

‘Most nations not on track to cut carbon footprint’

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Global emissions continue to be high as most countries are not on track to cut their carbon footprint as per their pledges of climate action, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) said in its flagship ‘emission gap’ report on Tuesday.

Highlighting the gap, the report said countries must raise their ambition by three times to meet the 2 degree Celsius target and five times to meet the 1.5 degree Celsius target as continuation of the current trend was likely to result in global warming of around 3°C by the end of the century, with continued temperature rises after that.

“If the emissions gap is not closed by 2030, it is extremely unlikely that the 2°C temperature goal can be reached (by 2100),” the report said in a warning to countries in the backdrop of the recent IPCC special report which quantified how disastrous situation will be if the world didn’t take urgent action to keep warming within 1.5°C by 2100.

The UNEP annually presents a definitive assessment report of ‘emissions gap’ — gap between anticipated emission levels in 2030 compared to levels consistent with 2°C/1.5°C target. Its findings offer the latest accounting of national mitigation efforts and ambitions countries have presented in their Nationally Determined Contributions, which form the foundation of Paris Agreement.

Full report on www.toi.in