

## **SUMMARY of the Article “Giant leap(COP28 in Dubai),” Editorial, Dawn [Published on December 18th, 2023]**

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The recently concluded COP28 in Dubai witnessed a historic agreement as over 100 countries committed to transitioning away from fossil fuels, signaling a monumental shift towards cleaner energy sources. This resolution, a notable departure from past climate talks, aims to phase out oil, gas, and coal use, reflecting the global acknowledgment of the necessity to reduce emissions. Despite this optimistic step, challenges persist, particularly in the face of powerful oil producers like OPEC advocating for emission reductions without forsaking specific fuels. The agreement's success, applauded by environmentalists for addressing the longstanding issue, is a significant but incomplete stride. While it endorses recommendations such as tripling renewable energy capacity by 2030, the COP28 agreement lacks concrete measures for financing clean energy transitions in developing nations, as noted by the International Energy Agency. Furthermore, the commitment to achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 faces obstacles, with unaddressed challenges in emissions from agriculture and waste, emphasized by scientist Emile Frison. Concerns also arise regarding reliance on costly and unproven technologies like carbon capture and utilization, potentially hindering progress. The IEA's contrasting forecast for robust near-term oil use adds complexity, underscoring the difficulties in translating international agreements into actionable policies. Looking ahead to COP29 in Baku, addressing these shortcomings, prioritizing finance mechanisms for clean energy in developing countries, and building upon the momentum gained at COP28 are imperative for comprehensive and actionable climate strategies that consider all facets, including challenging emissions from sectors like agriculture and waste.

## **Easy/Short SUMMARY:**

The recently concluded COP28 in Dubai marked a historic agreement with over 100 countries committing to shift away from fossil fuels, signaling a move toward cleaner energy sources. Despite optimism, challenges remain, especially in financing clean energy transitions for developing nations. The agreement's success is acknowledged, but shortcomings, including unaddressed emissions from agriculture and waste, reliance on unproven technologies, and contrasting forecasts for oil use, highlight the complexities in translating international agreements into effective actions. As attention turns to COP29 in Baku, addressing these challenges and prioritizing finance mechanisms for developing countries are crucial to building upon COP28's momentum for a sustainable future.

## **SOLUTIONS of The Problem:**

### **1. Enhanced Finance Mechanisms for Developing Countries:**

- Prioritize discussions on finance mechanisms for clean energy transitions in developing nations at COP29.

### **2. Comprehensive Climate Strategies:**

- Build upon the momentum gained at COP28 to create comprehensive, actionable climate strategies addressing all facets, including challenging emissions from sectors like agriculture and waste.

### **3. Global Cooperation on Emission Reduction:**

- Encourage global cooperation to tackle emissions from agriculture and waste, recognizing their significant contribution to global emissions.

## **4. Rethinking Reliance on Unproven Technologies:**

- Reevaluate the reliance on expensive and unproven technologies like carbon capture and utilization to ensure they contribute positively to emission reduction goals.

## **5. Alignment of Forecasts and Commitments:**

- Ensure alignment between international commitments, such as those made at COP28, and forecasts, addressing discrepancies to enhance the effectiveness of climate actions.

## **6. Continued Dialogue with Oil Producers:**

- Sustain dialogue with powerful oil-producing nations like OPEC to find common ground, acknowledging the challenges of emission reduction without forsaking specific fuels.

## **7. Inclusive Climate Action:**

- Advocate for inclusive climate action that considers the multifaceted nature of emissions, recognizing the interconnectedness of various sectors in the climate crisis.

## **8. Public Awareness and Engagement:**

- Enhance public awareness and engagement on climate issues to garner support for sustainable practices and policies.

## **9. Technology Innovation for Sustainable Solutions:**

- Invest in research and development for innovative and sustainable technologies that contribute positively to emission reduction without



compromising progress.

## 10. Monitoring and Accountability Mechanisms:

- Establish robust monitoring and accountability mechanisms to track the progress of climate strategies and ensure nations adhere to their commitments.

## IMPORTANT Facts and Figures Given in the Article:

- **COP28 Location:** Dubai
- **Key Agreement:** Over 100 countries committing to transition away from fossil fuels.
- **Resolution:** Phasing out oil, gas, and coal use.
- **Concerns Raised by International Energy Agency (IEA):**
  - Lack of concrete measures for financing clean energy transitions in developing nations.
  - Challenges in reducing emissions from agriculture and waste.
  - Reliance on expensive and unproven technologies like carbon capture and utilization.
- **Scientific Emphasis:** Reaching the 1.5°C target is impossible without addressing emissions from food systems.
- **IEA's Forecast:** Robust near-term outlook for oil use contrasts with COP28 commitments.

## MCQs from the Article:

### 1. What is the historic agreement achieved at COP28?

- A. Phasing out renewable energy
- B. Transitioning away from fossil fuels**
- C. Expanding coal use
- D. Promoting oil production

### 2. What is a key concern raised by the International Energy Agency

**(IEA) regarding COP28's agreement?**

A. Overemphasis on financing clean energy

**B. Lack of concrete measures for financing in developing nations**

C. Excessive focus on emissions from agriculture and waste

D. Ignoring the potential of carbon capture and utilization

**3. What challenge remains unaddressed in COP28's agreement, according to scientist Emile Frison?**

A. Renewable energy capacity

**B. Emissions from agriculture and waste**

C. Reduction of oil use

D. Implementation of carbon capture technology

**4. What is a concern regarding the reliance on carbon capture and utilization?**

A. Affordability

B. Effectiveness in reducing emissions

**C. Potential justification for continued fossil fuel use**

D. Lack of international support

**5. What does the IEA's forecast for robust near-term oil use contrast with?**

A. Increased use of renewable energy

**B. Commitments made at COP28**

C. Phasing out coal use

D. Advancements in carbon capture technology

**VOCABULARY:**

1. **Transition** (noun) (تحويل): The process or a period of changing from one state or condition to another.
2. **Monumental** (adjective) (مهم): Great in importance, extent, or consequence.
3. **Acknowledgment** (noun) (اعتراف): Acceptance of the truth or existence of

something.

4. **Optimistic** (adjective) (ايجابي): Hopeful and confident about the future.
5. **Geopolitical** (adjective) (جيو سياسي): Relating to the political relations between countries, especially with respect to geography.
6. **Resolution** (noun) (قرار): A firm decision to do or not to do something.
7. **Endorse** (verb) (موافق): Declare one's public approval or support of.
8. **Concrete** (adjective) (ملموس): Based on facts; not abstract.
9. **Fossil Fuels** (noun) (وقود أحفورية): A natural fuel such as coal or gas, formed in the geological past from the remains of living organisms.
10. **Multifaceted** (adjective) (متعدد الجوانب): Having many different aspects or features.

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**dawn.com**  
**[Giant leap](#)**  
**Editorial**

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IN what can fittingly be described as 'one giant leap for mankind', over 100

countries have agreed to transition away from fossil fuels at the recently concluded COP28 in Dubai. For the first time in the history of climate talks, there is strong evidence that nations are willing to shift towards cleaner energy sources. The summit's resolution to phase out oil, gas, and coal use, is a testament to the growing recognition that we must reduce emissions. If one is to be optimistic, this move — long overdue according to EU climate chief Wopke Hoekstra — could mark the beginning of the end of fossil fuels. However, the battle against powerful oil producers like OPEC, who argue for emission reductions without abandoning specific fuels, underscores the geopolitical challenges inherent in global climate negotiations.

COP28's success, heralded by environmentalists for finally addressing the 'elephant in the room', is a significant step forward. However, this is but one step in a long journey. The summit's agreement, while significant, does not fully address some critical aspects. For instance, the International Energy Agency points out that while the agreement includes their recommendations, like tripling renewable energy capacity by 2030, it fails to provide concrete measures for financing clean energy transitions in developing nations. Moreover, while the agreement recommit to net-zero GHG emissions by 2050, the path to achieving this goal is fraught with obstacles. The challenge of reducing emissions from agriculture and waste — a significant portion of global emissions — remains unaddressed. Scientist Emile Frison's remark that reaching the 1.5°C target is impossible without tackling food systems highlights the multifaceted nature of climate action. Additionally, the reliance on expensive and unproven technologies like carbon capture and utilisation is a concern. Critics worry that such technologies could justify continued fossil fuel use, undermining progress towards emission reduction. Moreover, the IEA's revised forecast indicating a robust near-term outlook for oil use contrasts sharply with the commitments made at COP28. This discrepancy between policy and practice is a reminder of the challenges of translating international agreements into tangible actions.

As we look towards the next iteration of the climate change conference in Baku, it is imperative to address these shortcomings. The IEA's emphasis on discussing finance mechanisms for clean energy in developing countries at COP29 should be a top priority. It is essential to ensure that the momentum gained at COP28 is not lost but rather built upon to create comprehensive, actionable strategies that address all facets of climate change, including the harder-to-reduce emissions from sectors like agriculture and waste. The journey towards a sustainable future





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is ongoing, and the decisions made now will shape the health of our planet for generations to come.

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