The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is a treaty to combat global warming. It was adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 1992, and entered into force in 1994. The treaty commits industrialized countries to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere. The first commitment period, 2008-2012, was extended to 2017.

The Kyoto Protocol, signed in 1997 and entered into force in 2005, established legally binding emission targets for industrialized countries to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by 5% below 1990 levels by 2008-2012. The protocol was extended to 2012.

The new global climate deal, to be agreed in Paris in 2015, aims to limit global warming to below 2°C, with a safer goal of below 1.5°C. This will require significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, particularly from developing countries.

The clean revolution is already underway. To achieve real emissions reductions, we need the world’s decision makers to drive a clean revolution - the only feasible path to a smarter, better, more prosperous future.

For more information about the clean revolution and for our analysis of the COP20 negotiations, visit theclimatet团购.org and follow @climatet团购 or the hashtag #cleanrevolution on twitter.