

COP outcomes

The term COP stands for *Conference of the Parties*, a big conference where leaders from all over the world come together to discuss how they are going to tackle climate change. The COP meets every year, the first COP meeting was held in Berlin, Germany, in March, 1995. In December 1997, an important COP Conference (COP 3) was held in Kyoto, Japan, where the participating countries signed the Kyoto Protocol. In force since 2005, the protocol called for reducing the emission of six greenhouse gases in 41 countries plus the European Union to 5.2 percent below 1990 levels during the “commitment period” 2008-2012.

At the Climate Change Conference in Paris in 2015 (COP 21), governments agreed on a stronger and more ambitious climate action that must come from governments, cities, regions, businesses and investors.

At the time of writing, the latest COP was held in Glasgow in 2021 and it was called COP26 because this was the 26th time they have met. The agreement set the global agenda on climate change for the next decade. The main goal was to secure global ‘net zero’ by mid-century and keep a maximum of 1.5 °C degrees of warming increase. ‘Net zero’ means total greenhouse

gas emissions are equal to or less than the emissions removed from the environment. Other goals included accelerating the phase-out of coal and mobilising at least \$100 billion in climate finance per year. After 13 days of negotiations between nearly 200 countries, the Glasgow Climate Pact was signed, and the Paris Agreement’s Rulebook was completed. As a result, they are hoping to rebuild the world economies in a greener and more sustainable way.

The 27th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 27) is taking place from 7 to 18 November 2022 in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt.



1 Read the text and say if the sentences are true (T) or false (F). Correct the false ones.

- | | T | F |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. The COP are international events where political leaders from different countries discuss the problem of climate change. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. The first COP was held in a non-European country. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. According to the Kyoto Protocol Agreement, the European Union was not included in the ‘commitment period’ 2008-2012. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. At the COP21 in Paris, ambitious decisions and agreements about climate were taken, involving national and local authorities. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. The 2021 Glasgow edition was called COP26 because 26 nations participated in the meeting. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. The main goal of COP 26 was to secure ‘net zero’ by the end of the century. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Phasing-out of coal was another main goal of COP26 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Less than 100 billion US dollars is the total investment for climate change every year. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |