

Environmental *Change* Institute

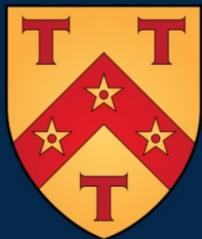


Quo Vadis COP?

Future Arrangements for Intergovernmental Meetings under the UNFCCC
ECS Webinar 14 June 2021

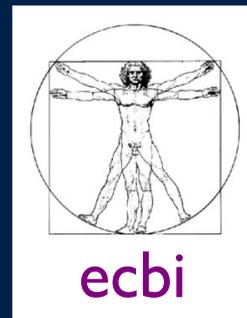
Professor Benito Müller

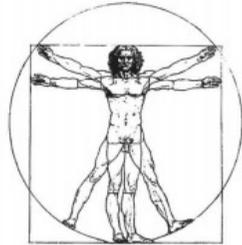
Convener International Climate Policy, ECI; Director ecbi; MD Oxford Climate Policy,



European Studies Centre
St Antony's College

oxford
climate
policy





Quo Vadis COP?

**Future Arrangements for
Intergovernmental Meetings
under the UNFCCC –
Settled and Fit for Purpose**

**Benito Müller, Jen Allan, Matthias Roesti,
and Luis Gomez-Echeverri**

with a Foreword by
Marianne Karlsen, Chair of the SBI

March 2021

www.ecbi.org

FINANCIAL TIMES

Opinion **Climate change**

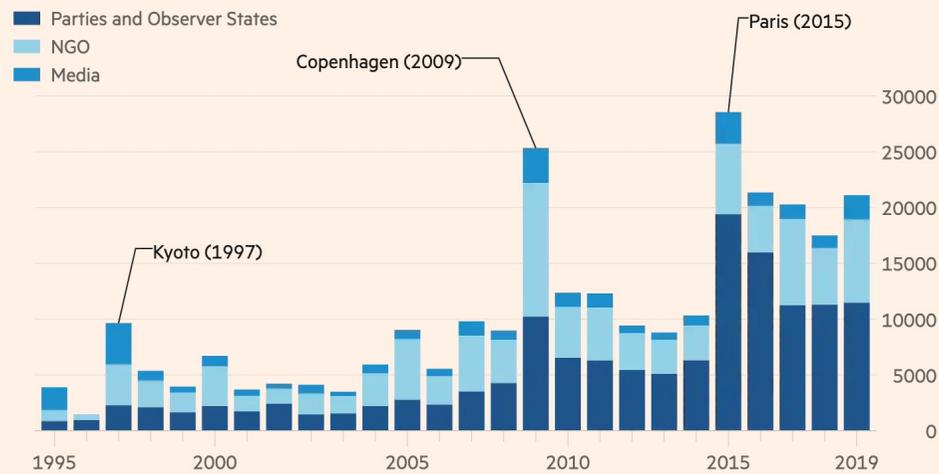
Climate summit jamborees could use a good clean-up

Activism and political theatre have their place but not necessarily at the annual COP event

Leslie Hook JUNE 1 2021

COP attendance grows, spiking in treaty years

Number of delegates



Source: Müller, et al, Quo vadis COP? Future Arrangements for Intergovernmental Meetings under the UNFCCC - Settled and Fit for Purpose, Oxford ecbi Policy Brief, March 2021.

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Foreword by Marianne Karlsen



Any healthy organization or process will at times consider the efficiency and relevance of how they organize their work. This is also the case for the intergovernmental process of the UNFCCC.

- How is the process set up to deliver on the many mandates and tasks given throughout its more than 25 years of operation?
- Does the beginning of the implementation era of the Paris Agreement call for process changes?

Arrangements for Intergovernmental Meetings

Options Considered

IV. Organization of the intergovernmental process

A. Frequency and organization of sessions

34. ... future sessional periods for the COP/CMP and the subsidiary bodies could involve options such as:

(a) **Annual COP/CMP sessions *alternating between larger, more politically oriented sessions and smaller, implementation-focused sessions***. The design of smaller COP/CMP sessions may include minimalistic elements that would reflect a different mode and scale of engagement and reduce participation (e.g., fewer than **5,000**).

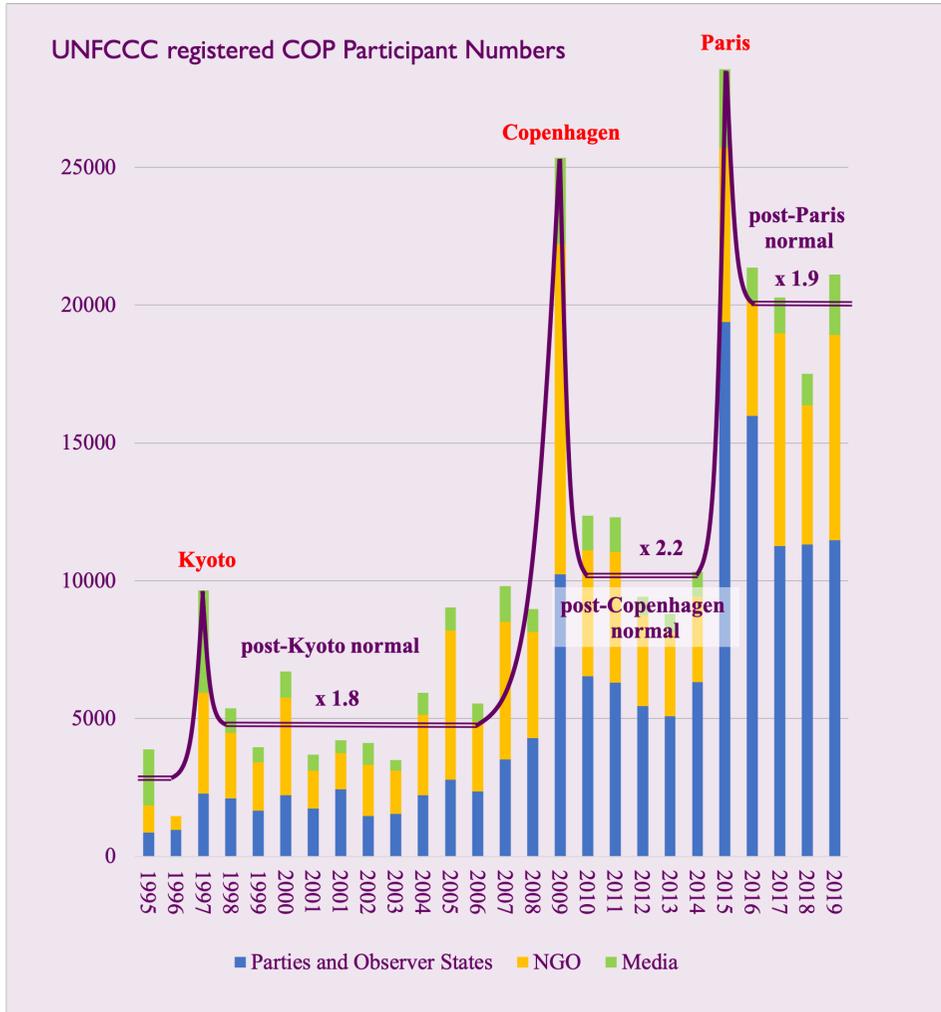
Smaller COP/CMP sessions may not, for example, require meetings of the subsidiary bodies or ministerial participation and may benefit from a different approach to side events;

B. Alternating venues: host country – Germany

38. According to rule 3 of the draft rules of procedure being applied, the sessions of the COP are to take place at the seat of the secretariat unless otherwise decided. ... ***It has been proposed that the COP decide to alternate its sessions between host countries and the seat of the secretariat (Bonn)***. ... **Holding sessions in Bonn may thus increase the opportunity for more Parties to serve as the President, particularly for Parties that are not in a position to host a conference. ...**

The 'Settled and Fit for Purpose' (SFP) Option

1. Location: Bonn 2. Frequency: Annual





Federal Ministry
for the Environment, Nature Conservation
and Nuclear Safety



United Nations
Climate Change

€125 million hosting cost

Updated COP23 Environmental Statement UN Climate Change Conference

6 to 17 November 2017, Bonn

The ‘Settled and Fit for Purpose’ (SFP) Option

3. Size: “*smaller, implementation-focused sessions*”

How small?

“*fewer than 5000*” participants (post-Kyoto normal)

How could this be achieved?

Smaller COP/CMP sessions may not, for example, require meetings of the subsidiary bodies or ministerial participation and may benefit from a different approach to side events;



United Nations

FCCC/SBI/2015/2



Framework Convention on
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COP 23 One Conference, Two Zones

The COP23 was organized following an innovative concept of “one conference, two zones”. During the two weeks of the conference, a vast area of the city of Bonn became the Climate Campus that was organized in two zones: the “Bula Zone” and the “Bonn Zone”.

The Bula Zone, where talks between governments took place, was composed of the World Conference Center Bonn, UN Campus and an extended area behind the Deutsche Welle building in Bonn. The word Bula originates from the Fijian culture and means hello as well as a blessing of health and happiness.



25/10/17

Adi Yeta – Bula Zone

The Bonn Zone, which was located in Bonn’s Rheinaue Park area, accommodated events showcasing climate action, including high-level events, side events and exhibits organized by both UNFCCC and the Government of Germany. It also included some media activities as well as events in the delegation pavilions.

The COP 23 (Bonn) Global Climate Action Zone

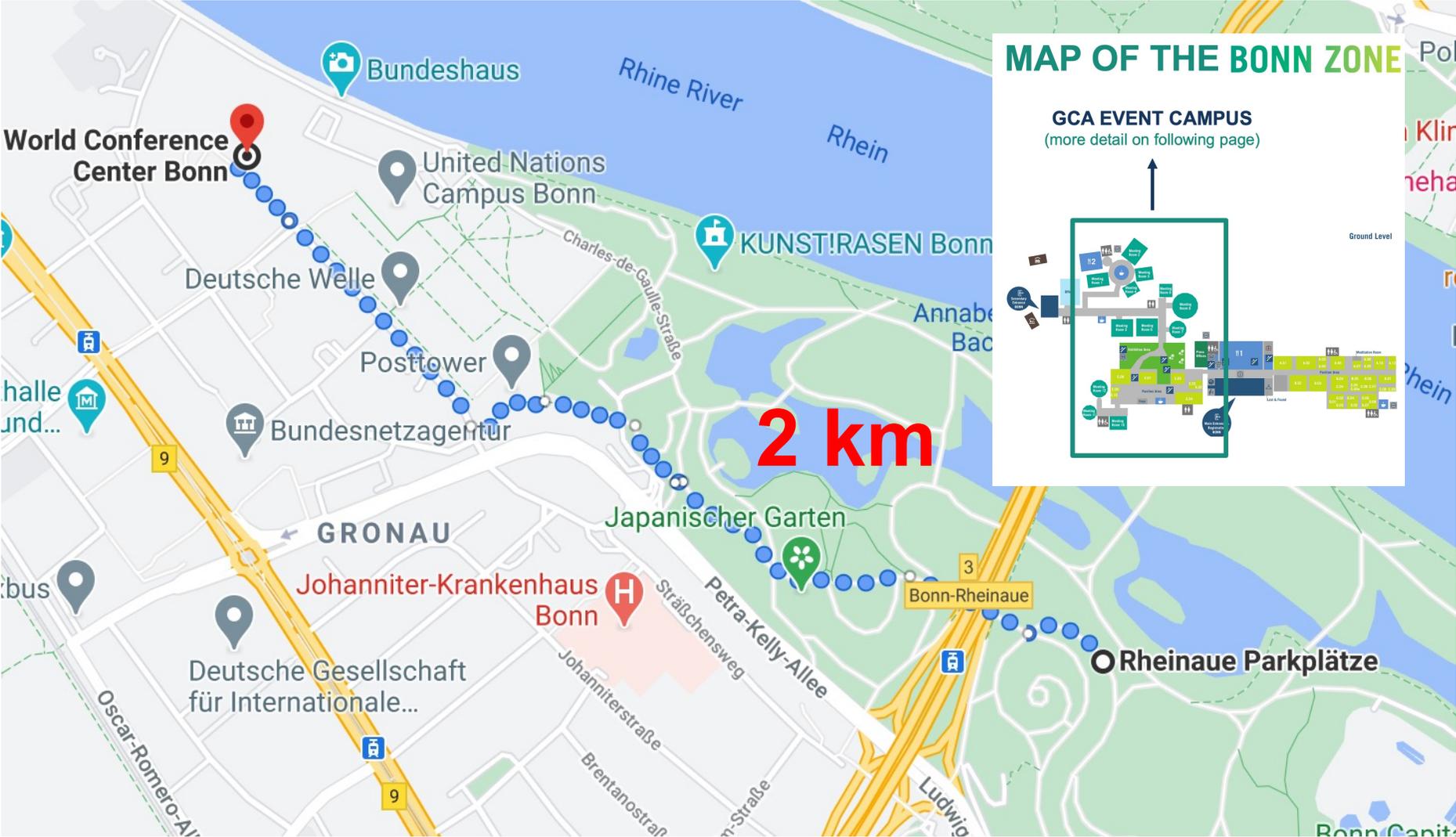


In the heart of the Bonn Zone at the United Nations Climate Change Conference COP23 in Bonn, Germany, the **Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action** (GCA) is hosting a five-day program of events, which will demonstrate how cities, regions, businesses and investors are working – in harmony with governments – to implement the Paris Agreement.

In total, there will be **well over 100 events**, incorporating a range of formats, such as plenary events, roundtable discussions, press conferences, and digital dialogues for broadcast on Facebook Live.

Some speakers already confirmed are **Arnold Schwarzenegger, Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo, California Governor Jerry Brown, Marshall Islands President Hilda Heine, Astronaut Thomas Pesquet, Unilever CEO Paul Polman, Scotland's First Minister Nicola Sturgeon, and Explorer Bertrand Picard.**

From Global Climate Action Zone to



High-level 'Global Climate Action Weeks'



United Nations

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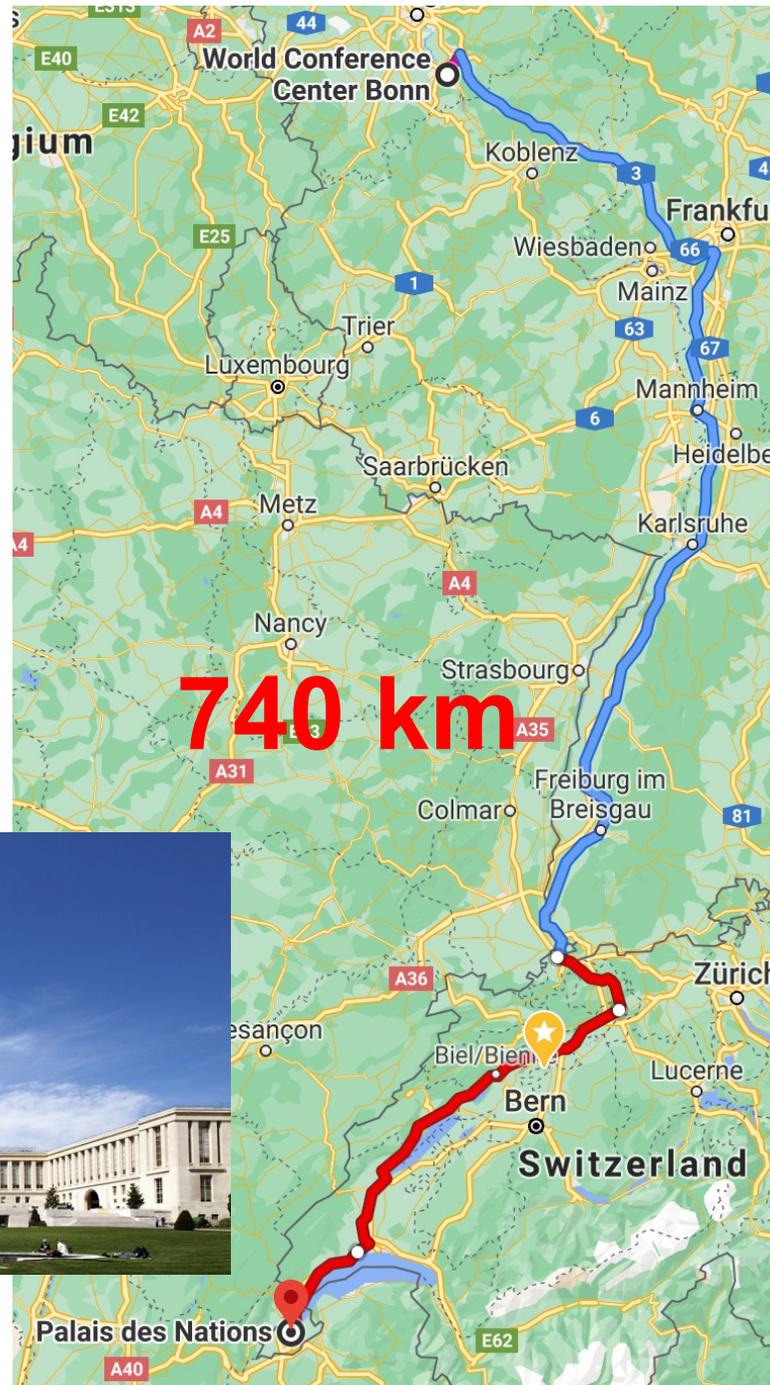
What?

- High-level segment + Global Climate Action

When and how often?

- Annually, before the COP, coordinated with the Regional Climate Weeks

Where?



Variations

‘Global Stocktake COPs’

- Holding the COP in conjunction with the Global Climate Action Weeks in GST years

‘Global Climate Change Summits’

- High-level Segment at summit-level (e.g. in communication years)

Thank You!