

UN climate summit in Madrid at risk of collapse after all-night talks leave nations more divided than ever on how to combat global warming

- A UN climate summit in Madrid was at risk of collapse over an ambitious deal
- Rich and poor nations found fault in the compromise deal proposed by Chile
- The European Union wants to reduce the world's dependence on carbon fuels

By WILLIAM COLE FOR MAILONLINE and AFP

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DA QUI >>>>> A UN climate summit is at risk of collapsing today after all-night negotiations between countries left them more divided than ever over on how to fight global warming and pay for its ravages, having already gone into overtime for the talks.

Delegates from across the world have been in Madrid for the COP 25 conference for nearly two weeks attempting to work towards a deal for countries to commit to new carbon emissions cuts by the end of 2020.

Diplomats from rich nations, emerging giants and the world's poorest countries - each for their own reasons - found fault in a draft agreement put forward by meeting host Chile in a botched attempt to strike common ground.

The South American country was meant to host the event but billionaire President Sebastian Pinera cancelled the hosting plans as well as an Asia-Pacific APEC economic summit in November due to protests.

Faced with five-alarm warnings from science, deadly extreme weather made worse by climate change, and weekly strikes by millions of young people, negotiations in Madrid were under pressure to send a clear signal that governments are willing to double down in tackling the crisis.

But the 12-day talks, now deep into overtime, had retreated even further from this goal on Saturday.

'It appears that we are going backwards on the issue of ambition when we should be calling for a quantum leap in the other direction,' Marshall Islands climate envoy Tina Stege said.

[...]

Veteran observers of UN climate talks were stunned by the state of play nearly 24 hours after the negotiations had been set to close.

[266 words]

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