WCA Climate Policy

For consideration and approval by Corporate Members at the General Assembly on December 9, 2021

WCA Position on climate change

Climate science has established that human activity, specifically greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, is the key driving factor in climate change. WCA recognizes that each country faces its own unique circumstances and that the principles of just transition are essential to achieving decarbonization in a way that is widely supported.

Cement and concrete will remain essential building materials for the forseeable future. It is therefore of the utmost importance that we accelerate the decarbonisation of the industry.

As the largest independent organisation that works globally on behalf of the cement and concrete industry and its stakeholders, WCA is an essential stakeholder in climate mitigation. WCA aims to accelerate decarbonisaton of the cement and concrete industry by supporting members to set ambitious targets on reducing CO_2 emissions and encouraging collaboration both along the supply chain and across industries.

WCA commitment

- By March 2022, WCA will publish a practical operational guide to assist members in making decisions and setting priorities to proactively reduce their carbon footprint. In addition, WCA will publish good management practices for cement plants including minimising emissions.
- By the end of 2022, WCA will formulate a carbon reduction review and benchmarking mechanism to promote decarbonization and achieve the goal of carbon neutrality.
- WCA will explore the availability of resources, including green finance, to meet climate goals set out by the member companies through collaborations, research, and cross-sector cooperation.
- WCA advocates for the adoption of regulations that promote reducing CO_2 emissions from cement and concrete, and the re-use of materials in a circular economy. WCA members are encouraged to be proactive in ensuring their regulators understand the needs of the industry.

- WCA will collaborate with stakeholders to improve transparency on the carbon footprint of cement and concrete and to develop and promote internationally recognised standard methodologies.
- WCA continues to endorse the use of the traditional levers to reduce cement CO_2 emissions, namely energy efficiency, use of alternative fuels and reduction of clinker factor. WCA also recognizes that new technologies are needed.
- To achieve the maximum reduction of carbon footprint and other environmental impacts from upstream and downstream industry chains, WCA will collaborate with stakeholders to study the measures to counter the climate change, and assist stakeholders to define their carbon reduction roadmaps.

Member pledges

Starting in 2022, Members will be invited to make CO_2 emission reduction commitments. WCA will publicise such commitments and promote them widely to encourage other cement companies to make commitments.

WCA Governance for adherence to this policy

This policy is approved by the Board of Directors and the WCA General Assembly, and shared with the member companies, besides being publicly available on the WCA website for the information of all relevant stakeholders.

The Zero Carbon Steering Committee of the WCA will review the implementation of the policy.