



Proposal for a simple and effective resolution at COP26

After the IPCC's latest warning shot on climate on August 9th, 2021, the next COP26 organized by the United Nations to be held in Glasgow in early November 2021 promises to be crucial for climate and its global governance.

Clear positions are already asserting themselves. In simplified terms, a first group of countries influenced by the electricity, hydrogen and renewable lobbies is advocating for the demise as soon as possible of the fossil carbon industries, which still provide nearly 80% of primary energy.

A second group, led by the hydrocarbon and coal-producing countries and a large proportion of the emerging countries, influenced by petroleum lobbies, while recognizing the seriousness of the climatic phenomena, will be resisting in relation to the first group. At best it will participate in conversations around carbon taxes or international aid or

compensation to be able to engage in the energy transition that would be imposed on them by the first group.

The big loser of the upcoming discussions is therefore likely to be the Climate. The discussions between countries will as usual be letting key actors off the hook, namely the producers of hydrocarbons and coal.

That is why we are proposing a resolution aimed at **repairing without delay the workings of the clock of the biogeochemical carbon cycle, which has been seriously disrupted by more than two centuries of the fossil extraction economic model.** The work of the IPCC has confirmed that the principal cause of climate change is indeed the direct injection of geospheric carbon into the atmosphere,

then into the oceans without a corresponding increase of direct returns to the geosphere.

We therefore propose that the following simple and common-sense "geological net zero" resolution be adopted:

For every amount of fossil carbon extracted, the same amount of carbon must be geologically sequestered in the same year.

A supranational entity will be set up to oversee geological sequestration operations around the world.

It should be noted that geological sequestration is not limited solely to petroleum technologies - injecting liquid carbon dioxide into former fields or aquifers. Other methods, some of which are based on natural geological processes such as biomineralization, exist and are just waiting to be developed.

The adoption of this resolution will enable effective industrial and economic policies to be put in place for a rapid solution to the climate problem.

The fossil fuel extraction industry will then accelerate the metamorphosis that it has already begun, to transform itself into a hydrogen production and geological carbon sequestration industry.

By doing this, it could make possible the geological sequestration of more than half of its fossil carbon emissions by 2030(*).

To achieve this goal, the hydrocarbon production chain must be redesigned to sequester carbon as far upstream as possible when producing “blue” hydrogen. Correspondingly, massive R&D efforts should be encouraged regarding geological sequestration and the production of “blue” and perhaps native hydrogen.

A new frontier is opening beneath our feet: that of geohydrogen and mineral and energy flows from “biogeo-reactors” (*), taking advantage of natural fluxes in the lithosphere and **leaving the carbon where it is.**

Trading in fossil carbon needs to be materialized: the resolution will accelerate the creation of industrial hubs that make it possible to physically manage carbon at a local or regional level. These industrial hubs have already been multiplying very quickly in recent months.

Pursuant to the resolution, hydrocarbon and coal trading contracts will have to include clauses committing the parties to

the physical fate of the fossil carbon extracted.

The implementation of this resolution will minimize the systemic financial risk posed by the energy transition by allowing (*):

- A transition within reach of the finances of all consumers
- A less abrupt transition for fossil fuel producing countries
- Economic risks of oil or electricity price shocks greatly reduced

The creation of a "Brown Climate Fund" (*) driving the simplification of the complex web of existing taxes, subsidies, and fossil fuel financing, which would constitute a strong accelerator of transition.

Finally, for consumers to be able to act effectively on the climate, it is recommended that the resolution be accompanied by the implementation of an indicator informing them of the fossil carbon footprints of what they buy.

(*) A working paper giving more details of what has been set out in this article is available on ResearchGate and LinkedIn. **If you wish to give your opinion on this project, or make your contribution, do not hesitate to contact me directly**

<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/pr-oposal-simple-effective-resolution-cop26-patrick-portolano>

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He has been involved in numerous exploration and development projects for hydrocarbon fields and underground storage. He created and developed a mineral exploration company in Mexico.



EOSYS (<https://eosys.fr>), is specialized in the exploration of localities (at all scales) with a view to developing them (water resources, geothermal energy, underground structures, natural hazards) or to discover or develop in a decarbonized way underground mineral or hydrocarbon deposits.

EOSYS focuses its development today on the low-carbon conversion of hydrocarbon assets and the exploration of native hydrogen.