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US PULLS OUT OF PARIS AGREEMENT

Re-negotiation unlikely

Delivering an address from the White House this week, President Trump declared he was withdrawing the US from the Paris climate agreement, siding with isolationist pressures in his White House who argued that the agreement was a "threat to the economy and American sovereignty". By withdrawing, he ignored the mounting pressure from the global community and business leaders who urged him to remain part of the deal.

The Paris agreement was intended to bind the world community into battling rising temperatures together, and the departure of the US – the world's second-largest polluter – is a major blow. READ MORE

DID YOU SEE?

The US Bureau of Ocean Energy Management released a 1.4 billion pixel map of the Gulf of Mexico's sea floor. READ MORE

ANTIBIOTICS RE-ENGINEERED

Fighting Superbugs

According to a new report from the PNAS journal, a group of US scientists have re-engineered an 'ultra-tough' antibiotic in an attempt to wipe out one of the world's most threatening 'superbugs'.

For years now, many experts have warned that we are on the cusp of a "post-antibiotic era", where some infections could become un-treatable with antibiotics.

READ MORE

WORTH A LOOK

The Climate Scoreboard. The Climate Scoreboard analysis assesses how far various plans submitted to the UN will go to address climate change. Check out the scorecard HERE.

THIS WEEK IN NUMBERS

70,000
suspected cholera cases have been reported in Yemen, says the WHO

35,092
people died in traffic crashes in the US in 2015

500
million USD is the amount requested by the UN's Green Climate Fund for 'bold investment ideas' that help mitigate and adapt to climate change

29
percent of coral died in 2016 along Australia's Great Barrier Reef

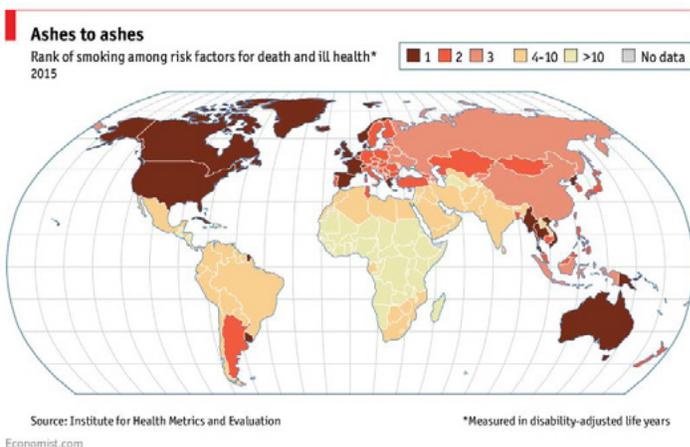### 11.6
years is the average age of a vehicle in the US

10.1
trillion USD is the projected global spend on water infrastructure in the next 15 years, says the WEF

4.5
trillion USD is the upper estimate for the cost of meeting the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (USD 3.3tn is the lower limit)

2
billion Euro social bonds have been issued by NWB to finance social housing in the Netherlands

INFOGRAPHIC OF THE WEEK

Ranking of smoking among risk factors for death and ill health

Ashes to ashes
Rank of smoking among risk factors for death and ill health* 2015

Legend: 1 | 2 | 3 | 4-10 | >10 | No data

Source: Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation
*Measured in disability-adjusted life years
Economist.com

Sources: Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation and The Economist

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FARMED FISH TO DOMINATE

Wild catch to be overtaken

According to the UN Food and Agricultural Organization, farmed fish production is expanding 4 to 5 per cent a year, putting it on course to eclipse the output of wild fishing as soon as 2019.

"This is similar to what took place in agriculture many centuries ago," said Audun Lem, deputy-director of FAO's fisheries and aquaculture department. "The overall impact on nutrition, food security and human development will be equally large."

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AGM NEWS OF THE WEEK

ExxonMobil shareholders voted to back a climate change resolution co-filed by New York State Common Retirement Fund and the Church of England this week. Shareholders secured a 62% vote in favor of the climate change resolution, a significant leap from last year's 38%. The resolution calls for the oil company to disclose the impact on its business of compliance with global climate change guidelines. READ MORE

HIGHER CABRON PRICES NEEDED

Looking for $50-100 per tonne by 2030

A group of economists warned this week that the cost of emitting carbon dioxide must rise to USD 50 - USD 100 per tonne by 2030 if countries want to meet climate pledges made under the Paris Agreement. This is much higher than the current price in Europe of less than USD 6 per tonne.

"If we are going to meet the commitments of Paris, we will have to have prices (at those levels) ... The costs of not doing it will be much higher," Columbia University Professor Joseph E. Stiglitz, a commission member, told a news briefing.

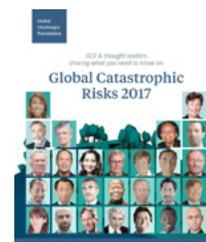Read the report from The Carbon Pricing Leadership Coalition – a group of 13 leading economists supported by the World Bank – HERE.

WE'RE WATCHING

Maryland has become the second U.S. state (following California's lead) to pass a law banning the "routine use of antibiotics in healthy livestock and poultry, a move aimed at battling the rise of dangerous antibiotic-resistant bacteria known as 'superbugs'." READ MORE

WHAT WE'RE READING

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

The Future of Food and Agriculture: Trends and Challenges

Global Challenges Foundation

Global Catastrophic Risks 2017

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

" I was elected to represent the citizens of Pittsburgh, not Paris.
– US President Trump

Wherever we live, whoever we are, we all share the same responsibility: make our planet great again.
– French President Macron "

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