



SCOTIA GROUP

COMMITTED TO THE SUCCESS
OF GLASGOW COP 26

THE SCOTIA MISSION



Institution Quraysh for Law & Policy
February 2021



The Scotia Group (SG26) is a group of prominent leaders in politics, academia and business from across the world. The group's goal is to lay the foundations for concerted global action to avert the worst consequences of the climate crisis, a historic and unprecedented concern shared by all countries and manageable only in the event of their collaboration. The SG26 convened following a meeting of the Quraysh Council of Overseers on 21 January 2021, in light of the overwhelming scientific evidence that there is now less than a decade to collectively facilitate a historic, global energy transition.

The immediate goal of the SG26 is to contribute direction and success of the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26,) to be hosted by the United Kingdom in Glasgow from 1-12 November 2021. To that end, we commit ourselves to supporting three streams of work:

1. Support for Glasgow COP26.

In the lead-up to Glasgow COP26, SG26 will convene six meetings of its core group, featuring leading thinkers, industrialists and politicians. The goal of the meetings is to develop a series of recommendations on how to advance the immediate and long-term goals of UNFCCC. Complementing the core group, a wider group of individuals, organizations and institutions will share their expertise and insight as members of the wider SG26 network. This workstream will cover core themes; the following people are recommended as leaders of the six dialogues:

1. Intergenerational Dialogue: A conversation with young people on their hopes for COP26
2. The Financial Sector and Investment in Green Technologies*
3. Geopolitics of the Energy Transition
4. Tech and the Green Long Term**
5. A Consensus-based Roadmap for the Glasgow Process
6. Preparing for Post-Paris Processes

*Featuring prominent business leaders, investment funds and economists.

**Featuring prominent venture capital leaders, banks and representatives from start-ups and major tech companies.

2. Institutional foundations for a post-Paris climate agenda.

SG26 will build a broad institutional network that can advance the agenda of COP26, seeking to encourage bold, transformative ideas about creating a new institutional architecture for global climate action. SG26 has already broached the topic of partnership with universities including Harvard, Oxford, Edinburgh, St. Andrews, Boston and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; the Alan Turing Institute, the British Government's national institute for data science and artificial intelligence; ClientEarth, a leading environmental law charity; and global professional institutions such as the International Bar Association. The Group will broaden its network through events, collaborative projects and other initiatives that will work towards identifying ways that local and national governments can achieve the goals outlined in the Paris Agreement.

This work-stream will work with the partner organizations to identify specific policy interventions that would support Glasgow/COP26, as well as follow-up initiatives. Ideas already discussed include *Praxis*, a dialogue between SG26 and leading financial institutions including investment banks, development banks, and sovereign wealth funds, aimed at exploring concrete ways that the financial sector could support the process of Glasgow COP26. Another collaboration would be with MIT, aimed at considering how a new process design can successfully lead to new global commitments after 2025.

3. Communities, Communication and Public Engagement.

SG26 will actively participate in the Glasgow COP26 process, presenting a joint *Communiqué* to the Conference featuring a series of bold, achievable ideas that make CO26 a far more ambitious endeavor. A particular focus for SG26 is considering the practical ways that greenhouse gas emissions can be reduced at the community level, complementing the Glasgow process.

SG26 will devise a concerted public communications strategy, generating interest and attention from international media. Members of the network will be positioned for conversations, feature articles and interviews in major publications and television networks, while individual projects will also be shared with the international media.

SG26 members have agreed to help host an online youth dialogue (iPlatform) event in September 2021 which will bring together young people from around the world to hear their hopes and expectations for the COP26 summit. Feedback from this group will be used by the SG26 in formulating their recommendations.

The Group will also help oversee the launch of the *Stanley Hoffmann-Louise Richardson Prize for International Affairs and Civil Society* which aims to involve solutions offered by the next generation to help shape how to solve the global climate crisis.