

**From:** Tejpala - ARRC tejpala@arrcc.org.au  
**Subject:** What happened in Colombia?  
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**To:** John Brentnall pradorider@me.com

RT



Hello John,

It's been a month since the first ever global summit on phasing out fossil fuels ended in Colombia. Sincere apologies to have taken so long to write to you about this. We have been snowed under. We're finally catching our breath.

So, what happened?

It ended on an unexpected hopeful note.

As [The Guardian reports](#): The single most important thing to come from the... conference...has been a change of mood. Whereas the UN's annual climate summits, or COPs, can often feel stuck and frustrating, with countries circling the same topics without resolution, nearly every delegate in Colombia felt liberated. "The mood here in Santa Marta is euphoric," said Tzeporah Berman, the founder and chair of the fossil fuel non-proliferation treaty initiative. "After years stuck in endless debates about whether to phase out fossil fuels, finally we are focusing on the how. We are no longer fighting for recognition of the problem but creating

solutions. It's like watching a dam break – all that pent-up experience, knowledge and passion suddenly flowing into concrete ways to phase out dirty fuels. The hope is contagious."

You may also want to see [this overview from Carbon Brief](#) of the main outcomes from the summit. Some of them include:

## A second conference

- The Second Conference on the Transitioning Away from Fossil Fuels will be held in Tuvalu, in 2027, with Ireland being the co-host. Preliminary indications are that it could be held in June.
- Ireland will host a preparatory conference. with the date to be set.

- The agenda for the Second Conference set out was clear and ambitious.
  - Confronting economic dependence on fossil fuels, including 'unsustainable debt' and a global financial system that was not built for us and too often fails us.'
  - Addressing supply - i.e. tackling not just the consumption but the production of fossil fuels.
  - Strengthening international cooperation and closing the governance gaps that have left so many nations behind. Drawing directly on the Pacific's own experience of exclusion, he pledged that the next conference would be built on genuine inclusion – "the full and meaningful participation of civil society" at its core.

**There will also be a clear agenda of work between now and the Tuvalu summit.**

This will prioritise international coordination, links to the UN system so as not to duplicate it, as well as deliberate efforts to build momentum on three fronts: countries developing phase-out roadmaps, finance and economics, and making sure efforts are grounded in local realities.

## **Now is the time to press the advantage**

The first ever global summit for a phase-out of fossil fuels has lit the fuse even though it barely mentioned the Treaty simply because nearly 60 countries spent a week working together on how to phase out fossil fuels. There is another phase-out summit coming within a year in the Pacific nation of Tuvalu, where the calls for a Treaty will be much louder. And between now and then there will be the pre-COP summit in Fiji where the question of phasing out fossil fuels will certainly not go away.

### **Sign up**

There are three ways to sign up to the open letter in support of the Treaty:

- [As a religious leader](#)
- [As an individual person of faith](#)
- [On behalf of a faith institution](#)

### **Newsletters and pew sheets**

Here is some copy you can use for [newsletters or publications](#). You can also

use this for pew sheets.

## Poster

Here is a [poster that can go up at your place of worship](#).

## Email

And here is [an email you can send around](#).

# Upcoming ARRCC meetings

## Queensland

Wednesday May 27

1 to 2pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84658760737>

## Sydney

Thursday May 28

1.30 to 2.30pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89050197683>

# A very positive AGM

Thank you to all who attended our AGM last week. The keynote address was given by **Rev. Fletcher Harper, the Executive Director of Greenfaith**. He is based in New Jersey, and a key figure in the Fossil Fuel Treaty campaign. He inspired us with his talk on the Fossil Fuel Treaty, the Santa Marta Conference and what faith communities can do globally to promote a fossil fuel phase-out. It's worth 20 minutes of your time to hear him in [this recording](#). - passcode &8ffftJ@

The AGM involved three people - Sue McKinnon, Sister Jan Barnett and I - celebrating the enormous contribution that our outgoing President Thea

Ormerod has made over the many years steering the ARRCC ship. Thea has built a movement of people around her that is completely irreplaceable in the Australian climate movement. It was a real joy to be able to rejoice in her abundant merits.

At the AGM it was abundantly clear how much of a powerhouse we all are for the common good. Thank you to all who contribute faithfully each year to ARRCC's efforts to keep the climate as safe as we can. Thank you to local groups, individual supporters and donors, people who have served on the Committee and faith leaders who step in when needed.

In faith,

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