

Beat: Health

COP21 CLIMATE MARCHES IN PARIS NOT AUTHORIZED DURING PARIS CLIMATE TALKS

BECAUSE OF SECURITY CONCERNS

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USPA NEWS - FRANCE will not allow planned marches to go ahead on November 29 and December 12 during international climate talks in Paris because of security concerns, the government said on Wednesday. 'In order to avoid additional risks, the government has decided not to authorise climate marches planned...

FRANCE will not allow planned marches to go ahead on November 29 and December 12 during international climate talks in Paris because of security concerns, the government said on Wednesday. 'In order to avoid additional risks, the government has decided not to authorise climate marches planned in public places in Paris and other French cities on November 29 and December 12,' the statement said.

Following the recent terror attacks in Paris, French authorities said in a statement that all demonstrations organised in closed spaces or in places where security can easily be ensured could go ahead. Environmental activists had hoped the marches would attract large numbers to put pressure on governments to cut greenhouse gas emissions. A range of groups have been involved in planning actions during the summit.

Green groups said they understood the government's reasons but expressed frustration that they would not be able to show their support for an ambitious deal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, set to be agreed at the end of the summit.

'We realize the gravity of the situation, but now more than ever, we need to find creative ideas to call on people to unite around climate action,' said Juliette Rousseau, coordinator of the Coalition Climat 21, the network of NGOS coordinating the marches.

Some of those involved say though that more than 2,000 protests in around 150 countries during the talks have taken on a greater significance. They include the campaign group Avaaz, which released a promotional video for the marches it is involved in organising around the world....Jean-François Juilliard, Greenpeace France executive director, said that it was a source of huge regret that the French authorities said that they cannot guarantee safety the safety of marchers but the decision must be respected. (The Guardian)

Ruby BIRD

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