



UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO

MUNK
SCHOOL
OF
GLOBAL
AFFAIRS

Join the Global Conversation

G7 Research Group

The
G7 Research Group
at the Munk School of Global Affairs at Trinity College in the University of Toronto
presents the

2017 G7 Taormina Interim Compliance Report

27 May 2017 to 30 January 2018

Prepared by
Katrina Bland, Andrew Liu and Sarah Mariani
G7 Research Group, University of Toronto
17 April 2018, updated on 20 April 2018
www.g7.utoronto.ca
g8@utoronto.ca
[@g7_rg](#) and [@g8rg](#)

“We have meanwhile set up a process and there are also independent institutions monitoring which objectives of our G7 meetings we actually achieve. When it comes to these goals we have a compliance rate of about 80%, according to the University of Toronto. Germany, with its 87%, comes off pretty well. That means that next year too, under the Japanese G7 presidency, we are going to check where we stand in comparison to what we have discussed with each other now. So a lot of what we have resolved to do here together is something that we are going to have to work very hard at over the next few months. But I think that it has become apparent that we, as the G7, want to assume responsibility far beyond the prosperity in our own countries. That’s why today’s outreach meetings, that is the meetings with our guests, were also of great importance.”

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

Contents

Preface.....	3
Research Team	4
Executive Summary	6
Table A: 2017 Priority Commitments Selected for Assessment*	7
Table B: 2017 G7 Taormina Interim Compliance Scores	9
Table C: 2017 G7 Taormina Interim Compliance Scores by Country	10
Table D: 2017 G7 Taormina Interim Compliance Scores by Commitment	10
1. Terrorism: Aviation and Border Security	11
2. Terrorism: Combating Online Extremism.....	25
3. Non-proliferation: Nuclear Weapons and Disarmament	40
4. Trade: Protectionism and Trade Practices.....	60
5. Gender: Human Trafficking and Exploitation.....	73
6. Gender: Encouraging Women in the Private Sector.....	88
7. Migration: Addressing the Drivers of Migration	101
8. Climate Change: Energy and Clean Technology	128
9. Climate Change: Paris Agreement	142
10. Food and Agriculture: Food Security and Nutrition	165
11. Development: African Union Agenda 2063.....	176
12. Health: Mental Health	189
13. Trade: Internationally Recognized Environmental Standards	202
14. Labour and Employment: Work Conditions	220
15. Macroeconomics: Inclusive Growth.....	234
16. Regional Security: Ukraine	250

13. Trade: Internationally Recognized Environmental Standards

“[We commit to striving for better application and promotion of internationally recognized] environmental standards [throughout the global economy and its supply chains.]”

G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué

Assessment

Member	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States	-1		
European Union			+1
Average		+0.75	

Background

Application of internationally recognized environmental standards throughout the global economy has been addressed at the past three G7 summits. In 2015 and 2016, G7 members committed to, “[strive for better application of internationally recognized] environmental standards [in global supply chains].”¹¹⁵³ The 2017 commitment progresses from this and “[commits to strive for better application and promotion].”¹¹⁵⁴

This commitment has been developed in the context of G7 member support for sustainable development and free trade, and focuses on improving supply chains to achieve broader ambitions. In 2015, G7 members recognized that they had an “important role to play in promoting ... environmental protection in global supply chains”¹¹⁵⁵ given their “prominent share in the globalization process.”¹¹⁵⁶ Moreover, G7 members reiterated the importance of responsible supply chains in “fostering sustainable economic development.”¹¹⁵⁷ This commitment was shaped by an increased international awareness to improve global supply chains after the Rana Plaza disaster where, in 2013, a Bangladesh garment factory collapsed killing 1,137 people.¹¹⁵⁸

Though the World Trade Organization (WTO) is a key institutional body supported by the G7 to facilitate trade, it does not play a role in setting internationally recognized environmental standards. Instead, it stipulates a code of good practice through the Technical Barriers to Trade Agreement for

¹¹⁵³ G7 Ise-Shima Leader’s Declaration, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 12 October 2017. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>.

¹¹⁵⁴ G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 9 October 2017. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>.

¹¹⁵⁵ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) June 8 2015. Access Date: 11 October 2017 <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

¹¹⁵⁶ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) June 8 2015. Access Date: 11 October 2017 <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

¹¹⁵⁷ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) June 8 2015. Access Date: 11 October 2017 <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

¹¹⁵⁸ G7 leaders agree on new insurance fund after Rana Plaza disaster, The Guardian (London) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 16 October 2017. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/jun/08/g7-insurance-fund-rana-plaza-disaster>.

international standardizing bodies to follow in setting international standards. Bodies that comply with this code to set international environmental standards include the International Standardization Organization and the International Electrotechnical Commission.¹¹⁵⁹ Given G7 support for the WTO, this commitment supports promotion and application of environmental standards from standardization bodies that follow this code.¹¹⁶⁰ Furthermore, the G7 mentioned particular support for application of environmental standards, principles, and commitments as laid out by the United Nations, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the International Labour Organization (ILO) and applicable environmental agreements, at its 2015 summit.¹¹⁶¹ Thus, this commitment additionally applies to the application and promotion of environmental standards relevant to those institutions and agreements.

The 2016 Ise Shima progress report pointed to a number of indicators to follow commitments in this area.¹¹⁶² These indicators include: support offered to multi-stakeholder initiatives (MSI) in G7 countries and partner countries, participants, and wider geographical reach of MSIs; funding or other support to partner countries in taking advantage of responsible global supply chains; funding or other support to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to understand due diligence and responsible global supply chains; funding or other support to SMEs to understand due diligence and responsible supply chain management; number of offers to host and/or attend voluntary G7 National Contact Points (NCP) and number of G7 NCP peer learning activities. Actions to make progress on the 2015 commitment were seen in these indicators, with a bigger focus on labour safety than specifically environmental standards.

A number of barriers currently prevent application of relevant international environmental standards. These include a lack of national capacity to comply with standards,¹¹⁶³ lack of national recognition of standards, poor inclusion of developing countries in international standard consensus, and lastly, the voluntary nature of standards.¹¹⁶⁴ Thus, these barriers must be addressed by G7 members as part of this commitment in order to better apply and promote internationally recognized environmental standards.

Commitment Features

There are two different aspects to this commitment. The first is the pledge to apply “internationally recognized environmental standards [throughout the global economy and its supply chains.]” The second is the promotion of internationally recognized environmental standards.

The commitment only applies to environmental standards that are internationally recognized, thus only to, “Document[s] approved by a recognized body, that provide[s], for common and repeated use, rules, guidelines or characteristics for products or related processes and production methods,

¹¹⁵⁹ Technical Information on Technical Barriers to Trade, World Trade Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 13 October 2017. https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/tbt_e/tbt_info_e.htm.

¹¹⁶⁰ G8 Lough Erne Leaders Communiqué, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2013. Access Date: 11 October 2017 <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-communique.html>.

¹¹⁶¹ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) June 8 2015. Access Date: 11 October 2017 <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

¹¹⁶² Ise-Shima Progress Report, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 2016. Access Date: 16 October 2017 www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/iseshima_progress_report.pdf.

¹¹⁶³ Environmental requirements and market access: preventing ‘green protectionism’, World Trade Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 11 October 2017 https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/envir_e/envir_req_e.htm.

¹¹⁶⁴ International Standards in Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning, United Nations Environmental Programme (Nairobi) 2014. Access Date: 8 October 2017 http://www.unep.fr/ozonaction/information/mmfiles/7679-e-International_Standards_in_RAC.pdf.

with which compliance is not mandatory”¹¹⁶⁵ that are developed through international community consensus. Environmental standards published by the UN, OECD, ILO and relevant environmental agreements also are applicable, as per the 2015 summit.¹¹⁶⁶

As the first aspect is shaped in the context of global supply chains, compliance with application does not require G7 members to bring these environmental standards into their own national legislation. The application of recognized environmental standards is distinguished from their promotion, in that promotion involves political support for internationally recognized environmental standards, whereas application looks to actions that allow for implementation and adherence to internationally recognized environmental standards. Promotion involves support or renewal of old efforts or the creation of new efforts in the area. It should not have to be a brand new initiative.¹¹⁶⁷

Application can materialize in a number of different ways. To be considered as applying internationally recognized environmental standards in the global economy and its supply chains, countries must partake in one or more of the following ways:

1. Introduction of internationally recognized environmental standards into national legislation.
2. Introduction of internationally recognized environmental standards in national standards.
3. Provision of technical assistance in implementation of internationally recognized environmental standards.
4. Capacity building to support implementation of internationally recognized environmental standards.
5. Guidance or support in supply chain due diligence.

While promotion of internationally recognized environmental standards does not necessarily involve application, application can be considered promotion as application demonstrates political support for internationally recognized environmental standards. Statements in support and recognition of internationally recognized environmental standards are considered promotion but not application. Both promotion and application of environmental standards can be on a global or national scale for compliance, provided that they are in line with internationally recognized environmental standards.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	No action to promote or apply internationally recognized environmental standards are undertaken OR existing initiatives are scaled back throughout the global economy and its supply chains.
0	Continuation of existing initiatives to better apply and promote internationally environmental standards by member country is seen OR new initiatives in the promotion of internationally recognized environmental standards are seen throughout the global economy and its supply chains.
+1	New initiatives to better apply AND promote internationally recognized environmental

¹¹⁶⁵ Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade, World Trade Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 11 October 2017. https://www.wto.org/english/docs_e/legal_e/17-tbt_e.htm#annexl.

¹¹⁶⁶ Leaders' Declaration: G7 Summit, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) June 8 2015. Access Date: 11 October 2017 <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

¹¹⁶⁷ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) May 2 2016. Access Date: 11 October 2017. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/compliance/compliance-coding-manual-2016.pdf>.

standards are undertaken by the member country throughout the global economy and its supply chains.

Lead Analyst: Alexandra Witt

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to strive “for better application and promotion of internationally recognized environmental standards throughout the global economy and its supply chains.”

On 27 May 2017, Environment and Climate Change Canada published two proposed regulations: Regulations Respecting Reduction in the Release of Volatile Organic Compounds (Petroleum Sector)¹¹⁶⁸ and the Regulations Respecting Reduction in the Release of Methane and Certain Volatile Organic Compounds (Upstream Oil and Gas Sector).¹¹⁶⁹ The regulations are intended to “reduce methane emissions and air pollution from the oil and gas sector.”¹¹⁷⁰ The regulations establish facility standards for leak detection and repair programs in the petroleum sector.¹¹⁷¹ They also encourage the use of non-emitting controllers while prohibiting venting at facilities during fracturing operations in the oil and gas sector.¹¹⁷² The Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, which is an international treaty ratified by all members of the United Nations, mandates the reduction of methane emissions.¹¹⁷³

On 5 June 2017, Canada committed USD 2.65 billion by 2020 “to help developing countries transition to low-carbon, climate-resilient economies.”¹¹⁷⁴ Under the Paris Agreement of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, the parties agreed that “developed country Parties shall provide financial resources to assist developing country Parties concerning both mitigation and adaptation in continuation of their existing obligations under the Convention.”¹¹⁷⁵

¹¹⁶⁸ Regulations Respecting Reduction in the Release of Volatile Organic Compounds (Petroleum Sector), Canada Gazette (Ottawa) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p1/2017/2017-05-27/html/reg2-eng.php>.

¹¹⁶⁹ Regulations Respecting Reduction in the Release of Methane and Certain Volatile Organic Compounds (Upstream Oil and Gas Sector), Canada Gazette (Ottawa) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p1/2017/2017-05-27/html/reg1-eng.php>.

¹¹⁷⁰ Proposed methane regulations: A significant step in addressing climate change in Canada, Canadian Environmental Protection Act Registry (Ottawa) June 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/canadian-environmental-protection-act-registry/proposed-methane-regulations.html>.

¹¹⁷¹ Regulations Respecting Reduction in the Release of Volatile Organic Compounds (Petroleum Sector), Canada Gazette (Ottawa) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p1/2017/2017-05-27/html/reg2-eng.php>.

¹¹⁷² Regulations Respecting Reduction in the Release of Methane and Certain Volatile Organic Compounds (Upstream Oil and Gas Sector), Canada Gazette (Ottawa) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p1/2017/2017-05-27/html/reg1-eng.php>.

¹¹⁷³ Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, United Nations Environment Programme (Nairobi) 1 January 1989. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://ozone.unep.org/en/handbook-montreal-protocol-substances-deplete-ozone-layer/5>.

¹¹⁷⁴ Canada’s climate finance support for developing countries, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 5 June 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2017/06/canada_s_climatefinancesupportfordevelopingcountries.html.

¹¹⁷⁵ The Paris Agreement, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (New York) 5 October 2016. Access Date: 24 November 2017. http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9485.php.

On 15 June 2017, Canada announced its Low Carbon Economy Fund.¹¹⁷⁶ The fund will invest in projects that “will generate clean growth and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help meet or exceed [Canada’s] Paris Agreement commitments.”¹¹⁷⁷ This announcement is in line with the Paris Agreement commitment to “prepare, communicate and maintain successive nationally determined contributions that it intends to achieve.”¹¹⁷⁸

On 14 August 2017, Foreign Minister Chrystia Freeland proposed the addition of stronger environmental standards to North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).¹¹⁷⁹ Freeland stated that Canada is committed to “integrating enhanced environmental provisions to ensure no NAFTA country weakens environmental protection to attract investment” in addition to a general commitment to labour and environmental standards.¹¹⁸⁰

On 21 September 2017, Canada and the European Union provisionally applied the Canada–European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA).¹¹⁸¹ CETA states that the Parties “reaffirm their commitment to promoting the development of international trade in such a way as to contribute to the objective of sustainable development.”¹¹⁸² Mentioned environmentally-friendly practices include eco-labelling, fair trade schemes, encouraging adherence to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development’s (OECD) best practices on environmental objectives, and the creation of a Committee on Trade and Sustainable Development.¹¹⁸³ The trade agreement recognizes the international environmental standards of the OECD, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development of 1992, and the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development of 2002.¹¹⁸⁴ The agreement is subject to further ratification and approval from the national and regional parliaments, though substantial portions have been provisionally applied.¹¹⁸⁵

¹¹⁷⁶ The Low Carbon Economy Fund, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 18 August 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/weather/climatechange/climate-action/low-carbon-economy-fund.html>.

¹¹⁷⁷ The Low Carbon Economy Fund, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 18 August 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/weather/climatechange/climate-action/low-carbon-economy-fund.html>.

¹¹⁷⁸ The Paris Agreement, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (New York) 5 October 2016. Access Date: 24 November 2017. http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9485.php.

¹¹⁷⁹ Address by Foreign Affairs Minister on the modernization of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 14 August 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2017/08/address_by_foreignaffairsministeronthemodernizationofthenorthame.html.

¹¹⁸⁰ Address by Foreign Affairs Minister on the modernization of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 14 August 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2017/08/address_by_foreignaffairsministeronthemodernizationofthenorthame.html.

¹¹⁸¹ Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), European Commission (Brussels) 21 September 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/in-focus/ceta/ceta-chapter-by-chapter/>.

¹¹⁸² Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), European Commission (Brussels) 21 September 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/in-focus/ceta/ceta-chapter-by-chapter/>.

¹¹⁸³ Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), European Commission (Brussels) 21 September 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/in-focus/ceta/ceta-chapter-by-chapter/>.

¹¹⁸⁴ Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), European Commission (Brussels) 21 September 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/in-focus/ceta/ceta-chapter-by-chapter/>.

¹¹⁸⁵ Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), European Commission (Brussels) 21 September 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/in-focus/ceta/ceta-chapter-by-chapter/>.

On 5 October 2017, Canada passed the Regulations Amending the Ozone-depleting Substances and Halocarbon Alternatives Regulations.¹¹⁸⁶ Manufacturers of products with hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) will be regulated and required to transition to alternative substances with lower global warming potentials.¹¹⁸⁷ Sectors that will be affected include manufacturers of centralized refrigeration systems, domestic air conditioners, and aerosols.¹¹⁸⁸ This directly incorporates the standards of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol, which includes a global agreement to reduce HFCs.¹¹⁸⁹

On 10 November 2017, Canada proposed revisions to the Federal Halocarbon Regulations.¹¹⁹⁰ The goal of the revisions is to “[minimize] releases of halocarbons to the environment.”¹¹⁹¹ One proposed revision states that “Before permanently withdrawing from use any air-conditioning system, refrigeration system, solvent system, fire-extinguishing cylinder, or container, it is proposed that a person shall recover all halocarbons contained in the system or cylinder into a container designed to contain that specific type of halocarbon.”¹¹⁹² Halocarbons have high ozone-depleting potential, and they are listed in the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.¹¹⁹³ The Montreal Protocol, ratified by every member of the United Nations, states that signatories shall “adopt appropriate legislative or administrative measures and co-operate in harmonizing appropriate policies to control, limit, reduce or prevent human activities under their jurisdiction or control should it be found that these activities have or are likely to have adverse effects resulting from modification ... of the ozone layer.”¹¹⁹⁴

¹¹⁸⁶ Regulations Amending the Ozone-depleting Substances and Halocarbon Alternatives Regulations, Canada Gazette (Ottawa) 5 October 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. <http://www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2017/2017-10-18/html/sor-dors216-eng.php>.

¹¹⁸⁷ Regulations Amending the Ozone-depleting Substances and Halocarbon Alternatives Regulations, Canada Gazette (Ottawa) 5 October 2017. 21 November 2017. <http://www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2017/2017-10-18/html/sor-dors216-eng.php>.

¹¹⁸⁸ Regulations Amending the Ozone-depleting Substances and Halocarbon Alternatives Regulations, Canada Gazette (Ottawa) 5 October 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. <http://www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2017/2017-10-18/html/sor-dors216-eng.php>.

¹¹⁸⁹ Canada ratifies global agreement to reduce powerful greenhouse gases and heads to international climate change conference to urge climate action, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 7 November 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2017/11/canada_ratifies_globalagreementtoreducepowerfulgreenhousegasesan.html.

¹¹⁹⁰ Federal Halocarbon Regulations: consultation document on proposed revisions 2017, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 10 November 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/canadian-environmental-protection-act-registry/halocarbons-regulations-consultation-document-revisions-2017.html>.

¹¹⁹¹ Federal Halocarbon Regulations: consultation document on proposed revisions 2017, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 10 November 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/canadian-environmental-protection-act-registry/halocarbons-regulations-consultation-document-revisions-2017.html>.

¹¹⁹² Federal Halocarbon Regulations: consultation document on proposed revisions 2017, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 10 November 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/canadian-environmental-protection-act-registry/halocarbons-regulations-consultation-document-revisions-2017.html>.

¹¹⁹³ Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, United Nations Environment Programme (Nairobi) 1 January 1989. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://ozone.unep.org/en/handbook-montreal-protocol-substances-deplete-ozone-layer/5>.

¹¹⁹⁴ Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, United Nations Environment Programme (Nairobi) 1 January 1989. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://ozone.unep.org/en/handbook-montreal-protocol-substances-deplete-ozone-layer/5>.

On 16 November 2017, Canada and the United Kingdom launched the Powering Past Coal Alliance, formed at the 23rd Conference of Parties talks in Bonn.¹¹⁹⁵ The alliance is committed to phasing out coal from power generation by 2030. The November 2017 UN Environment Programme report encouraged a “gradual coal phase-out” to support the “temperature goals of the Paris Agreement.”¹¹⁹⁶

On 23 December 2017, Canada published a framework for a national clean fuel standard, which will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and encourage the use of cleaner energy sources and low carbon fuels.¹¹⁹⁷ The framework will establish fuel standards in transportation, industry, and buildings.¹¹⁹⁸ The clean fuel standard will use a lifecycle analysis to measure the carbon intensity of fuel, incorporating the International Organization for Standardization standard IS/ISO-14040.¹¹⁹⁹

On 6 January 2018, Canada published a proposed Prohibition of Asbestos and Asbestos Products Regulations and proposed amendments to the Export of Substances on the Export Control List Regulations.¹²⁰⁰ The regulations and amendments would prohibit the import and export of products with asbestos, with limited exceptions.¹²⁰¹ These changes will be more comprehensive than the current Canadian asbestos standards. The regulations are to enter into force in 2019.¹²⁰² These regulations go beyond the requirements of the Rotterdam Convention, a multilateral treaty which places restrictions on and bans certain hazardous chemicals, including asbestos.¹²⁰³

Canada has applied a number of internationally recognized environmental standards. It has also actively promoted environmental standards for the global economy and its supply chains.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Julia Chen

France: +1

France has fully complied to its commitment to apply and promote internationally recognized environmental standards.

¹¹⁹⁵ At least 15 states join global alliance to phase out coal by 2030, Reuters (London) 16 November 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-climatechange-accord-coal/at-least-15-states-join-global-alliance-to-phase-out-coal-by-2030-idUSKBN1DG1AI>.

¹¹⁹⁶ Emissions Gap Report, United Nations Environment Programme (Nairobi) November 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. .

¹¹⁹⁷ Notice to Interested Parties — Clean Fuel Standard Regulatory Framework, Canada Gazette (Ottawa) 23 December 2017. Access Date: 22 January 2018. <http://gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p1/2017/2017-12-23/html/notice-avis-eng.html#ne1>.

¹¹⁹⁸ Notice to Interested Parties — Clean Fuel Standard Regulatory Framework, Canada Gazette (Ottawa) 23 December 2017. Access Date: 22 January 2018. <http://gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p1/2017/2017-12-23/html/notice-avis-eng.html#ne1>.

¹¹⁹⁹ Clean Fuel Standards: Discussion Paper, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 17 February 2017. Access Date: 23 January 2018 https://www.ec.gc.ca/lcpe-cepa/D7C913BB-13D0-42AF-9BC7-FBC1580C2F4B/CFS_discussion_paper_2017-02-24-eng.pdf.

¹²⁰⁰ Prohibition of Asbestos and Asbestos Products Regulations, Canada Gazette (Ottawa) 6 January 2018. Access Date: 22 January 2018. <http://gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p1/2018/2018-01-06/html/reg3-eng.html>.

¹²⁰¹ Prohibition of Asbestos and Asbestos Products Regulations, Canada Gazette (Ottawa) 6 January 2018. Access Date: 22 January 2018. <http://gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p1/2018/2018-01-06/html/reg3-eng.html>.

¹²⁰² Prohibition of Asbestos and Asbestos Products Regulations, Canada Gazette (Ottawa) 6 January 2018. Access Date: 23 January 2018. <http://gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p1/2018/2018-01-06/html/reg3-eng.html>.

¹²⁰³ Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, Secretariat of the Rotterdam Convention — UNEP (Switzerland) 15 May 2015. Access Date: 23 January 2018. <http://www.pic.int/Portals/5/download.aspx?d=UNEP-FAO-RC-CONVTEXT-2015.English.pdf>.

On 19 September 2017, France implemented the Global Pact for the Environment. The document shows France's will to promote, apply and guarantee environmental standards through their own initiative. The Global Pact sets a clearer understanding of what needs to be accomplished to guard environmental standards and to guide states performance, to increase countries ability to comply with the standards. The document is the first "international legally binding document gathering and harmonizing all environmental laws in one single document." Its objective is described as an "essential tool for governments to help them implementing environmental rules and principles in their own country."¹²⁰⁴

On 21 September 2017, the Canada–European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) between Canada and the EU was provisionally applied.¹²⁰⁵ CETA enables France to recognize the international environmental standards of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development of 1992, and the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development of 2002.¹²⁰⁶

On 26 September 2017, French President Emmanuel Macron promoted an EU carbon tax on exports from countries with lower environmental standards.¹²⁰⁷ This initiative could incentivize increased application of internationally recognized environmental standards.

On 12 December 2017, Macron hosted a climate summit in Paris in order to "create a counter momentum" to Trump's refusal to comply with environmental standards.¹²⁰⁸ The summit also urged state representatives and multinational organisations to make more sustainable use of natural resources.

France has demonstrated initiatives to both promote and apply internationally recognized environmental standards.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Maya Mouilleron

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to striving for better application and promotion of internationally recognized environmental standards throughout the global economy and its supply chains.

On 19 June 2017, German Chancellor Angela Merkel stated that the G20, of which all G7 countries are member, and all partner countries should support the multilateral system of the World Trade Organization, have common rules, and work to establish standards to protecting workers and

¹²⁰⁴ The Global Pact for the Environment, France ONU (New York) 19 September 2017. Access Date: 3 November 2017. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/The-Global-Pact-for-the-Environnement>.

¹²⁰⁵ Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), European Commission (Brussels) 21 September 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/in-focus/ceta/ceta-chapter-by-chapter/>.

¹²⁰⁶ Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), European Commission (Brussels) 21 September 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/in-focus/ceta/ceta-chapter-by-chapter/>.

¹²⁰⁷ Macron lays out vision for 'profound' changes in post-Brexit EU, The Guardian (London) 26 September 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/sep/26/profound-transformation-macron-lays-out-vision-for-post-brexit-eu>.

¹²⁰⁸ Macron Holds a Climate Summit, and Trump Casts a Shadow, The New York Times (Paris). Access Date: 19 January 2018. <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/12/world/europe/macron-climate-summit.html>.

consumers, as well as the climate and the environment.¹²⁰⁹ This speech was a part of the G20 Dialogue Forum with Non-Governmental Organizations in Hamburg.

On 22 June 2017, Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy Brigitte Zypries met with European Union Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmström. The talks focused on the ongoing trade-policy issues, where Zypries stated that high labour, consumer and environmental standards and a modern investment protection system combined with the ambitious opening of markets are the right approach towards inclusive growth and prosperity to benefit all sides.¹²¹⁰

On 2 July 2017, before the G20 summit in Hamburg, Merkel said in her video podcast that global development will “certainly not be sustainable and inclusive if we simply continue doing things the way we have always done them.” In her opinion, sustainable growth involves “climate agreements, open markets and better trade agreements that include consumer protection, social standards and environmental standards,” which must be further developed step by step.¹²¹¹

On 11 July 2017, Merkel made a speech on “Prosperity for All. Social Market Economy,” at the Political Forum in Ruhr. She stated that the United States and Germany could agree on high standards in the ecological area and social area, and thus comply with international standards, through an agreement between the EU and the US regarding free trade.¹²¹²

On 13 July 2017, at a joint press conference with French President Emmanuel Macron, Merkel stated that France and Germany will continue to support the implementation of the Paris Agreement. She pointed to the climate agreement and to the affirmation of 19 of the G20 members that it is irreversible. She also said that the 23rd Conference of Parties (COP23) in Bonn in November 2017 will focus on the continued implementation of the Agreement.¹²¹³

On 13 September 2017, State Secretary in the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, Rainer Baake, opened the 7th International Conference on Renewable Energies in Mexico. It was the second time that the high-ranking steering committee of the German-Mexican Energy Partnership had met. “After concluding the Paris Agreement,” said Baake, “it is now even more urgent to transform our high-emission energy systems all over the world. Germany and Mexico are among the top countries in the world driving the global energy transition.” Germany and Mexico further agreed

¹²⁰⁹ Address by Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel at the G20 Dialogue Forum with Non-Governmental Organizations (C20) (Hamburg) on 19 June 2017. Office of the Federal Chancellor (Berlin) 19 June 2017. Access Date: 17 November 2017. https://www.bundeskanzlerin.de/Content/EN/Reden/2017/2017-06-19-bk-merkel-c20_en.html.

¹²¹⁰ Federal Minister Zypries meets with EU Trade Commissioner Malmström, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 22 June 2017. Access Date: 17 November 2017. <http://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2017/20170622-zypries-trifft-eu-handelskomissarin-malmstroem.html>.

¹²¹¹ Address by Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel via Video Podcast, Office of the Federal Chancellor (Berlin) 2 July 2017. Access Date: 17 November 2017. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/EN/Pressemitteilungen/BPA/2017/2017-07-02-podcast-g20-wachstum_en.html?nn=709674.

¹²¹² Rede von Bundeskanzlerin Merkel bei der Veranstaltung des Politischen Forums Ruhr zum Thema „Wohlstand für alle. Soziale Marktwirtschaft“ am 11. Juli 2017 in Essen, Office of the Federal Chancellor (Berlin) 11 July 2017. Access Date: 17 November 2017. <https://www.bundeskanzlerin.de/Content/DE/Rede/2017/07/2017-07-12-rede-bk-ruhr-forum.html>.

¹²¹³ We must take charge of Europe’s destiny, says Chancellor, the Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 13 July 2017. Access Date: 17 November 2017. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/EN/Reiseberichte/2017_en/2017-07-11-deutsch-franzoesischer-ministerrat_en.html?nn=709674.

to work together to address the current global challenges such as combating climate change and ensuring a sustainable energy supply.¹²¹⁴

On 19 September 2017, State Secretary Rainer Baake met with other EU energy ministers in Tallinn to discuss the electricity market of the future. Baake stated that Germany has already launched important measures to boost the networking and flexibility of markets, to prepare the electricity market for the growing share of wind and solar power.¹²¹⁵

On 5 October 2017, the Energy Efficiency Market Report 2017 was launched by the International Energy Agency (IEA) at an event held at the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy. Zypries said at the event that energy performance continues to improve to bring down the state's overall energy consumption, which will mitigate greenhouse emissions, improve energy security, and benefit private households by cutting their annual energy bills by almost EUR 500 per person.¹²¹⁶

On 7 November 2017, at the Ministerial Meeting of the IEA in Paris, State Secretary Rainer Baake, said: "The IEA plays a key role when it comes to showing how the transformation of the energy systems can be successful worldwide in line with the targets stipulated in the Paris Climate Agreement. Environmental and climate protection, economic viability and continuing high supply security are not in contradiction to each other." Baake stated that Germany is one of the countries making the new Clean Energy Transitions Programme possible, and intends to contribute EUR 6 million in the coming four years.¹²¹⁷

From 6 to 17 November 2017, Germany hosted COP23 and announced an additional EUR 100 million to support developing countries in climate change adaptation. Federal Environment Minister Barbara Hendricks commented: "With this pledge of support, we are sending a clear signal that Germany stands in solidarity with those people and countries affected by climate change." With Federal President Steinmeier and French President Macron, Merkel called for resolute action at the COP23, "we need appropriate regulations. We in Europe are aware of our responsibility." She considered that the Climate Action Plan 2050 lays out Germany's long-term and medium-term strategy on being largely greenhouse gas neutral, and saving 80-95% carbon dioxide emissions. Merkel also commented: "We will only be able to preserve our prosperity in future if we make

¹²¹⁴ The global energy transition is making progress. Germany deepens cooperation with Mexico, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 13 September 2017. Access Date: 17 November 2017. <http://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2017/20170913-the-global-energy-transition-is-making-progress.html>.

¹²¹⁵ State Secretary Baake attends meeting of EU energy ministers in Tallinn, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 19 September 2017. Access date: 17 November 2017. <http://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2017/20170919-state-secretary-baake-attends-meeting-of-eu-energy-ministers-in-tallinn.html>.

¹²¹⁶ Minister Zypries: "There is no cleaner energy than energy that isn't used", Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 5 October 2017. Access date: 11 November 2017. <http://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2017/20171005-zypries-theres-no-cleaner-energy-than-energy-that-isnt-used.html>.

¹²¹⁷ State Secretary Baake attends IEA Ministerial Meeting, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 7 November 2017. Access date: 11 November 2017. <http://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2017/20171107-baake-beim-iea-ministertreffen.html>.

extensive investments climate-friendly. That is why we are convinced that climate policy is also economic policy for the future.”¹²¹⁸

Germany has demonstrated application and promotion of internationally recognized environmental standards. Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Wilkey Rong

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to promote and apply internationally recognized environmental standards.

On 20 October 2017, Prime Minister Paolo Gentiloni held talks with Indian leadership to strengthen bilateral relations. A joint statement acknowledged the importance of considering environmental standards in connectivity initiatives.¹²¹⁹

On 13 November 2017, Italy’s Lombardi regional government joined the BreathLife campaign.¹²²⁰ This campaign is a joint effort led by the World Health Organization and United Nations Environment Programme. By joining, the region has committed to setting up standards on emissions for both households and industries and regulating the disposal and management of solid waste.

On 20 November 2017, the Government of Italy and UN Climate Change signed a memorandum of understanding to launch a fellowship programme, aimed to help vulnerable countries, such as Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries, in combating the effects of climate change.¹²²¹ The Italian Government has agreed to provide EUR 2.5 million so that mid-career professionals, as fellows of the programme, can address the challenges of climate change at the national, regional, and local, government level, building institutional capacity.¹²²² Fellows will also work with environmental regulatory issues pertaining to the Paris Agreement.¹²²³

Through new initiatives that promote internationally recognized environmental standards, namely by capacity-building UN environment organizations to support implementation of internationally recognized environmental standards, and, by promoting recognized international environmental

¹²¹⁸ Climate change will determine our fate, the Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 15 November 2017. Access date: 17 November 2017. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/EN/Artikel/2017/11_en/2017-11-15-merkel-cop23_en.html.

¹²¹⁹ India-Italy Joint Statement full text: Narendra Modi, Paolo Gentiloni emphasize importance of regular meetings, First Post (Mumbai) 31 October 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://www.firstpost.com/india/india-italy-joint-statement-full-text-narendra-modi-paolo-gentiloni-emphasise-importance-of-regular-high-level-meetings-4184105.html>.

¹²²⁰ UN Environment, nrg4SD and ICLEI worked together at climate talks to fight air pollution, Climate Action (London) 14 November 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://www.climateactionprogramme.org/news/un-environment-nrg4sd-iclei-worked-together-at-climate-together-at-climate>.

¹²²¹ Italy and UN Launch Fellowship for Climate Vulnerable Countries at COP23. Ghana News Agency (Germany). Access Date: 20 November 2017 <http://www.ghananewsagency.org/science/italy-and-un-launch-fellowship-for-climate-vulnerable-countries-at-cop23-125228>.

¹²²² Italy and UN Launch Fellowship for Climate Vulnerable Countries at COP23. Ghana News Agency (Germany). Access Date: 20 November 2017 <http://www.ghananewsagency.org/science/italy-and-un-launch-fellowship-for-climate-vulnerable-countries-at-cop23-125228>.

¹²²³ Italy and UN Launch Fellowship for Climate Vulnerable Countries at COP23. Ghana News Agency (Germany). Access Date: 20 November 2017 <http://www.ghananewsagency.org/science/italy-and-un-launch-fellowship-for-climate-vulnerable-countries-at-cop23-125228>.

standards through the pledge to phase out coal power plants, Italy has fully satisfied the two necessary conditions of the commitment.

Thus, Italy has received a score of +1.

Analyst: Michael Humeniuk

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to strive “for better application and promotion of internationally recognized environmental standards throughout the global economy and its supply chains.

On 18 August 2017, United Nations official Thomas Gass, said in an interview with the Asahi Shimbun that Japan is playing a “leading role”¹²²⁴ in helping meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) worldwide.¹²²⁵ The Japanese government and businesses have shown their support for “taking actions in line with the UN agenda for green growth,”¹²²⁶ while the Ministry of the Environment (MOEJ) is working to “incorporate the goals”¹²²⁷ into its policies and future plans, in efforts to simultaneously tackle “environmental, economic, and social issues.”¹²²⁸ The MOEJ’s annual white paper, published earlier in June 2017, featured a chapter devoted to the SDGs¹²²⁹ and has also decided to feature the topic in its “fifth basic plan for environmental protection,”¹²³⁰ tentatively planned to be released by March 2018.

On 30 October 2017, Japan’s MOEJ issued a press release titled, “Japan’s Assistance Initiatives to Address Climate Change 2017,”¹²³¹ summarizing Japan’s proposed actions for assisting developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region in “accelerating climate change measures and sustainable development.”¹²³² The proposed actions are a framework designed as a follow-up to Japan entering the internationally recognized Paris Agreement in 2016. The framework aims to not only “achieve

¹²²⁴ U.N. official hopes Japan plays leading role in SDGs, The Asahi Shimbun (Tokyo) 19 August 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <http://www.asahi.com/ajw/articles/AJ201708190012.html>.

¹²²⁵ U.N. official hopes Japan plays leading role in SDGs, The Asahi Shimbun (Tokyo) 19 August 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <http://www.asahi.com/ajw/articles/AJ201708190012.html>.

¹²²⁶ Japan acting on sustainable development goals, Nikkei-Asian Review (Tokyo) 12 August 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics-Economy/Economy/Japan-acting-on-sustainable-development-goals?page=1>.

¹²²⁷ Japan acting on sustainable development goals, Nikkei-Asian Review (Tokyo) 12 August 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics-Economy/Economy/Japan-acting-on-sustainable-development-goals?page=1>.

¹²²⁸ Japan acting on sustainable development goals, Nikkei-Asian Review (Tokyo) 12 August 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics-Economy/Economy/Japan-acting-on-sustainable-development-goals?page=1>.

¹²²⁹ Japan acting on sustainable development goals, Nikkei-Asian Review (Tokyo) 12 August 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics-Economy/Economy/Japan-acting-on-sustainable-development-goals?page=1>.

¹²³⁰ Japan acting on sustainable development goals, Nikkei-Asian Review (Tokyo) 12 August 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics-Economy/Economy/Japan-acting-on-sustainable-development-goals?page=1>.

¹²³¹ Japan’s Assistance Initiatives to Address Climate Change 2017, Ministry of the Environment of Japan (Tokyo) 30 October 2017. Access Date: 18 November 2017. <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2345.html>.

¹²³² Japan’s Assistance Initiatives to Address Climate Change 2017, Ministry of the Environment of Japan (Tokyo) 30 October 2017. Access Date: 18 November 2017. <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2345.html>.

the goals¹²³³ as outlined in the agreement, such as “diminish[ing] greenhouse gas emission,”¹²³⁴ but also to pursue development in accordance to what is outlined in the international standards of the SDGs.¹²³⁵ The summary of initiatives also places emphasis on collaboration between “important state and non-state actors”¹²³⁶ and clarifies that the projects undertaken as per the initiatives are based on the three principles of “adaptation, mitigation, and transparency.”¹²³⁷ More specifically, Japan plans to establish the “Partnership to Strengthen Transparency for Co-Innovation,”¹²³⁸ as part of the initiative to push for transparency in environmental regulation and development.¹²³⁹

On 14 November 2017, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe announced that Japan will provide support in fields relating to the environment and welfare to help countries in Southeast Asia to “achieve UN-set Sustainable Development Goals.”¹²⁴⁰ The comments were made in a meeting in Manila alongside various leaders from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), as well as the Chinese Premier Li Keqiang and South Korean President Moon Jae In. Abe also stated that Japan would specifically help “ASEAN environment preservation efforts” by providing support going towards infrastructure and related projects.¹²⁴¹

On 15 November 2017, the MOEJ announced that the Government of Japan would be contributing USD5 million, with specifically USD 1.67 million coming out of the MOEJ, towards the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT).¹²⁴² The press statement describes the CBIT as a fund to “support capacity building”¹²⁴³ for accounting greenhouse gas emissions to secure “transparency of mitigation measures”¹²⁴⁴ in developing countries. This follows the proposed initiatives put out by MOEJ one month prior in efforts to reach the targets outlined in the Paris Agreement. It also employs “effective utilization” of the CBIT to comply with the standards of the Paris Agreement. It was announced that Japan will be partnering from here on with the Global Environment Facility.¹²⁴⁵

¹²³³ Japan’s Assistance Initiatives to Address Climate Change 2017, Ministry of the Environment of Japan (Tokyo) 30 October 2017. Access Date: 18 November 2017. <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2345.html>.

¹²³⁴ Japan’s Assistance Initiatives to Address Climate Change 2017, Ministry of the Environment of Japan (Tokyo) 30 October 2017. Access Date: 18 November 2017. <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2345.html>.

¹²³⁵ Japan’s Assistance Initiatives to Address Climate Change 2017, Ministry of the Environment of Japan (Tokyo) 30 October 2017. Access Date: 18 November 2017. <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2345.html>.

¹²³⁶ Japan’s Assistance Initiatives to Address Climate Change 2017, Ministry of the Environment of Japan (Tokyo) 30 October 2017. Access Date: 18 November 2017. <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2345.html>.

¹²³⁷ Japan’s Assistance Initiatives to Address Climate Change 2017, Ministry of the Environment of Japan (Tokyo) 30 October 2017. Access Date: 18 November 2017. <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2345.html>.

¹²³⁸ Japan’s Assistance Initiatives to Address Climate Change 2017, Ministry of the Environment of Japan (Tokyo) 30 October 2017. Access Date: 18 November 2017. <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2345.html>.

¹²³⁹ Japan’s Assistance Initiatives to Address Climate Change 2017, Ministry of the Environment of Japan (Tokyo) 30 October 2017. Access Date: 18 November 2017. <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2345.html>.

¹²⁴⁰ Abe Vows to Support ASEAN in Environment, The Japan News (Tokyo) 14 November 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <http://the-japan-news.com/news/article/0004066968>.

¹²⁴¹ Abe Vows to Support ASEAN in Environment, The Japan News (Tokyo) 14 November 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <http://the-japan-news.com/news/article/0004066968>.

¹²⁴² Contribution to the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT), Ministry of the Environment of Japan (Tokyo) 15 November 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <https://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2344.html>.

¹²⁴³ Contribution to the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT), Ministry of the Environment of Japan (Tokyo) 15 November 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <https://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2344.html>.

¹²⁴⁴ Contribution to the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT), Ministry of the Environment of Japan (Tokyo) 15 November 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <https://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2344.html>.

¹²⁴⁵ Contribution to the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT), Ministry of the Environment of Japan (Tokyo) 15 November 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <https://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2344.html>.

On 16 November 2017, Japanese Environment Minister Masaharu Nakagawa unveiled a new plan at the 23rd Conference of the Parties for the launch of a satellite that would help track greenhouse gas emissions.¹²⁴⁶ The satellite, named “Ibuki,” will be used to assist developing countries more “accurately predict,”¹²⁴⁷ measure, and report their greenhouse gas emissions, a practice which has been globally agreed upon as a standard under the Paris Agreement.¹²⁴⁸ For many developing countries with smaller economies, such an endeavour is difficult due to a lack of a “reliable system,”¹²⁴⁹ and thus it becomes similarly difficult to verify any self-reported data to see whether countries are actually “hitting their reduction targets.”¹²⁵⁰ In order to demonstrate continued support for the Paris Agreement, Japan is committing to not only provide the Ibuki satellite to calculate emissions data for developing countries, but also to extend support and guidance in “craft[ing] plans to achieve ... emission-cut targets.”¹²⁵¹ The satellite is planned to be launched in the “fiscal year through March 2019.”¹²⁵²

Japan has both taken steps to promote future support in relation to environmental issues throughout the global economy and supply chains and has also actively made efforts in application, providing technical assistance, capacity building, as well as guidance and support.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Apanuba Mahmood

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to strive “[for better application and promotion of internationally recognized] environmental standards [throughout the global economy and its supply chains].”

On 11 October 2017, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strength introduced the Nuclear Safeguards Bill. This bill was drafted following the Brexit vote, which requires the UK to leave the existing European Atomic Energy Community. This bill outlines the responsibilities the UK must uphold regarding nuclear regulation, including how to safely handle nuclear energy in regards

¹²⁴⁶ Japanese Satellite to Beam Down Emissions Data for Emerging Asia, Nikkei-Asian Review (Tokyo) 16 November 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics-Economy/International-Relations/Japanese-satellite-to-beam-down-emissions-data-for-emerging-Asia>.

¹²⁴⁷ Japan to Help Developing Countries Calculate Greenhouse Gas Emissions, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 30 October 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2017/10/30/national/japan-help-developing-countries-calculate-greenhouse-gas-emissions/#.WhE57PkrLIU>.

¹²⁴⁸ Japan to Help Developing Countries Calculate Greenhouse Gas Emissions, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 30 October 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2017/10/30/national/japan-help-developing-countries-calculate-greenhouse-gas-emissions/#.WhE57PkrLIU>.

¹²⁴⁹ Japan to Help Developing Countries Calculate Greenhouse Gas Emissions, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 30 October 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2017/10/30/national/japan-help-developing-countries-calculate-greenhouse-gas-emissions/#.WhE57PkrLIU>.

¹²⁵⁰ Japanese Satellite to Beam Down Emissions Data for Emerging Asia, Nikkei-Asian Review (Tokyo) 16 November 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics-Economy/International-Relations/Japanese-satellite-to-beam-down-emissions-data-for-emerging-Asia>.

¹²⁵¹ Japan to Help Developing Countries Calculate Greenhouse Gas Emissions, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 30 October 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2017/10/30/national/japan-help-developing-countries-calculate-greenhouse-gas-emissions/#.WhE57PkrLIU>.

¹²⁵² Japanese Satellite to Beam Down Emissions Data for Emerging Asia, Nikkei-Asian Review (Germany) 16 November 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics-Economy/International-Relations/Japanese-satellite-to-beam-down-emissions-data-for-emerging-Asia>.

to global trade relations and environmental safety, specifically as they related to environmental standards in national and international trade.¹²⁵³

On 11 October 2017, the government announced making up to GBP 557 million available for renewable energy projects, complementing the Clean Growth Strategy with significant financial commitments. Such projects could focus on a variety of business sectors, with the ultimate goal of reducing carbon emissions and energy bills, while continuing to allow the British economy to flourish.¹²⁵⁴ The official announcement on 12 October 2017 of the Clean Growth Strategy saw further financial commitments. This included investing GBP 1 billion to support the creation and promotion of ultra-low emission vehicles, as well as “helping consumers to overcome the upfront cost of an electric car,” and a total of GBP 2.5 billion in government investment geared towards low carbon innovation initiatives between 2015 and 2021.¹²⁵⁵ This also includes GBP 505 million being put towards further commercialization of “innovative clean energy technologies and processes” in business, both nationally and internationally. These financial contributions demonstrate that the UK is not only promoting environmental standards in business and trade but that it is committed to the actual application of environmental standards by ensuring they are well funded.¹²⁵⁶

On 12 October 2017, the UK’s Minister for Climate Change and Industry Claire Perry announced the official publication of the Clean Growth Strategy. The goal of this strategy was ultimately to lower carbon emissions, while still “creating good jobs and growing the economy.” This announcement included promises to reduce carbon emissions by 80% by the year 2050, the creation of an industrial energy efficiency scheme geared towards lowering power bills for companies and continued support for the Renewable Heat Incentive. One of the major aims of this strategy is ensuring businesses in the UK comply with internationally recognized environmental standards, whether business is completed domestically or abroad.^{1257,1258}

On 26 October 2017, the UK Environment Secretary Michael Gove announced the launch of the Cefas-Exeter collaborative centre for Sustainable Aquaculture Futures. The overall goal of this centre is to promote sustainable and environmentally friendly aquaculture. By working towards a more sustainable aquaculture sector, the UK hopes to not only further protect the aquatic environment but to provide a “sustainable supply of food,” while bettering the economy surrounding aquaculture. Projects run by this centre will include aquaculture health products in India, Bangladesh, and Malawi; projects focusing on controlling disease in aquaculture; and funding PhD studentships for

¹²⁵³ Nuclear Safeguards Bill introduced today, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 11 October 2017. Access Date: 18 November 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nuclear-safeguards-bill-introduced-today>.

¹²⁵⁴ Government confirms up to £557 million for new renewable energy projects, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London), 11 October 2017. Access Date: 15 November 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-confirms-up-to-557-million-for-new-renewable-energy-projects>.

¹²⁵⁵ Launch of Clean Growth Strategy, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 12 October 2017. Access Date: 17 November 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/launch-of-the-clean-growth-strategy>.

¹²⁵⁶ Government reaffirms commitment to lead the world in cost-effective clean growth, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 12 October 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-reaffirms-commitment-to-lead-the-world-in-cost-effective-clean-growth>.

¹²⁵⁷ Launch of the Clean Growth Strategy, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 12 October 2017. Access Date: 17 November 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/launch-of-the-clean-growth-strategy>.

¹²⁵⁸ The Clean Growth Strategy, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 12 October 2017. Access Date: 17 November 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-clean-growth-strategy>.

those studying aquatic animal health and food safety between 2015 and 2020. This centre and its accompanying initiatives demonstrate a commitment to furthering the research, development and application of environmental standards in a variety of economic sectors.¹²⁵⁹

On 11 November 2017, the Environment Minister for the United Kingdom gave a speech at the UN Climate Change Conference in Germany. Amongst voicing general support for initiatives working to protect the environment and the global economy, the UK committed at least GBP 5.8 billion of international climate finance to help developing countries cope with and adapt to the impacts of climate change between 2016 and 2020. The UK's commitment to upholding internationally recognized environmental standards also extends beyond their own borders. Ensuring that other countries that they do business with commit to applying environmental standards ultimately demonstrates the UK's own commitment to these environmental standards.¹²⁶⁰

On 14 November 2017, the UK ratified a new agreement focusing on tackling global warming, specifically through lowering carbon emissions. The United Nations Montreal Protocol focused on tackling global warming, and specifically, the Kigali amendment demonstrates a commitment to reducing hydrofluorocarbon greenhouse gases by 85% between 2019 and 2036. This amendment was proposed in October 2016, and as of November 2017, the UK was one of the first countries to ratify this amendment to the agreement fully. Many industries have large carbon emissions, and working to lower them demonstrates a commitment to environmental standards.¹²⁶¹

On 19 January 2018, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strength released a document outlining the planned changes to their methodology to better reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the UK. In order to explain why certain choices have been made, this document outlines trends in greenhouse gas emissions over the years, to determine which methodologies should be modified. Changes outlined by this document include those regarding landfill waste, harvested wood products, and agricultural models; such changes will allow for more sustainable business practices.¹²⁶²

The UK's actions have demonstrated that this country is actively promoting and applying internationally recognized environmental standards, throughout the global economy and its supply chains.

Thus, the UK received a score of +1.

Analyst: Kendra Dempsey

¹²⁵⁹ New centre for sustainable aquaculture aims to unlock solutions to global food security, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 26 October 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-centre-for-sustainable-aquaculture-aims-to-unlock-solutions-to-global-food-security>.

¹²⁶⁰ Environment Minister speaks at the UN Climate Change Conference, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 11 November 2017. Access Date: 17 November 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/environment-minister-speaks-at-the-un-climate-change-conference>.

¹²⁶¹ UK ratifies new agreement to tackle global warming, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 14 November 2017. Access Date: 18 November 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-ratifies-new-agreement-to-tackle-global-warming>.

¹²⁶² Planned Methodology Changes for UK Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) January 2018. Access Date: 21 January 2018. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/675106/uk-ghg-methodology-changes-2018.pdf.

United States: -1

The United States has not complied with its commitment to strive for better application and promotion of internationally recognized environmental standards throughout the global economy and its supply chains.

On 11 July 2017, US House of Representatives appropriators released a bill that would decrease funding to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), a national environmental standard-setting body, by USD 528 million from current levels.¹²⁶³ This would reduce the EPA's ability to apply internationally recognized environmental standards within the US.

On 20 November 2017, the US Senate Committee on Appropriations introduced a bill that would decrease EPA funding by USD 149.5 million from current levels.¹²⁶⁴ This would also reduce the EPA's ability to apply internationally recognized environmental standards within the US.

The US has initiated actions to reduce its domestic capability to apply internationally recognized environmental standards.

Thus, the US receives a score of -1.

Analyst: Miriam Lustig

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to better apply and promote internationally environmental standards throughout the global economy and its supply chains.

On 11 July 2017, the EU published a non-paper on trade and sustainable development in EU trade agreements outlining the Commission's continued commitment to a fair, international, rules-based order based on high standards, cooperation and strengthening of multilateral institutions.¹²⁶⁵ The paper evaluates current practices as well as proposed improvements for better implementation of standards.

On 6 October 2017, Commissioner Cecilia Malmström met with 70 participants of different civil societies to discuss certain trade and sustainable development issues. Malmström said: "I think that the most fundamental issue is what is actually working and what isn't, and what tools do we need to address that? We have to remember that enforcement is not an end in itself, but a means to strengthen legislation and improve effective implementation of labour and environmental standards."¹²⁶⁶ Topics discussed included: the role of civil society in monitoring the implementation of trade agreements; how to make complaints relating to trade and sustainable development; the links

¹²⁶³ House bill would cut EPA funding by \$528M, The Hill (Washington, DC), 11 July 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017. <http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/341507-house-bill-would-cut-epa-funding-by-528m>.

¹²⁶⁴ Senate bill would cut EPA funding by \$150M, The Hill (Washington, DC), 20 November 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017. <http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/361250-senate-bill-would-cut-epa-funding-by-150m>.

¹²⁶⁵ European Commission starts a debate on Trade and Sustainable Development in EU Trade Agreements, European Commission Trade (Brussels) 31 July 2017. Access Date: 18 November 2017. <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1689>.

¹²⁶⁶ Commissioner Malmström meets with civil society on trade and sustainable development issues, European Commission Trade (Brussels) October 6 2017. Access Date: November 19 2017. <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1739&title=Commissioner-Malmstr%C3%B6m-meets-with-civil-society-on-trade-and-sustainable-development-issues>.

between trade deals and the United Nations and the International Labour Organization, and how to reinforce the system at the multilateral level.¹²⁶⁷

On 7 November 2017, the European Commission committed almost EUR 25 million from the European Regional Development Fund to the remediation of acid tar ponds in Inčukalns, Latvia.¹²⁶⁸ The aim of the project is to prevent acidic infiltration into groundwater and to rehabilitate the site, therefore protecting the health of the inhabitants and the environment. A monitoring system for the water quality of groundwater and the environment will be set up as well.¹²⁶⁹ This complies with guidelines outlined by the World Health Organization for the safe use of wastewater, excreta and greywater, specifically monitoring and system assessment¹²⁷⁰ as well as those outlined by the International Standards Organization on sludge recovery, recycling, treatment and disposal.¹²⁷¹

The EU has consistently been promoting and applying internationally recognized environmental standards throughout the global economy and its supply changes. It has been transparent with their progress allowing us to conclude their prioritization for the commitment.

Thus, the EU received a score of +1.

Analyst: Victoria Witt

¹²⁶⁷ Commissioner Malmström meets with civil society on trade and sustainable development issues, European Commission Trade (Brussels) October 6 2017. Access Date: November 19 2017. <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1739&title=Commissioner-Malmstr%C3%B6m-meets-with-civil-society-on-trade-and-sustainable-development-issues>.

¹²⁶⁸ La politique de cohésion de l'UE protège l'environnement et la santé des Lettons, European Union, European Commission (Geneva) November 7 2017. Access Date: November 19 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-17-4421_en.htm.

¹²⁶⁹ La politique de cohésion de l'UE protège l'environnement et la santé des Lettons, European Union, European Commission (Geneva) November 7 2017. Access Date: November 19 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-17-4421_en.htm.

¹²⁷⁰ WHO Guidelines for the Safe Use of Wastewater, Excreta and Greywater. World Health Organization (Geneva) Access Date: November 17 2017. http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/78265/1/9241546824_eng.pdf.

¹²⁷¹ ISO/TC 275. International Organization for Standardization (Geneva) Access Date: November 19 2017. <https://www.iso.org/committee/4493530.html>.