

U.S. Remarks
UNEP Committee of Permanent Representatives Subcommittee Meeting
February 16, 2023

Agenda Item 2: Briefing on the outcome from the 27th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP-27):

- We went into 2022 and COP27 calling for an "Implementation... Plus" approach. Tackling the climate crisis required not only implementing the commitments and goals countries had already undertaken, but also enhancing those where they were insufficient to avoiding and minimizing the worst impacts of climate change.
- We left Sharm El-Sheikh having made solid progress against our four key objectives:
- First, **we sought a collective political message out of COP27 that was strong on climate ambition** – importantly, one that reaffirmed and did not go backwards from, the Glasgow outcome. The Sharm el-Sheikh decision could certainly have been stronger – and we, of course, fought for a stronger one – but, notwithstanding the challenges and backward movement from some actors, it does reaffirm and reinforce Glasgow, and that is critical as we move forward.
- Second, **we were focused on making concrete progress on emission reductions in key countries, with a view to keeping the 1.5 degree Celsius limit in reach.** As we departed Sharm el-Sheikh, the IEA told us that if the new commitments and actions announced at COP27 were fully implemented, we could limit warming to 1.7 degrees. That’s a journey – from well over 2 degrees to 1.8 to now 1.7 – that we can be proud of, even as we recognize we are just getting started.
- Third, **we pursued various multilateral initiatives that will contribute to reducing emissions today and to accelerating the long-term transition** – notably, but not limited to, the Global Methane Pledge, Green Shipping

Challenge, Global Fertilizer Challenge, and the Climate Gender Equity Fund.

- Fourth, **we showcased a host of U.S. government deliverables related to both mitigation and adaptation.** President Biden took major new steps under his Emergency Plan for Adaptation and Resilience (PREPARE), which aims to help more than half a billion people in developing countries adapt to and manage the impacts of climate change. He announced our intent to double our pledge to the Adaptation Fund to \$100 million, and committed more than \$150 million in new funding to accelerate adaptation and resilience across Africa.
- **Loss and damage:** Finally, the United States seeks to help vulnerable countries address losses and damages associated with the adverse impacts of climate change in a manner that most efficiently and effectively responds to the diversity of needs and concerns. These concerns range from greater fiscal space and access to post-disaster finance for reconstruction and recovery to humanitarian assistance, parametric insurance, and measures to deal with slow onset events like sea level rise.
- Funding arrangements to address loss/damage cannot possibly do their job if we don't also do everything possible to avoid and limit loss/damage through reducing emissions. They are logical and necessary companions.