



NEWS FROM COP22

NACAA's Daily Report



Report #1

Saturday – Sunday, November 12-13, 2016

Stu Clark, NACAA Global Warming Co-Chair and Phil Assmus, NACAA Senior Staff Associate arrived in Marrakech, Morocco on Saturday, November 12 to attend the 22nd Session of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework on Climate Change, called “COP22.”

COP22 follows last year’s COP21 meeting in Paris where more than 190 countries developed the [Paris Agreement](#). The Agreement calls for action to hold global average temperature increases below 2 degrees Celsius and to pursue further efforts to hold temperature increases below 1.5 degrees. COP22’s organizers have deemed the meeting “The COP of Action” to reflect its focus on achieving the priorities agreed to at COP21.

Though the Paris Agreement was provisionally agreed to at the end of COP21, it still required formal ratification from 55 countries representing 55 percent of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. That threshold was crossed in early October when a group of European Union nations completed their ratification process, and the Paris Agreement went into effect on November 4, 2016. Presently, [109 countries representing 77 percent of global GHG emissions](#) have ratified the Agreement. As such, COP22 doubles as the first meeting of the parties to the Paris Agreement, or “CMA1.”

COP22 is schedule to conclude on Friday, November 18, 2016. Until then, delegates from nearly 200 countries are expected address the following issues to begin implementing the Paris Agreement and achieve its goals:

- **How will national commitments to reduce GHG emissions be strengthened over time?** The Paris Agreement requires countries to periodically review and resubmit their climate action commitments, known as nationally determined contributions, or “NDCs.” A [recent analysis](#) from the United Nations Environment Programme found that the first set of Paris Agreement NDCs are insufficient to achieve the 2 degree goal and, unless strengthened, will lead to at least 3 degrees of warming.
- **What will the agreement’s accountability structures look like?** The Paris Agreement’s NDCs are nonbinding. Instead, parties are subject to mandatory reporting requirements designed to assure transparency and create international accountability to meet pledged targets. Delegates at COP22 will be developing options to implement those requirements.
- **How much support will developing countries receive to mitigate and adapt to climate change?** The Paris Agreement recognizes that developing countries will need technology transfers and funding to address climate change, but leaves the total amount and other details unaddressed. COP22’s delegates are discussing the amount of support, how to finance it and how to distribute it.

Sunday evening Stu and Phil attended a welcome reception hosted by the Climate Action Reserve, The Climate Registry, The Nature Conservancy, Environmental Defense Fund, Edison Electric Institute and Natural Resources Defense Council. Speakers included Matt Rodriguez, Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency and Glen Murray, Canada’s Minister of the Environment and Climate Change. Both spoke about sub-national efforts to address climate change.