



AMI COP29 Ministerial Statement: Growing Cryosphere Loss Means Urgent Need for 1.5°C-consistent NDCs

Since its founding at COP27, the AMI High-level Group (AMI) on Sea-level Rise and Mountain Water Resources has raised the risks and widespread damage caused by cryosphere loss, not just in polar and mountains regions but touching every country on Earth; and has urged rapid course-correction towards a safer 1.5°C trajectory.

In just the two years since, new cryosphere science has sharpened the need for transformative climate action by 2030 even further.

Latest science points to feedbacks from polar and mountain regions from our current emissions trajectory that will have extreme and irreversible economic, social and environmental consequences throughout the planet.

Research also makes clear that the only way to slow and avert these global, irreversible economic, social and environmental impacts from cryosphere loss is the necessary task of deep, rapid and sustained greenhouse gas (GHG) emission cuts congruent with the 1.5°C Paris limit.

Staying below this limit with little or no overshoot remains within reach, but only with fully 1.5°C-consistent NDCs in 2025; and course-correction towards 1.5°C of pre-2030 action.

We call on all countries to address the crisis in the cryosphere to avert destabilization, disruption and displacement at global scales, considering the long-term irreversible damage their countries will see from cryosphere loss without fully 1.5°C-consistent NDCs.

Otherwise, global cryosphere will continue to thaw and melt, with irreversible and widespread global losses as a result. A planet with less or no cryosphere is a very different planet from that known by humanity throughout its existence.

We further call on the COP29 Presidency, COP28-30 Troika and Parties explicitly to recognize the irreversible impacts from cryosphere loss that will occur with each rise above today's GHG levels and every fraction of a degree of further warming, let alone overshoot of the 1.5°C limit. We call on all COP29 Parties to include that call in the relevant COP29 decisions.