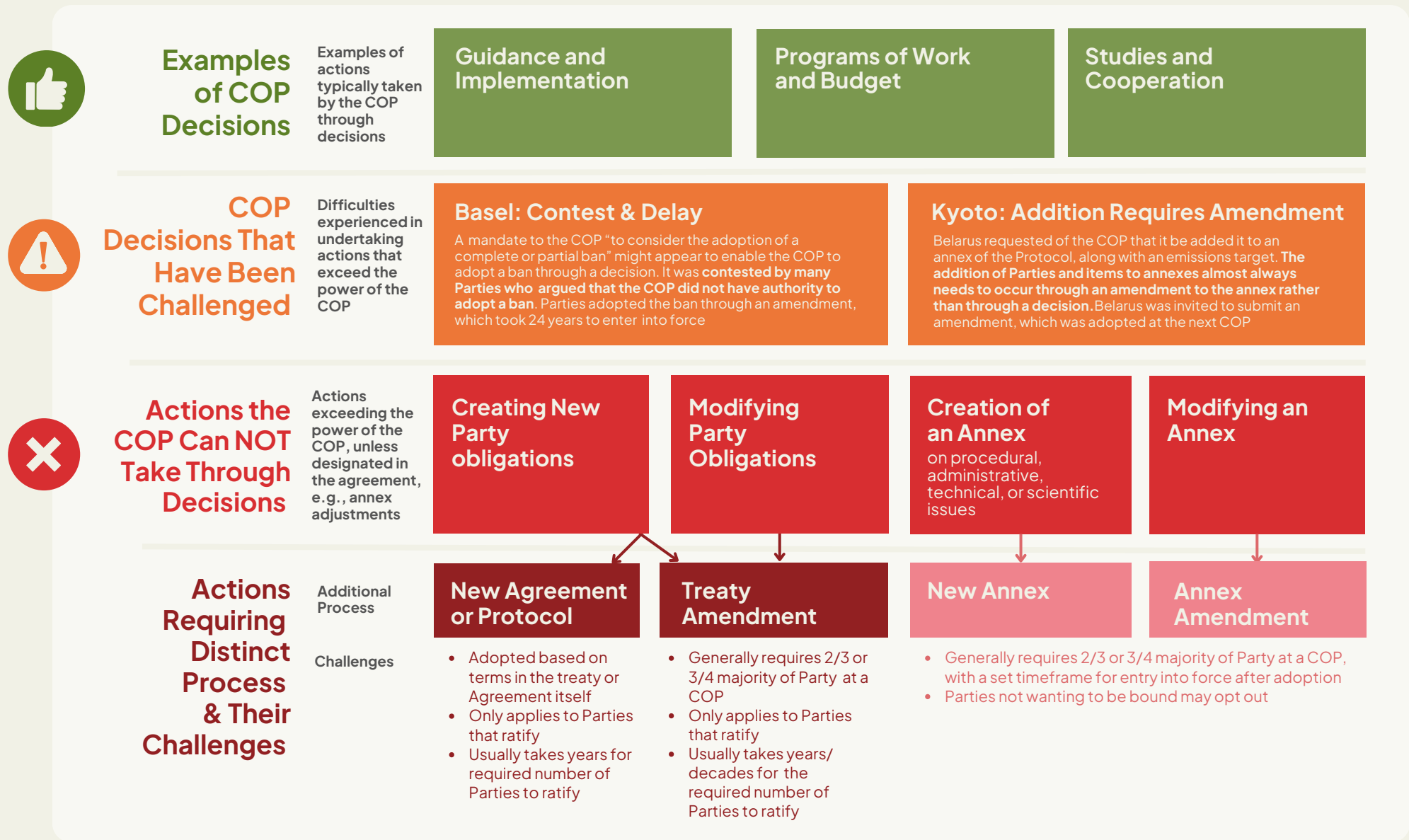


Conference of the Parties (COP) Decisions: Scope and Limits

Key Considerations for the Future Plastics Treaty



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Key Takeaways



Don't Wait

The concept that it is possible to adopt a general framework, followed by more detailed obligations at a later stage, is rarely effective for global agreements.



Strong Foundation

Saving critical treaty obligations for later stages results in decreased public pressure and significant delays, if adopted at all.



Establish COP Voting

Establishing voting provisions for COP decisions within the treaty will avoid default consensus.

Critical Challenges for Consideration

Consensus

Requirements for decisions to be made by consensus (whether by design or as a result of bracketed voting procedures) prevents adoption.

Timeline

Even if adopted treaty amendments and protocols are likely to require many more years to reach the ratification threshold for entry into force.

Abandonment

Proposals risk being abandoned because of lack of majority support/ failed vote.