

Trump pullout from climate pact means even hotter world: report

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If the US abandons its goals, temperatures will rise by 3.2 C by the end of the century

US President Donald Trump's pullout from the Paris Agreement will push up global temperatures nearly half a degree Celsius (0.9 degrees Fahrenheit) by 2100, according to a report released Wednesday at UN climate talks in Bonn.

If all countries—including the United States—honour carbon-cutting pledges under the 196-nation treaty, the world would see 2.8 C of global warming above pre-industrial levels, the Climate Action Tracker (CAT) research group had previously calculated.

That is not nearly good enough to avoid climate catastrophe, scientists say.

The Paris pact, adopted in 2015, calls for capping the rise at "well below" 2 C, and even 1.5 C if possible, to avoid climate-addled future of extreme drought, deadly heatwaves and superstorms made more destructive by rising seas.

But if the US abandons its goals for reducing greenhouse gases, set under the Barack Obama administration, the end-of-century thermometer will climb even further to 3.2 C, the report showed.

"This is largely due to the fact that the United States is walking away from its 2030 target, and long-term 2050 goals," CAT said in a statement.

In 2015, the United States made a voluntary commitment to cut the country's emissions 26-28 percent below 2005 levels by 2025. Last year, it also laid out a "mid-century strategy" that would see it's emissions slashed 80 percent compared to a 2005 benchmark.

China, India 'stepping up'

The annual analysis of the world's top 32 carbon polluters—accounting for more than 80 percent of global emissions—also showed that China and India have accelerated the transition toward greener economies.

"China's emissions growth has slowed dramatically: in the first decade of

this century, its emissions grew by 110 percent, but between 2010 and 2015 growth slowed to only 16 percent," the report said.

Beijing is on track to fulfil its Paris pledge—a peak in CO₂ emissions by 2030—a full decade ahead of schedule.

At the same time, CAT rates China's efforts as "highly insufficient," saying its targets are "ripe for an update."

After stagnating for three years, global CO₂ emissions will rise two percent in 2017, dashing hopes they had peaked, scientists reported earlier this week.

A surge of coal, oil and natural gas consumption in China was the single largest cause of the increase, they said.

India has also stepped up its [climate](#) action, the CAT researchers said. Projected emissions in 2030 are about 20 percent less now than they were only a year ago, they reported.

"It is clear who the leaders are here: in the face of US inaction, China and India are stepping up," said Bill Hare, a scientist at Climate Analytics, a non-profit research organisation in Berlin.

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