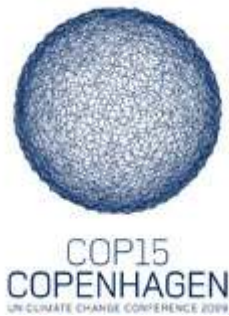


UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE- COPENHAGEN 2009



On 7 December 2009 the UN Climate Change Conference kicked off in Copenhagen and will run until 18 December 2009. Over 10 days the world leaders are gathering to work out how to halt climate change. The European Union (EU) is aiming to achieve maximum progress towards finalisation of an ambitious and legally binding global climate treaty to succeed the Kyoto Protocol in 2013. The conference intends to settle the key political elements of the treaty and set up a process and mid-2010 deadline for completing the full text. The Copenhagen agreement aims to incorporate a deal allowing for immediate implementation or preparation of certain actions, including financial assistance to least developed countries.

At the core of the package are three objectives for 2020: cutting greenhouse gas emissions by 20 per cent from 1990 levels, increasing energy efficiency by 20 per cent and deriving 20 per cent of energy consumption from renewables. The EU has committed to scaling up its emission cut from 20 per cent to 30 per cent if the rest of the world commits to an ambitious and satisfactory global climate deal in December's Conference in Copenhagen. The agreement will require global greenhouse gas emissions to stop rising by 2020 at the latest, to be reduced by at least 50 per cent of 1990 levels by 2050, and to continue falling thereafter. In this context, developed countries should cut their emissions by 80-95 per cent below 1990 levels by 2050. The Conference expects to bring about a single new protocol which, it is planned, will be finalised by mid-2010 and put into force no later than 1 January 2013.

LISBON TREATY AND EUROPEAN COUNCIL

Under the Lisbon Treaty, the European Council became an entirely separate EU institution having its own internal regulation. This was adopted via the written procedure, on 1 December 2009, the date of entry into force of the treaty. The European Council is composed of its president, the heads of state and government, the president of the European Commission and the high representative for foreign affairs. The European Council will meet twice, every six months, on the convocation of its new president the Belgian Herman Van Rompuy who has his mandate for two and half years. The summits take place in Brussels, except if Van Rompuy - with the agreement of the General Affairs Council or the Committee of Permanent Representatives of the Member States - unanimously decides otherwise. The text then turns to the role of the president of the European Council and his relations with the prime minister (or president) of the country holding the rotating six-month Presidency of the European Union. In the event of illness or death, the president of the European Council will be replaced by the prime minister or president of the country holding the rotating EU presidency. In addition, the European Council will have its own budget of €25m of which €12m will be allocated to the organisation of meetings of heads of state and governments.



NEW EUROPEAN COMMISSION



On 27 November 2009 the newly re-elected President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso unveiled the distribution portfolios amongst members of the new European Commission. Half of the new Commission is made up of incumbents, but they will not hold the same portfolios. Olli Rehn (Finland) for instance moves from enlargement to economic and monetary affairs, succeeding Joaquin Almunia (Spain), who takes over competition. In general, lots of Member States secured the portfolios they had requested: Michel Barnier (France) got the internal market, Janusz Lewandowski (Poland) obtained the

budget (he dealt with budgetary matters in the European Parliament and will prepare the revision of financial perspectives), Günter Oettinger (Germany) has been assigned to energy and Dacian Colos (Romania) will be in charge of agriculture. Catherine Ashton (UK) has been designated as High representative of the EU for foreign affairs and security policy and as a vice-president of the European

Commission. Siim Kallas (Estonia) has been designated as a new EU Transport Commissioner but is currently serving as EU Commissioner for Administrative Affairs, Audit and Anti-Fraud and he is one out of five vice-presidents of the European Commission. Further Commissioners-designate for the next European Commission are: László Andor (Hungary) – employment, social affairs and inclusion, John Dalli (Malta) – health and consumer policy, Maria Damanaki (Greece) – maritime affairs and fisheries, Karel De Gucht (Belgium)- trade, Stefan Füle (Czech Republic) – enlargement and European neighbourhood policy, Johannes Hahn (Austria) – regional policy, Connie Hedegaard (Denmark) – climate action, Máire Geoghegan-Quinn (Ireland) – research and innovation, Rumiana Jeleva (Bulgaria) internal cooperation, humanitarian aid and crisis response, Neelie Kroes (Netherlands) – digital agenda, vice-president of the European Commission, Cecilia Malmström (Sweden) – home affairs, Andris Piebalgs (Latvia) – development, Janez Potocnik (Slovenia) – environment, Viviane Reding (Luxembourg) – justice, fundamental rights and citizenship, vice-president of the European Commission, Maros Sefcovic (Slovakia) – vice-president of the European Commission for inter-institutional relations and administration, Algirdas Semeta (Lithuania) – taxation, and custom union, audit and anti fraud, Antonio Tajani (Italy) – industry and entrepreneurship, vice-president of the European Commission and Androulla Vassiliou (Cyprus) Education, culture, multilingualism and youth. The new European Commission must be now approved by the European Parliament, the vote for which is scheduled for 26 January 2010.

OTHER OPEN FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

CALL FOR PROPOSALS – CLEAN SKY

On 15 December 2009 the Clean Sky Joint Undertaking is organising an information day in Brussels on the recently published 2nd Call for Proposals. Leaders from the five technology domains of Clean Sky will present the Call topics, while Clean Sky staff will present the procedures to be followed by applicants. The Call has a budget of €8.3m and covers 24 new research topics under the following themes: EcoDesign, Green Regional Aircrafts, Green Rotocraft, Sustainable and Green Engines, System for Green Operations. The funding per project will be between 50 per cent and 75 per cent depending on the nature of the applicant.

Deadline: 23 February 2010.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS – FP7: MARIE CURIE ACTIONS

On 25 November 2009 the Official Journal of the EU published a new call for proposals under the FP7 Marie Curie actions - International Research Staff Exchange Scheme. The call supports proposal for training and career development of researchers. The call has a budget of €30m. **Deadline on 25 March 2010.**

CALL FOR PROPOSALS – MEDIA 2007

The call promotes the development of production projects for European and international markets presented by independent European production companies in animation, creative documentary and drama. **Deadline: 12 April 2010.**

CALL FOR PROPOSALS – MEDIA 2007: AUDIOVISUAL FESTIVALS

The Call covers festivals taking place between 1 May 2010 and 30 April 2011. Festivals must devote a minimum 70% of their entire programme to European films from at least ten countries participating in the MEDIA Programme (not eligible festivals: archaeology or anthropology, medicine, ornithology, science, environment, tourism, sport, commercials, live-broadcast events, music videos and videogames). **Deadline: 30 April 2010.**

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