home.

Dishing up fossil fuel distraction

Food is generally a hot topic at COP: whether it's about the quality, availability or price, - from meat-heavy menus at Katowice to empty restaurants at Sharm-el-Sheikh. But yesterday, the COP28 Presidency broke new ground by launching the Emirates Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food Systems, and Climate Action. The stated aim of the Declaration is to harness the profound potential of agriculture and food systems to drive "powerful and innovative responses to climate change and to unlock shared prosperity for all". But the reality falls very short of the profound transformation necessary for food systems to be truly integrated into climate action.

The Declaration has been endorsed by 134 countries including China, Brazil, the United States and the EU. ECO commends their commitment to pursue engagements to "integrate agriculture and food systems into National Adaptation Plans and Nationally Determined Contributions" by COP30, and the recognition of the Right to Food.

What bugs ECO is that one key element to food

systems transformation remains unmentioned: that it is absolutely necessary to tackle the fossil fuel intensive fertiliser industry. Could the silence have something to do with the fact that Fertiglobe, the largest nitrogen fertiliser platform in the world, is based in the UAE?

The manufacture and use of nitrogen fertilisers generate almost 5% of global emissions. Yet different approaches are possible, such as producing food through agroecology and from more biodiverse grasslands that thrive without fertilisers. But this is just one example - food systems are fossil fuel heavy. Recent research has shown that food systems account for 15% of all fossil fuel use.

The multilateral process of the Sharm el Sheikh joint work on implementation of climate action on agriculture and food security is currently deadlocked. ECO has yet to see governments come forward with the holistic approaches needed in order to achieve sustainable food systems through a just transition away from current polluting systems. Parties, you can do better.

IEA and Presidency say phase down fossil fuels this decade, as five nations arrive at COP with vast fossil fuel expansion plans

In the run up to these negotiations, a lot of fingers remained pointed at the COP28 presidency for their ties to fossil fuels. That's why ECO was so excited to read the joint summary from the COP28 President Dr. Sultan Al Jaber and IEA chief executive Dr. Fatih Birol which affirmed the reality that "fossil fuel demand and supply must phase-down this decade to keep 1.5°C within reach". While we need to phase out fossil fuel production fully by well before 2040 in wealthy nations and well before 2050 worldwide, action this decade is crucial. That means stopping new expansion now, and cutting fossil fuel production by at least 40% by 2030.

ECO is less impressed, however, with the COP28 Presidency and IEA Executive Director's vague call for oil and gas companies to "decarbonise existing operations". Between 80 and 90% of these companies' emissions come from their customers burning the oil and gas they produce. Cutting oil and gas companies' operational emissions is like trying to solve lung cancer by getting cigarette companies to produce

tobacco more efficiently.

Many countries who purport to be climate champions are simultaneously accelerating approval of new fossil fuel projects. This is especially true for the US, Canada, Norway, Australia, and the UK - five of the world's richest countries who between them are responsible for over half of the world's planned oil and gas field developments from now until 2050.

ECO is sure these countries' leaders have seen that reports from the UN, IEA and others this year have confirmed that there is no room for new oil and gas projects if they are to keep the promises they made in the Paris Agreement.

For a successful COP, it is essential that governments commit to stop all new fossil fuel expansion, rapidly cut fossil fuel production and use by 2030, and ultimately phase out all fossil fuels. This needs to be in the formal decision text, not in a separate voluntary agreement. And it must be underpinned by equity and finance.

The NCQG song is back!

The YMCA may be fully booked, but this week, the fun place to be is in the negotiations on the NCQG, along with tomorrow's HLMD.

At the SB meetings in June, ECO wrote a little song to bolster the efforts of delegates working on the NCQG.

We've reproduced it here, with some updates – it's guaranteed to keep you humming until the closing plenary. Hopefully, the lyrics will motivate developed country delegates to recognize that pledges to the L&D Fund will ring hollow if developed country Parties can't agree that loss and damage should be a dedicated part of the NCQG, not just adaptation and mitigation.

(Verse 1)

*Parties, there's a place you must go,
We say Parties, where public finance must flow,
We say Parties, get your thinking head on
For NCQG at the C-O-P.*

*Parties, it must be needs-based and strong,
We say Parties, the time to delay has now gone.
We say Parties, science-led is the best,
For the goal to pass the smell test.*

(Chorus 1)

*It's fun to work on the N-C-Q-G,
With clear sub goals that all must agree;
NAPs and NDCs, L and D,
You can succeed in your C-O-P.*

(Verse 2)

*Parties, whose historic responsibilities abound,
We say Parties, with so much climate risk around,
We say Parties, public finance is the quest,
This is C-B-D-R at its best.*

*Parties, it's not a political outcome we seek
We say Parties, instead ambition must peak
Through public finance, we'll support the drive,
Accountability, ensuring progress will thrive.*

(Chorus 2)

*It's fun to work on the N-C-Q-G,
With clear sub goals that all must agree,
Get loss and damage addressed,
With balance for adaptation and the rest,
And mitigation fit for 1.5 degrees.*