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ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΟ ΚΟΙΝΟΒΟΥΛΙΟ  
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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Strasbourg, 17 December 2008

***SUMMARY NOTE OF THE WORK OF THE EP MEMBERS IN THE EU-  
DELEGATION TO THE 14TH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF  
THE PARTIES TO THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK  
CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (UNFCCC COP 14)  
IN POZNAN, POLAND (10-12 DECEMBER 2008)***

**I. BACKGROUND**

The European Parliament was authorized to send fifteen of its Members to attend as participants within the European Community Delegation the High Level Segment of the 14th session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP 14) and the 4th meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (COP/MOP 4), held in Poznań, Poland, from 10 to 12 December 2008.

The participants were: Ms Romana JORDAN-CIZELJ (Co-Chairperson of the EP-Delegation), Mr John BOWIS, Ms Avril DOYLE, Mr Karl-Heinz FLORENZ and Ms Eija-Riitta KORHOLA for the EPP-ED group; Mr Guido SACCONI (Co-Chairperson of the EP-Delegation), Ms Linda McAVAN and Ms Riitta MYLLER for the PSE group; Mr Chris DAVIES and Ms Lena EK for the ALDE group; Ms Satu HASSI for the Greens/EFA group; Mr Boguslaw PEK for the UEN group; Mr Roberto MUSACCHIO for the GUE/NGL group; Mr Johannes BLOKLAND for the IND/DEM group; Mr Roger HELMER for the Non-Attached

The following Members participated to the activities work of the delegation as associated members: Mr Karsten Friedrich HOPPENSTEDT, Mr Peter LIESE and Mr Anders WIJKMAN for the EPP-ED group; Mr Giulietto CHIESA, Ms Dorette CORBEY, Ms Elisa FERREIRA, Mr Dan JØRGENSEN and Ms Silvia-Adriana TICAU for the PSE group; Mr Vittorio PRODI for the ALDE group; Ms Rebecca HARMS and Mr Michael CRAMER for the Greens/EFA group; Ms Bairbre DE BRÚN and Mr Jens HOLM for the GUE/NGL group.

Members were accompanied by Sabina MAGNANO and Peter Boris SCHMITT of the secretariat of the Temporary Committee on Climate Change, Virpi KÖYKKA of the Environment Committee secretariat, Peter Lewis BRUNT of the Industry Committee secretariat and by Piotr WOLSKI from the press service in the Parliament's Warsaw office. Ms Karen FREDSGAARD from the President's Cabinet also participated in the delegation's activities.

Group agents accompanying Members were Harald KANDOLF (EPP-ED), Igor HORNAK and Josephine WOOD (PSE), Terhi LEHTONEN (Greens/EFA), Roberto LOPRIORE (GUE/NGL), Walter VAN LUIK (IND/DEM) and Szymon PIWOWAR (UEN).

According to the UNFCCC Secretariat, more than 12000 participants - representatives of over 180 countries, together with observers from intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations and the media - attended the conference in Poznań. The Conference devoted the first week to technical meetings. The high-level Ministerial segment, the core part of the Conference, took place on 11-12 December, but had to be prolonged until the early hours of 13 December to adopt all pending decisions. The usual concluding EU press conference was, therefore, cancelled.

## **II. ACTIVITIES OF THE EP MEMBERS IN THE DELEGATION**

(See full programme in enclosed Attachment 1)

### **1. Preparatory briefings**

The Temporary Committee on Climate Change (CLIM) adopted its draft report on 2nd December, which includes references to the necessary decisions to be taken at COP 14 according to the 'Bali-roadmap', which is the guiding reference leading to a new global agreement to combat climate change after 2012. Members of the EP delegation to COP 14 and all other interested Members were subsequently given a briefing on the background to COP 14 by Environment Commissioner Stavros DIMAS during an in camera session of the CLIM committee on 2 December.

### **2. Debriefings by Commission and Council**

In the continued absence of authorisation for members to attend the daily meetings of the EU co-ordination, there was an initial briefing by Commissioner DIMAS on Wednesday 10 December. On the following day, the EP delegation was briefed by the desk officers of the Commission. On the last day, Commissioner DIMAS briefed the delegation in the morning and the early evening before the end of the negotiations. A briefing by Ms Nathalie Kosciusko-Morizet, French Minister of State for Ecology, on the outcome of the European Summit and the negotiations took place in the morning.

In addition to these briefings, Members were informed about the state of negotiations at the COP by Ms Joan RUDDOCK, Climate Change Minister, UK, on Wednesday and on the outcome of the European Summit and the ongoing negotiations at the COP by Ms Jacqueline CRAMER, Environment Minister, the Netherlands, and by Mr Sigmar GABRIEL, Minister of Environment, Germany, on Friday.

### **3. Meetings held**

Due to the size of the delegation - altogether 28 Members attended the conference - it had been decided to organise the delegation's activities around a programme common to the whole delegation and specific programmes for working groups according to themes of interest for the Members. The specific programmes were organised as follows:

- Working Group on Development and Health led by Ms Riitta Myller
- Working Group on Bilateral Contacts led by Mr Guido Sacconi and Mr Hans Blokland
- Working Group on Technology and Energy led by Ms Romana Jordan Cizelj and Mr Roberto Musacchio
- Working Group on Trade and Financing led by Ms Satu Hassi

(for details of meetings for each working group see attached programme)

In addition to the briefings, the whole delegation met with Mr Henning WUESTER, Special Advisor to the Executive Secretary of UNFCCC Yvo de Boer, with representatives from NGOs, with Achim STEINER, Executive Director of UNEP and with Mr Festus MOGAE, former President of Botswana and UN Special Envoy on Climate Change for Africa.

#### **4. Side event on the state of play of the climate & energy package**

On Wednesday, 10 December, the European Parliament rapporteurs on the climate & energy package, in collaboration with the European Commission, held a side event on *"Delivering on the EU's climate commitments: state of play of Europe's new climate and energy legislation"*. Mr BLOKLAND, Ms DOYLE, Ms HASSI, Mr DAVIES and Mr SACCONI represented the EP. The impressive attendance of interested people from inside the EU, but many also from countries outside Europe, underlined again the important role the EU plays as the leading group of countries on combating climate change and on delivering the commitments for emission reductions.

#### **5. Side-event on an integrated EU climate change policy**

A second side event organised by the European Parliament took place on Thursday, 11 December. Entitled *"2050: the future begins today - Developing an integrated EU climate change policy"* Mr SACCONI and Mr FLORENZ representing the EP presented the draft final report of the Temporary Committee on Climate Change. Mr Bill HARE from the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, Commissioner DIMAS and Ms Connie HEDEGAARD, Danish Minister for the Environment, contributed to the debate with statements and answered questions from the audience.

#### **6. Other activities of the delegation**

Ms JORDAN CIZELJ, Mr PRODI, Mr BOWIS, Ms MYLLER, Ms DOYLE and Ms HASSI represented the EP at a meeting between Commissioner DIMAS and Senator John KERRY, US Senate.

Mr SACCONI, Mr BLOKLAND and Ms JORDAN CIZELJ represented the EP at a Ministerial dinner for Heads of delegation hosted by Commissioner DIMAS and Minister BORLOO.

## **7. Joint Press Conference with Commission**

As in previous COPs, a joint press conference of Parliament and Commission was held on Wednesday. Mr SACCONI and Ms JORDAN CIZELJ represented the EP delegation. No Council Presidency representative attended this press conference. Due to the prolongation of the plenary until the early hours of Saturday, the final joint EU-press conference was cancelled.

## **III. THE COP-14 NEGOTIATIONS AND OUTCOME**

### **1. General negotiations**

Whereas the negotiations at COP 13 in Bali/Indonesia last year had strongly been influenced by the clear message of urgency to combat climate change expressed in the 4th Assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the talks and discussions at COP 14 in Poznan stood under the impression of a growing financial and economic crisis on a global scale. However, many parties including the European Union stressed their commitment to act against further to combat global warming and underlined the multiple positive effects of climate change policies for the economy on the way to a low-carbon society.

Equally overshadowing the general negotiation process was the still somewhat unclear US position on climate matters in 2009 leading other developed countries not to make clear proposals about their own emissions reduction targets.

The agreement of the European Council on the EU climate and energy package however resulted in a positive feedback at the conference about the seriousness of the EU in achieving its 20% targets.

As a general result, no major breakthrough was achieved in Poznan. However, some progress was achieved and smaller steps forward were made.

### **2. Main outcomes**

The main outcome of the Poznan conference was the operationalisation of the Adaptation fund under the Kyoto Protocol and the agreement on the now called 'Poznan strategic programme on technology transfer'. In addition to that, the 2009 work programmes for the working groups on Further Commitments for Annex-1 Parties under the Kyoto Protocol and on Long-Term Cooperative Action under the Convention were also adopted, thus moving from consultation to detailed negotiation mode. This was marked among others by the reiteration of the mid-term aggregate reduction range of 25-40% for Annex 1 countries by 2020 and the fulfilment of the Bali Action Plan.

In addition, the main political event of the COP was a ministerial round table organised in plenary on the so-called 'shared-vision' for long-term cooperative action on climate change. Even though no clear political signals for the future negotiations were expressed neither by developed or developing countries, the round table was judged a success as all participants underlined their conviction that the financial and economic crisis does not impede the developed countries to raise funds both for mitigation and adaptation in developing countries.

### **Operationalisation of the Adaptation Fund:**

An intense debate between the developed and the developing countries about the concrete legal structure of the adaptation fund marked the COP. The developing countries had strong feelings against an inclusion of the adaptation fund under the roof of the World Bank with the Global Environment Facility acting as the Secretariat of the Fund and insisted to grant the Adaptation Fund legal capacity to be able to access funds directly (including to State Parties) without any intermediate steps or conditions. A compromise text was found that allows for the full operationalisation of the Adaptation Fund by conferring to it legal capacity limited to its essential functions though the provision of the legal capacity to be granted by countries that want to use the fund and a review after one year (jointly with WB and GEF review).

### **Poznan strategic programme on technology transfer':**

Previously referred to as strategic programme of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the programme has been renamed by the COP. The purpose is to scale up the level of investment in technology transfer in order to help developing countries address their needs for environmentally sound technologies and boost technology transfer activities under the Convention.

The Global Environment Facility is requested "to promptly initiate and expeditiously facilitate the preparation of projects for approval and implementation (...) in order to help developing countries address their needs for environmentally sound technologies". In addition, the GEF shall "collaborate with its implementing agencies in order to provide technical support to developing countries in preparing or updating, as appropriate, their technology needs assessments" and is requested "to consider the long-term implementation of the strategic programme".

### **Work programme for 2009:**

The Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term co-operative action (AWGLCA) and the Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG) adopted an agreement on a 2009 work programme. This agreement ensures an intensive negotiation process with a series of meetings in order to prepare a negotiating text for the session in June 2009. In addition, the final work programme offers the possibility for an extra meeting in October/November of next year.

### **3. Location of COP 15 / COP-MOP 5**

The next Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC and the fifth meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol are scheduled to take place from the 7th to the 18th of December 2009 in Copenhagen, Denmark. There, an agreement on the future international framework to combat climate change after 2012 (when the first commitment period of the Kyoto protocol expires) has to be finalised.

## **IV. CONCLUDING COMMENTS**

### **1. Role of EP members in the EU delegation**

As in previous Conferences, the EP members were kept excluded from the EU co-ordination meetings. The request to attend such meetings has been made on many occasions in resolutions adopted by the Parliament, and it was once again raised by the EP delegation.

### **2. Forthcoming events in 2009, and the role of the Parliament in these processes**

2009 will be a crucial year for climate change. The great hopes raised by the US President-elect Barack Obama, confirmed in Poznań both by Senator John Kerry and by Mr Al Gore, that the new US administration will actively contribute in the fight against climate change both through the adoption of domestic measures and in the international negotiations will probably become reality in the course of next year. Actions and initiatives in the US need, therefore, to be closely followed by the European Parliament.

At EU level, after the successful adoption of the "climate and energy package", activities and work will focus on the international negotiations and on the Copenhagen Conference. A Commission Communication in preparation to Copenhagen and addressing, inter alia, the crucial issue of financial support to developing countries, will be adopted at the end of January 2009 in view of the March Environment Council. It is of the greatest importance that the European Parliament expresses its view on this communication, thus establishing its position in view of Copenhagen.

The Fifteenth Conference of the Parties, taking place under Swedish Presidency in Copenhagen in December 2009, with the objective of achieving a global climate agreement, will be the most important conference on climate change since the adoption of the Kyoto Protocol. The EP will, therefore, need to be present at that Conference as well as at the possible extraordinary ministerial session in October/November 2009 and support, through its privileged contacts with other parliamentarians, the EU negotiators.