The meeting of the ENVI Committee on 10-11 July is the last one before the summer recess, and, as usual, it has a busy agenda. The committee will vote on key legislative reports such as the tobacco products directive, the amendment to the fuel quality and renewable energy directives with regard to indirect land-use change (ILUC), and the amendment to the directive on environmental impact assessment. Members of the ENVI Committee will also meet the Lithuanian Presidency to discuss the priorities in the field of the environment, public health and food safety, including the schedule of interinstitutional negotiations on legislative proposals. As the European Parliament prepares for next year's elections, timing becomes crucial as we would like to make sure that those negotiations are concluded, and legislation is put in place on time.

I wish you all a relaxing summer holidays! If you are heading for the beach, you might want to check how clean the bathing water is by using the European Environment Agency’s data sets and interactive maps.

Matthias Groote

**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NEXT MEETING**

**Tobacco products directive**

Vote on draft report

More than ten years have passed since the adoption of the Tobacco Products Directive. Its revision is foreseen in Article 11 of the directive, and it has been repeatedly called for by the European Parliament and the Council. The revision, as presented by the Commission, focuses on five policy areas: smokeless tobacco products and extension of the product scope; packaging & labelling; ingredients and additives; cross-border distance sales; and traceability and security features. In addition, the proposal works towards ensuring a harmonised implementation of international obligations following from the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC), which is legally binding for the EU and all Member States, and a consistent approach to non-binding FCTC commitments, in case there is a risk of divergent transposition at national level.

The Rapporteur supports the proposal on tightened rules on ingredients but would like the Commission to extend this legislation to waterpipes. She also supports all proposed measures on labelling and packaging, but proposes to go further in the case of cigarettes and "roll your own" by proposing to Member States a form of standardisation which removes overt branding from packaging. She seeks to strengthen the anti-counterfeit security, and ensure that traceability on individual packets also feature on multipacks. Furthermore, she supports the decision of the Commission on maintaining the restriction of oral tobacco; and advocates for prior authorisation for all novel tobacco products. She also proposes to ban cross-border district sales of tobacco products.

Altogether 1360 amendments covering definitions, regulation of ingredients, combined health warnings, appearance and content of packs or traceability and security features. Five committees contributed to the legislation with their opinion (IMCO, ITRE, AGRI, JURI and INTA). The Rapporteur and the Shadows negotiated 65 compromise and consolidated amendments.

Rapporteur: McAvan (S&D), Procedure file
Shadows: Florenz (EPP), Bies (ALDE), Schlyter (Greens/EFA), Callman (ECR), Anderson (GUE/NGL), Rossi (EFD)

AMs (E-724, 155-266, 347-733, 735-886, 872-977, 987-2713, 224-813, 814-944, 945-1043, 1044-1146, 1147-1233, 1234-1360)

**Indirect land-use change, ILUC - Amendment of the fuel quality directive and the renewable energy directive**

Vote on draft report

Emissions from indirect land-use change (ILUC) can negate the greenhouse gas (GHG) savings of biofuels relative to fossil fuels. The proposal amends the Fuel Quality Directive and Renewable Energies Directive with the aim to foster the transition to biofuels delivering substantial GHG savings including ILUC emissions while protecting existing investments. The objective is to limit the contribution of conventional biofuels towards the attainment of targets in the Renewables Directive, to improve GHG performance of biofuel production processes, to encourage a greater market penetration of advanced (low-ILUC) biofuels and to report the estimated ILUC emissions.

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1 This draft agenda is subject to changes. The final agenda will be adopted at the beginning of the meeting.
The draft report is based on the firm belief that it is necessary to fully take ILUC into account in EU biofuels policy: a value is introduced for ILUC emissions in the calculation of the GHG savings required under the sustainability criteria, and ILUC is included in the calculation of life-cycle GHG emissions. A "grandfathering" clause until 2017 is introduced to protect investments that have already been made. Safeguards are introduced to ensure that the incentives for second generation biofuels do not create unwanted environmental or economic effects and to protect forests. The draft report also introduces measures to reach the 10% target for renewable energy in transport more easily and to incentivise other forms of renewable energy.

550 additional amendments were tabled to ENVI covering all major aspects of the proposal with very diverging aims, in particular concerning ILUC factors, sustainability criteria, GHG savings thresholds, reporting of ILUC, "capping" of first-generation biofuels, multiple counting of advanced biofuels, and the powers to be delegated to the Commission. A set of consolidated amendments has been negotiated by the Rapporteur and the Shadows.

Rapporteur:  
Shadows:  
AMs:  

Environmental impact assessment - Amendment of Directive 2011/92/EU

The Commission proposal amends the existing Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive. The purpose of the revision is to introduce new factors for assessing environmental issues, improve the quality of the information used in the EIA, and simplify the procedures.

The draft report strengthens the role of the public concerned; proposes measures to prevent conflicts of interest; supplements ex-post monitoring of projects with a requirement to take corrective action; ensures that environmental reports are verified by independent experts; requires environmental impact assessment for shale gas exploration and extraction; and limits the retroactivity of the new rules.

530 additional amendments were tabled on all major aspects of the proposal, in particular the definition of project, the "one-stop shop", the screening procedure, the scoping of the environmental report, the accreditation of experts, and the inclusion of non-conventional hydrocarbon projects. A comprehensive compromise package covering the most sensitive points has been negotiated by the Rapporteur and the Shadows.

Rapporteur:  
Shadows:  
AMs:  

Appointment of the future executive directors of the European Environment Agency - European Parliament’s rights in the appointment procedure

Currently, Regulation (EC) No 401/2009 on the European Environment Agency does not require that the candidate selected for the position of the Executive Director is heard by the European Parliament prior to the appointment. This is not the case for other agencies under ENVI Committee's remits such as the European Chemicals Agency, the European Medicines Agency and the European Food Safety Authority; holding such hearings for the EEA is already an established practice in ENVI.

This legislative initiative report makes use of Article 225 of the Treaty. It requests the Commission to submit a proposal to amend EEA’s founding regulation in a way that the European Parliament is granted the formal right to hear the selected candidate prior to his or her appointment. The report also asks to specify that to select the candidate, the Commission should publish a call for expressions of interest in the Official Journal of the EU and in other periodicals or on internet sites.

Rapporteur:  
Shadows:  
AM:

Union Environment Action Programme to 2020: ‘Living well, within the limits of our planet’

Adoption of the text agreed in interinstitutional negotiations according to Rule 70(5)

Following informal negotiations, on 19 June 2013 the European Parliament and the Council reached an agreement on the new General Union Environment Action Programme to 2020. The Commission also welcomed the agreement.

The main elements of the agreement are:

- The limitation of landfilling to non-recyclable and non-recoverable waste by 2020, an important step towards a more fully-fledged resource management approach to waste.
- On climate and energy policy, recognition of the need for a legally binding framework beyond 2020 to enable Member States and industry to make the necessary investments in emissions reduction, energy efficiency and renewable energy, taking into account the indicative milestones set out in the Low Carbon Economy Roadmap to 2050.

- Agreement on the need to address EU soil quality issues including consideration of a binding legal framework.

- Agreement on the establishment of a more coherent policy and legislative framework for sustainable consumption and production.

- Agreement on the need to establish an EU-wide quantitative reduction headline target for marine litter.

- Agreement that the combination effects of chemicals and safety concerns related to endocrine disruptors and nanomaterials must be effectively addressed across all relevant EU legislation.

- Agreement on the need to further develop inspection support capacity at EU level, in order to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of inspections. This will also contribute to a more level playing field within the EU.

- Agreement on the need to phase-out environmentally harmful subsidies at Member State and EU level.

- The integration of environmental considerations including water protection and biodiversity conservation into land use planning decisions, with a view to making progress towards the objective of no net land take by 2050.

Rapporteur: Franco (EPP) Procedure file
Shadows: Leinen (S&D), Gerbrandy (ALDE), Auken(Greens/EFA), Rosbach (ECR), Ferreira (GUE/NGL)

Ship recycling
Adoption of the text agreed in interinstitutional negotiations according to Rule 70(5)

Following informal negotiations, on 17 June 2013 the European Parliament and the Council reached an agreement on the legislative proposal. The agreement secures provisions to clearly preclude the practice of beaching. EU-ships need to be dismantled in ship recycling facilities which are included in a European list, that is, must fulfil specific requirements, be certified and are regularly reviewed. The inventory of hazardous materials becomes compulsory for both EU-ships and non-EU ships, and will be part of the port state control regime. Enforcement measures, including penalties, are to be set by Member States; as a recital clarifies, environmental criminal law continues to apply for ship and waste not covered by the regulation (relevant infringements are to be assessed in a report by the Commission). The Commission must report on the feasibility of financial instruments and, if appropriate, present a legislative proposal within 3 years of the entry into force of the regulation.

Rapporteur: Schlyter (Greens/EFA) Procedure file
Shadows: Fielner (EPP), Prodi (S&D), Davies (ALDE), van Dalen (ECR), Wils (GUE/NGL), Cymanski (EFD)

General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2014 - all sections
Consideration of draft opinion

According to Article 312 of the Lisbon Treaty, the multiannual financial framework is now compulsory and shall be agreed in the form of a Council regulation, adopted by the Council by unanimity after obtaining the consent of the European Parliament by a majority of its component members. 2014 is a year of transition between two multiannual financial frameworks. ENVI’s standing Rapporteur on budget prepared her draft opinion underlining the committee’s priorities.

Rapporteur: Haug (S&D) Procedure file
Shadows: Fernandes (EPP), Panayotov (ALDE), Hassi (Greens/EFA), Bokros (ECR)

Exchange of views with the Lithuanian Presidency

The committee will meet the respective ministers to discuss the priorities of the Lithuanian Presidency, with particular emphasis on the timing of ongoing and future interinstitutional negotiations (trilogues).

The committee will see Minister Valentinas Mazuronis, responsible for environment and climate, in the early morning of 10 July; Minister Vigilijus Jakna, responsible for agriculture incl. food, in the late morning of 10 July; and Minister Vytenis Andriukaitis, responsible for health, in the early afternoon of 11 July.

RECENTLY ADOPTED IN COMMITTEE

- Report on Access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization in the Union;
- Report on the Nagoya Protocol on Access to genetic resources;
- Report on Basic safety standards for protection against the dangers arising from exposure to ionising radiation.
**NEWS FROM THE AGENCIES**

**European Environment Agency (EEA)**

Bioenergy production must use resources more efficiently

Using biomass for energy is an important part of the renewable energy mix. However, bioenergy production should follow EU resource efficiency principles, according to a new report from the European Environment Agency (EEA). This means extracting more energy from the same material input, and avoiding negative environmental effects potentially caused by bioenergy production. [More](#)

**European Chemicals Agency (ECHA)**

ECHA launched a public consultation on the inclusion of new substances in the REACH authorisation list. [More](#)

**European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)**

ESCAIDE 2013:

The 2013 European Scientific Conference on Applied Infectious Disease Epidemiology (ESCAIDE) will be held in Stockholm, Sweden on 5 - 7 November. [More](#)

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**European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)**

EFSA has published guidance for assessing the potential risks to honey bees, bumble bees and solitary bees from the use of pesticides. The previous EU risk assessment scheme for honey bees did not take full account of risks from chronic or repeat exposure to pesticides or the potential risks to larvae. [More](#)

**European Medicines Agency (EMA)**

The EMA is organising a workshop on 6 Sept 2013 entitled ‘Best expertise vs conflicts of interests: Striking the right balance’. The workshop is intended to elicit the views and concerns from academia, patient organisations, Committee representatives, NGOs, the pharmaceutical industry and the scientific media on the Agency’s current conflicts of interests policy. [More](#)

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Contact the ENVI Secretariat: envi-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu or visit the website of the ENVI Committee.

**Next meeting of the ENVI Committee**
5 September 2013 (Brussels) 9.18 September 2013, 9.00 - 12.30 and 15.00 - 18.30 (Brussels)

**Further information sources**
The EP Library regularly prepares briefings which summarise published, quality information related to topical subjects. Find the latest updates via the links briefings and blog. The EP Policy Departments publish studies, notes, information notes, and workshop proceedings.

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