



## What are nationally determined contributions (NDCs)?

The Paris Agreement requires each Party to prepare, communicate and maintain successive nationally determined contributions (NDCs) that it intends to achieve, and to pursue domestic mitigation measures, with the aim of achieving the objectives of such contributions.

A country's [INDC](#) will become its first NDC when it ratifies the [Paris Agreement](#), unless it decides to submit a new NDC at the same time. Subsequently, a Party shall communicate a NDC every five years, and each NDC should be increasingly more ambitious. The Paris Agreement expects developed country Parties to lead by undertaking economy-wide absolute emission reduction targets and encourages developing country Parties to move towards such targets over time, in the light of different national circumstances.

Parties should also submit and periodically update adaptation communications, which may be submitted as a component of a nationally determined contribution.

The information to be communicated on the NDCs may include: quantifiable information on the reference point (including, as appropriate, a base year); time frames and/or periods for implementation; scope and coverage; and planning processes, assumptions and methodological approaches including those for estimating and accounting for anthropogenic GHG emissions and, as appropriate, removals. Parties may also spell out how they consider their NDC to be fair and ambitious, in the light of their national circumstances, and how they contribute towards achieving the objective of the Convention as set out in its Article 2.

In accordance with Article 4 paragraph 12 of the Agreement, NDCs communicated by Parties shall be recorded in a public registry, and the secretariat has been requested to make this information available.