

# **G20 Summit & Climate Change**

## Why in News

In the recently concluded **G20 summit**, the leaders made a commitment to reach carbon neutrality by or around mid-century.

- They have adopted the Rome Declaration (the current presidency of G20 countries is being held by Italy).
- Earlier, the <u>G20 Climate Risk Atlas</u> was released which provides climate scenarios, information, data and future changes in climate across the G20 countries.

# **Key Points**

- Highlights of the Declaration:
  - Roadmap for COP 26: It urged leaders of the world's biggest economies to put their action plans to tackle the global climate change crisis.
    - This is a significant step in the context of the upcoming <u>UN climate conference</u> (<u>COP 26</u>) in Glasgow, Scotland.
  - Restricting Aid to Coal Based Plants: It included a pledge to halt financing of overseas coal-fired power generation by the end of this year (2021).
  - PPP Model of Finance Mobilisation: <u>Public-Private Partnerships (PPP)</u> are the only way to achieve the trillions of dollars in annual investment needed to transition to **clean**, sustainable energy sources that will mitigate the warming of global temperatures.
- Declaration by India:
  - Addressing Vaccine Inequality: Underlining the need to address vaccine inequity across the world, India is ready to produce over 5 billion vaccine doses by the end of next year (2022).
    - India also emphasised on vaccine research, manufacturing and innovation.
  - One Earth One Health: The vision of "One Earth One Health", or the need for a collaborative approach in the international domain in the fight against the pandemic.
  - Resilient Global Supply Chains: India highlighted the need for resilient global supply chains and invited G-20 countries to make India their partner in economic recovery and supply chain diversification.
  - Support for Global Minimum Tax: India also lauded the G-20's decision to come up with
    a 15-percent minimum corporate tax to make the global financial architecture "more
    just and fair".
  - Welcoming Indo-Pacific Strategy: India welcomed the European Union's <u>Indo-Pacific</u> strategy and French leadership in it.
- Associated Concerns:
  - Half-Hearted Steps: The statement contained few concrete actions and made no reference to a specific 2050 date to achieve <u>net-zero carbon emission</u>.

- Moreover, the statement removed references in a previous draft to the target to "reduce emissions significantly".
- No target for Phasing Out Coal: It set no target for phasing out coal domestically, a
  clear nod to top carbon polluters China and India.
  - For example, China has not set an end date for building domestic coal plants at home.
  - Coal is still China's main source of power generation, and both China and India have resisted attempts for a G-20 declaration on phasing out domestic coal consumption.
- No resolution on Vaccine Patent Waiver: It did not touch upon the dispute over vaccine patent waivers.
- Pressing India's developmental Imperative: Climate negotiators from the US, EU and
  UK had made a number of visits to India over the past few months, pressing for India to
  update its <u>Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)</u> to include its target of 450 GW
  of renewable energy by 2030.

## **G20**

#### About:

- It is an informal group of 19 countries and the <u>European Union (EU)</u>, with representatives of the <u>International Monetary Fund</u> and the <u>World Bank</u>.
  - It does not have a permanent secretariat or Headquarters.
- The membership comprises a mix of the world's largest advanced and emerging economies, representing about two-thirds of the world's population, 85% of global gross domestic product, 80% of global investment and over 75% of global trade.

### Members:

 Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States and the EU.

Source: IE

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