

**Capital City of Prague**  
**PRAGUE CITY ASSEMBLY**  
**RESOLUTION**

Prague City Assembly

Number 8/42  
of 20 June 2019

*regarding the declaration of a climate commitment for Prague*

**Prague City Assembly**

**I. notes that**

1. By signing and ratifying the Paris Climate Agreement in December 2015, the Czech Republic undertook to pursue efforts with 195 countries around the world to take measures to keep the global temperature rise significantly lower than 2° C and, if possible, under 1.5 ° C above pre-industrial levels
2. The October 2018 report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) of the UN states that to reach the 1.5° C limit it is necessary to reduce global CO2 emissions by 45% by 2030 compared to 2010, and to achieve zero CO2 emissions by 2050
3. The climate protection policy in the Czech Republic, approved by Government Resolution No. 207 of 22 March 2017, does not address the schedule for shutting down coal-fired power plants and putting an end to the dependence on fossil fuels. So far, the Czech Republic does not support the EU Commission proposal for EU Member States to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 within the EU Climate Plan. It is all the more important to look for complementary measures at the level of the City of Prague, which will help start the decarbonisation process
4. The Czech Republic has considerable potential for decentralizing energy sources, developing renewable energy sources and achieving energy savings; it has however not yet sufficiently used that potential

**II. notes that**

1. the City of Prague does not have the power to change the government policy, yet contrary to the Czech government's position, the City of Prague counts climate protection as one of its political priorities and considers it important to express this opinion
2. that the City of Prague does not consider the diversion from using fossil fuels in the city's energy production, transportation and other economic activities to be a threat but an opportunity to transform the city gradually into an environmentally friendly capital, attractive to live in
3. that the City of Prague has been, since 2018, member of the international Covenant of Mayors for Sustainable Energy and Climate and as such has committed to draft the so-called Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) and approve it by September 2020

**III. approves**

1. the climate commitment of the City of Prague, i.e. the goal to reduce CO2 emissions in the City of Prague by at least 45 % by 2030 (compared to 2010) and to achieve zero CO2 emissions by 2050 at the latest
2. The basic sets of measures necessary to meet the goal are set out in Annex 1 hereto; these sets of measures also define the tasks for the Sustainable Energy And Climate Commission

**IV. invites**

1. the Government of the Czech Republic to address the issue of climate change more thoroughly and adopt, as soon as possible, a set of legislative measures to promote a faster reduction of

CO2 emissions, including a decision to close coal mines and coal-fired power plants, and to promote the development of renewable energy sources

2. other cities in the Czech Republic to define their commitments and thereby contribute to the overall reduction of CO2 emissions
3. the Prague City districts to join the above climate commitment and challenge
4. both public and private institutions and organizations based in Prague to commit to this goal
5. the citizens of the City of Prague to support the city's climate policy by the consumer choices they make, by their use of energy, water, waste and secondary raw materials, by using the public transport, by switching to electromobility, advanced biofuels and other alternative fuels and by adopting other forms of environmentally friendly actions

#### **V. charges**

1. the Prague City Council
  1. with ensuring the implementation of points III and IV herein

Deadline: continuous

<u>Submitted by:</u>	Prague City Council
<u>Print:</u>	Z-7482
<u>Implementation:</u>	Prague City Council
<u>Cc:</u>	Prague City Hall Departments

## **Basic sets of measures necessary to achieve the Climate Commitment of the City of Prague**

(point III.2 of the resolution by the Prague City Assembly)

*The key role of the Sustainable Energy And Climate Commission, an advisory body to the Prague City Council, is to provide expertise on the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change, to contribute to the coordination of strategies, policies and specific measures and to a structured approach to defining and implementing Prague's climate policy. The basic sets of measures represent an introductory task (open list) for the commission's work; the commission is expected to elaborate on these areas and the deadlines for implementing them in coordination with the Council.*

- 1/ **Establish the baseline level of the city's carbon footprint in line with international standards and set an allowable amount of additional greenhouse gas emissions by 2050** (carbon budget) to meet the IPCC recommendations, i.e. to stabilize the global temperature rise at about 1.5 °C compared to the situation before the industrial revolution.
- 2/ **Develop a long-term Strategy for the Decarbonisation of Prague by 2050 and a Mid-Term Action Plan for 2030 - SECAP Action Plan.** The selection of suitable measures and the timetable for their implementation will respect the principles of economic efficiency, i.e. priority will be given to suggesting measures reducing the carbon footprint with negative or low costs and only then the remaining ones (medium and high cost measures).
- 3/ Based on the **SECAP Action Plan**, propose a **budget outlook for its implementation by 2030** so that it can be integrated into the *Principles, Schedule and Methodology for the budget of the City of Prague for the year 2021*
- 4/ **Integrate the principles of environmental accounting into the city's strategic and financial management** to quantify the impact of Prague's budget and its sub-items on the city's carbon footprint and potentially other aspects affecting the quality of life in the city
- 5/ **Propose concrete measures to support the accelerated renovation of the entire housing stock in Prague with the aim of maximizing the available economic potential of energy savings**
- 6/ **Propose specific measures to support the construction of new buildings for residential and non-residential purposes** in Prague so that their energy requirements for construction and operation, including the future transport needs of their users, result in little or no additional greenhouse gas emissions
- 7/ **Change the rules for purchasing electricity** for the city and all its subordinate organizations so as to **generate new production capacity using renewable energy sources with a view to covering at least half of the city's current and future needs by 2030**; extend the same approach to other energy consumers in the city to such an extent that by 2030 these new plants will be able to cover at least 50% of all electricity needs in Prague
- 8/ **Identify and gradually implement similar steps in the segment of heating (and cooling) buildings** to reduce carbon footprint at least by one half by 2030.
- 9/ **Identify and gradually implement similar steps in the area of car traffic** in the city with the aim of achieving, by 2030, more than a 50 per cent reduction of conventionally fuelled cars with combustion engines in favour of low-emission vehicles (especially electric, gas and hydrogen vehicles), including buses for public transport.
- 10/ **Promote stringent carbon footprint requirements when purchasing (energy-intensive) products and services**, which will have to be respected by suppliers if they want to bid for the city's public funds.
- 11/ Attention will also be paid to **limiting the use or consumption of other products in the city, the production, transport and consumption of which, and/or the disposal of which (based on a Life Cycle Assessment) causes significantly higher greenhouse gas emissions**, while otherwise equivalent alternatives with a significantly lower carbon footprint can be found on the market.

- 12/ **The principles of circular economy will be introduced in waste management and water management in the city.** The aim is to gradually extend the capture and reuse of rainwater and greywater and to consistently promote the principles of waste prevention, minimization of their production and maximum reuse (preferably in material or energy production).
- 13/ Recommend for implementation and evaluate, as far as possible, **measures in line with the Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change and its Action Plan** on the territory of the City of Prague.
- 14/ **Actively search for and use all available national and international financial instruments to support the implementation of the Decarbonisation Strategy and initiate a dialogue with the Czech Government and central public administration authorities** on the possibilities of adopting additional supporting measures in national legislation (e.g. in the form of an effective anti-fossil fuel law).

## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

**The City of Prague acknowledge the seriousness of the imminent climate threat and the urgent need to adopt measures to stabilize, without further delay, greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere in line with the conclusions of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report of 2018.**

For this reason, the City of Prague joins dozens of countries, cities and municipalities around the world and announces its Climate Commitment. By doing so, it joins cities like London, Paris, Hong-Kong or New York, which have similarly decided to set an example in their countries, giving hope to future generations to save life on Earth as we know it today. The current lifestyle of our society (dependent on energy from fossil fuels) can be changed without losing any of the quality of life or jeopardizing our economic prosperity.

**In its climate commitment, the city announces** in line with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) **the goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the City of Prague by at least 45 % by 2030 (compared to 2010) and to achieve zero CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 2050 at the latest.** To this end, the city will soon develop a long-term ***Strategy for the Decarbonisation of Prague by 2050 and a Mid-Term Action Plan for Sustainable Energy and Climate*** for 2021-2030 (the so-called SECAP: *Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan*).

The resolution also points out the need to make climate protection one of the city's priorities, including the city's organizations, and a set of concrete measures set out in Annex 1 hereto, which will be reflected in the strategic and financial planning of the city's development in the coming years.

In view of the fact that meeting the above-mentioned climate goals will have serious social consequences, the Prague City Council set up, by its Resolution No. 941 of 20 May 2019, a ***Sustainable Energy and Climate Commission*** to help it make major decisions. The sets of measures to achieve the climate commitment of the City of Prague, set out in Annex 1 hereto, thus also define the tasks for that commission.

In connection with the implementation of the *Strategy for the Decarbonisation of Prague by 2050*, the necessary measures include the introduction of a regular monitoring to assess the impact on the production of carbon emissions under evaluation.

The city shall integrate the principles of environmental accounting into its strategic and financial management to quantify the impact of Prague's budget and its sub-items on the city's carbon footprint. In the future, significant financial expenditure on the renewal and development of urban property will thus be assessed in the light of its impact on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, provided that its contribution is neutral or positive in this respect.

The city will also introduce stringent carbon footprint requirements when purchasing (energy-intensive) products and services, which will have to be respected by suppliers if they want to bid for the city's public funds.

The gradual introduction of circular economy into the everyday life of the city will also contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, with the aim of gradually reducing the production of all types of waste, maximizing their material recycling and, where no longer possible, at least using their energy potential in an environmentally sound manner.

These principles will have to be adhered to by both the Prague City Hall and the organizations established by the city, the city's districts and all the companies owned by Prague or where Prague is a major co-owner.

Prague wishes not be alone to take such a serious decision and welcomes any other institutions and organizations willing to join and make a similar public commitment to a similar strategy of gradual decarbonization. At the same time, it calls on the Czech government to address this issue more thoroughly and to adopt, as soon as possible, an effective anti-fossil law containing measures to accelerate the strategy outlined above.

Already in 2015, Prague joined the pan-European *Mayors Adapt* initiative, which aims to support cities throughout the European Union in finding and implementing appropriate (adaptation) measures to address the changing climatic conditions. As a result, Prague has its own Strategy for Adaptation to

Climate Change, adopted by the Prague City Council by its Resolution No. 1723 of 18 July 2017, which is currently being implemented.

Since the adaptation strategy only addresses the consequences and not the causes, Prague has decided, taking into account its economic and societal importance and its current share in the greenhouse gas emissions contribution, to take a commitment to gradually reduce its carbon footprint so as to put an end to its energy dependence on fossil fuels and thereby achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 at the latest

For this reason, in its Resolution No. 39/1 of 6 September 2018, the Prague City Assembly acceded to the international **Covenant of Mayors** with a commitment to reduce its carbon footprint more quickly.

In its Resolution No. 6/7 of 25 April 2019, the Prague City Assembly further stated that the need to significantly reduce the capital's contribution to global climate change, make Prague more resilient to this change and make its long-term development sustainable has become significantly more serious and more urgent in the light of the latest expertise, and has thus asked the Prague City Council, among other things, to **speed up the preparation of the Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) and to set up a working group** to prepare this plan.

On 17 June 2019, the Prague City Council adopted a **Resolution on the announcement of a climate commitment, in which it approved a reduction of CO2 emissions in the City of Prague by at least 45 % by 2030 and to achieve zero CO2 emissions by 2050 at the latest**. Furthermore, by adopting the above resolution, the Council also approved the basic sets of **measures necessary to meet the climate commitment**, and undertook to submit all commitments arising from this resolution to Prague City Assembly for approval.

Capital City of Prague  
**PRAGUE CITY ASSEMBLY**  
**RESOLUTION**

Prague City Council

No. 1334  
of 17 June 2019

regarding the promulgation of a Climate commitment for Prague

Prague City Council

**I. notes that**

1. By signing and ratifying the Paris Climate Agreement in December 2015, the Czech Republic undertook to pursue efforts with 195 countries around the world to take measures to keep the global temperature rise significantly lower than 2° C and, if possible, under 1.5 ° C above pre-industrial levels
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4. The Czech Republic has considerable potential for decentralizing energy sources, developing renewable energy sources and achieving energy savings; it has however not yet sufficiently used that potential

**II. notes that**

1. the City of Prague does not have the power to change the government policy, yet contrary to the Czech government's position, the City of Prague counts climate protection as one of its political priorities and considers it important to express this opinion
2. that the City of Prague does not consider the diversion from using fossil fuels in energy production, transportation and other economic activities to be a threat but a an opportunity to transform the city gradually into an environmentally friendly capital, attractive to live in
3. that the City of Prague has been, since 2018, member of the international Covenant of Mayors for Sustainable Energy and Climate and as such has committed to draft the so-called Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) and approve it by September 2020

**III. approves**

1. the climate commitment of the City of Prague, i.e. the goal to reduce CO2 emissions in the City of Prague by at least 45 % by 2030 (compared to 2010) and to achieve zero CO2 emissions by 2050 at the latest
2. The basic sets of measures necessary to meet the climate commitment pursuant to point III.1 herein are set out in Annex 1 hereto; these sets of measures also define the tasks for the Sustainable Energy And Climate Commission

**IV. invites**

1. the Government of the Czech Republic to address the issue of climate change more thoroughly and adopt, as soon as possible, a set of legislative measures to promote a faster reduction of CO2 emissions, including a decision to close coal mines and coal-fired power plants, and to promote the development of renewable energy sources

2. other cities in the Czech Republic to define their commitments and thereby contribute to the overall reduction of CO2 emissions
3. the Prague City districts to join the above climate commitment and challenge
4. both public and private institutions and organizations based in Prague to commit to this goal
5. the citizens of the City of Prague to support the city's climate policy by the consumer choices they make, by their use of energy, water, waste and secondary raw materials, by using sustainable means of transport, and by adopting environmentally conscious behaviour

## V. charges

1. the Prague City Council's Sustainable Energy and Climate Commission

1. with providing the Prague City Council with professional support when implementing specific steps and to prepare draft measures in line with Appendix 1 hereto

Deadline: continuous

2. Prague City Council, departments of the Prague City Hall

1. to review all projects under preparation at the individual departments, including investment decisions, in terms of the projects' impact on CO2 emissions

Deadline: continuous

3. Prague City Council, departments of the Prague City Hall, allowance organizations

1. with contributing, through their activities, to the achievement of climate commitment objectives, to assess all investment decisions from the point of view of the objectives of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and to reflect the climate priority in the conceptual and strategic materials of the city

Deadline: continuous

2. with following, in the preparation and coordination of all other activities, projects and documents, the Basic sets of measures leading to a gradual decarbonisation of the City of Prague, listed in Annex 1 hereto

Deadline: continuous

4. Ing. Petr Hlubuček, Deputy Mayor

1. in cooperation with Zdeněk Hřib, Mayor, Deputy Mayors Petr Hlaváček, Pavel Vyhnánek, Adam Scheinherr and Councillor Jan Chabr, with submitting point I through IV to the Prague City Assembly for approval

Deadline: 20 June 2019

## VI. calls for

1. joint-stock companies owned by the City of Prague

1. to contribute, through their activities, to the achievement of climate commitment objectives, to assess all investment decisions from the point of view of the objectives of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and to reflect the climate priority in their conceptual and strategic materials

MUDr. Zdeněk Hřib (signed)  
Mayor of Prague

doc. Ing. arch. Petr Hlaváček (signed)  
I. Deputy Mayor of Prague



Submitted by: Ing. Petr Hlubuček, Deputy Mayor  
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