COP26 DRAFT URGES TO HASTEN EMISSION CUTS

Relevant for: Environment | Topic: Environmental Degradation - GHGs, Ozone Depletion and Climate Change

A draft UN climate summit text urged countries on Wednesday to boost their emissions cutting goals by 2022, three years ahead of schedule, after data showed the world was far off track to limit warming to 1.5C.

Wednesday's text was the first indication of where nations are 10 days into the COP26 talks in Glasgow, which host Britain has billed as crucial to achieving the most ambitious temperature goal of the 2015 Paris Agreement.

The text called for nations to "revisit and strengthen" their decarbonisation plans by next year and said that limiting heating to 1.5C "requires meaningful and effective action by all parties in this critical decade".

It said "rapid and sustained reductions in greenhouse gas emissions" were needed to avert the worst impacts of heating, which has already seen countries worldwide slammed by fiercer floods and droughts. Countries' latest decarbonisation plans submitted under the Paris Agreement are likely to see Earth warm 2.7C this century.

Vulnerable nations say that the next deadline, in 2025, is too distant to deliver the emissions cuts needed to avoid disastrous heating.

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