



November 7-18 2016

The COP stands for the "**Conference of the Parties.**" It is the supreme decision-making body of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), opened for signature in 1992 during the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro and later entered into force in 1994.

Through this instrument, the United Nations has equipped itself with an action framework to fight global warming. After its entry into force in 1994, the UNFCCC Secretariat was established in Geneva. It was then relocated to Bonn in 1995 following the "First Conference of the Parties" (COP1) in Berlin. Since then, there have been twenty-one COPs, with the most recent one organized in Paris this past December.

The next one, COP22 is scheduled to take place in Marrakech, Morocco from November 7 to 18, 2016.

The COP was created and put in place in order to structure the efforts of the Parties to the Convention as they address climate change. The COP meets annually to review and assess the implementation of the UNFCCC and any other legal instruments the body adopts with the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and fighting climate change. These annual UN climate change conferences are commonly referred to as COP.

Parties to the Convention have common but differentiated responsibilities

During the COP, member States, who have common but differentiated responsibilities, strive to reach agreements on reducing greenhouse gas emissions caused by human activity, assess the evolution of their commitments and review the implementation of the Framework Convention and other legal instruments that the COP adopts. Typically a series of negotiating sessions are carried out beforehand in order to optimize the agenda and discussions. As of today there are 197 Parties to the Convention (196 States and the European Union) including Palestine who joined in March 2016.

For more information and participation visit the COP22 website: **www.cop22.ma**