



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

2012/0337(COD)

1.3.2013

*****I**

DRAFT REPORT

on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on a General Union Environment Action Programme to 2020: 'Living well, within the limits of our planet'
(COM(2012)0710 – C7-0392/2012 – 2012/0337(COD))

Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

Rapporteur: Gaston Franco

Symbols for procedures

- * Consultation procedure
- *** Consent procedure
- ***I Ordinary legislative procedure (first reading)
- ***II Ordinary legislative procedure (second reading)
- ***III Ordinary legislative procedure (third reading)

(The type of procedure depends on the legal basis proposed by the draft act.)

Amendments to a draft act

In amendments by Parliament, amendments to draft acts are highlighted in ***bold italics***. Highlighting in *normal italics* is an indication for the relevant departments showing parts of the draft act which may require correction when the final text is prepared – for instance, obvious errors or omissions in a language version. Suggested corrections of this kind are subject to the agreement of the departments concerned.

The heading for any amendment to an existing act that the draft act seeks to amend includes a third line identifying the existing act and a fourth line identifying the provision in that act that Parliament wishes to amend. Passages in an existing act that Parliament wishes to amend, but that the draft act has left unchanged, are highlighted in **bold**. Any deletions that Parliament wishes to make in such passages are indicated thus: [...].

CONTENTS

	Page
DRAFT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION.....	5
EXPLANATORY STATEMENT.....	53

DRAFT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on a General Union Environment Action Programme to 2020: ‘Living well, within the limits of our planet’

(COM(2012)0710 – C7-0392/2012 – 2012/0337(COD))

(Ordinary legislative procedure: first reading)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Commission proposal to Parliament and the Council (COM(2012)0710),
 - having regard to Article 294(2) and Article 192(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, pursuant to which the Commission submitted the proposal to Parliament (C7-0392/2012),
 - having regard to Article 294(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
 - having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee of ...¹,
 - having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions of ...²,
 - having regard to Rule 55 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety and the opinion of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (A7-0000/2013),
1. Adopts its position at first reading hereinafter set out;
 2. Calls on the Commission to refer the matter to Parliament again if it intends to amend its proposal substantially or replace it with another text;
 3. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council, the Commission and the national parliaments.

¹ OJ C, ...

² OJ C, ...

Amendment 1

Proposal for a decision Recital 5 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(5) The European Parliament resolution of 20 April 2012 on the review of the 6th Environment Action Programme and the setting of priorities for the 7th Environment Action Programme – A better environment for a better life highlighted three priorities on which to base the new programme, namely implementation and strengthening, integration, and the international dimension.

Or. fr

Amendment 2

Proposal for a decision Recital 5 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(5b) The European Environment Agency (EEA) report entitled ‘The European environment – state and outlook 2010’ (SOER 2010) points out that a number of major environmental challenges still remain and that there will be serious repercussions if nothing is done to address them.

Or. fr

Amendment 3

Proposal for a decision Recital 7

Text proposed by the Commission

(7) It is essential that Union priority objectives for 2020 are established, in light of a long-term vision for 2050. The new programme should build on policy initiatives in the Europe 2020 strategy, including the EU climate and energy package, the Roadmap for moving to a low-carbon economy in 2050, the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020, the Roadmap to a resource-efficient Europe and the Innovation Union Flagship Initiative.

Amendment

(7) It is essential that Union priority objectives for 2020 are established, in light of a **clear** long-term vision for 2050, **in order to provide a stable environment for investment and growth**. The new programme should build on policy initiatives in the Europe 2020 strategy, including the EU climate and energy package, the Roadmap for moving to a low-carbon economy in 2050, the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020, the Roadmap to a resource-efficient Europe and the Innovation Union Flagship Initiative.

Or. fr

Amendment 4

Proposal for a decision Recital 10 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(10a) The Union has set itself the target of halting global forest cover loss by 2030 at the latest and reducing gross tropical deforestation by at least 50% by 2020 compared to 2008 levels¹.

¹ 2912th meeting of the Environment Council, 4 December 2008.

Or. fr

Amendment 5

Proposal for a decision Recital 21

Text proposed by the Commission

(21) Biodiversity loss and the degradation of ecosystems in the Union have important implications for the environment and are costly for society as a whole, particularly for economic actors in sectors that depend directly on ecosystem services.

Amendment

(21) Biodiversity loss and the degradation of ecosystems in the Union have important implications for the environment **and human wellbeing** and are costly for society as a whole, particularly for economic actors in sectors that depend directly on ecosystem services. ***Biodiversity threats also represent a challenge for the Union in terms of its responsibility towards the outermost regions and the overseas countries and territories, which are 'biodiversity hotspots'¹, and towards the rest of the world in relation to Europe's ecological footprint outside the Union's borders.***

¹ ***'Biodiversity hotspots' are geographical areas in which biodiversity is under threat. The outermost regions and the overseas countries and territories are home to 70% of Europe's biodiversity and to more endemic species than continental Europe as a whole.***

Or. fr

Amendment 6

Proposal for a decision Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) to protect, conserve **and** enhance the Union's natural capital;

Amendment

(a) to protect, conserve, enhance **and accord proper value to** the Union's natural capital;

Or. fr

Justification

La référence à cette notion de valeur s'inscrit dans la logique de la stratégie de l'Union en faveur de la biodiversité à l'horizon 2020. Comme indiqué dans les conclusions du Conseil environnement de mars 2010 : "à l'horizon 2050, la biodiversité dans l'Union européenne ainsi que les services écosystémiques qu'elle fournit - son capital naturel - seront protégés, évalués et rétablis de manière appropriée compte tenu de la valeur intrinsèque de la biodiversité et de sa contribution essentielle au bien-être de l'homme et à la prospérité économique et de façon à ce que les changements catastrophiques causés par la perte de la biodiversité soient évités." Amendement horizontal pour tout le texte

Amendment 7

Proposal for a decision

Article 3 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. The Union and its Member States are responsible for ensuring the delivery of the priority objectives set out in this programme. They shall pursue a coherent approach to addressing the challenges identified. Action shall be taken with due *account of* the **principle** of subsidiarity and at the level best suited to achieving the priority objectives and related outcomes set out in this programme.

Amendment

1. The Union and its Member States are responsible for ensuring the delivery of the priority objectives set out in this programme. They shall pursue a coherent approach to addressing the challenges identified. Action shall be taken with due *regard for* the **principles of conferral, subsidiarity and proportionality** and at the level best suited to achieving the priority objectives and related outcomes set out in this programme.

Or. fr

Amendment 8

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 7

Text proposed by the Commission

7. Together with current wasteful production and consumption systems in the world economy, rising global demand for goods and services and depletion of resources *is* increasing the cost of essential raw materials, minerals and energy, generating more pollution and waste,

Amendment

7. Together with current wasteful production and consumption systems in the world economy, rising global demand for goods and services, **the lack of provision for sustainable resource management at international level** and **the** depletion of **some** resources **are** increasing the cost of

increasing global GHG emissions and driving land degradation, deforestation and biodiversity loss. Nearly two-thirds of the world's ecosystems are in decline and there is evidence that planetary boundaries for biodiversity, climate change and the nitrogen cycle have already been transgressed. There is likely to be a global shortfall of 40 % in water by 2030 unless there is significant progress in improving resource efficiency. There is also the risk that climate change will further exacerbate these problems, with high costs. In 2011, disasters partly due to climate change resulted in global economic losses of over 300 billion Euros. The OECD has warned that the continued degradation and erosion of natural capital risks bringing about irreversible changes that could endanger two centuries of rising living standards and entail significant costs.

essential raw materials, minerals and energy, generating more pollution and waste, increasing global GHG emissions and driving land degradation, deforestation and biodiversity loss. Nearly two-thirds of the world's ecosystems are in decline and there is evidence that planetary boundaries for biodiversity, climate change and the nitrogen cycle have already been transgressed. There is likely to be a global shortfall of 40 % in water by 2030 unless there is significant progress in improving resource efficiency. There is also the risk that climate change will further exacerbate these problems, with high costs. In 2011, disasters partly due to climate change resulted in global economic losses of over 300 billion Euros. The OECD has warned that the continued degradation and erosion of natural capital risks bringing about irreversible changes that could endanger two centuries of rising living standards and entail significant costs.

Or. fr

Amendment 9

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 11

Text proposed by the Commission

11. This transformation requires the full integration of environment issues into other policies, such as energy, transport, agriculture, fisheries, economy and industry, research and innovation, employment **and** social policy so as to create a coherent, joined-up approach. Action within the EU should also be complemented by enhanced global action and cooperation with neighbouring countries to tackle common challenges.

Amendment

11. This transformation requires the full integration of environment issues into other policies, such as energy, transport, agriculture, fisheries, **international trade**, economy and industry, research and innovation, employment, social policy **and education and training** so as to create a coherent, joined-up approach. Action within the EU should also be complemented by enhanced global action and cooperation with neighbouring countries to tackle common challenges.

Amendment 10**Proposal for a decision
Annex – paragraph 18***Text proposed by the Commission*

18. Despite considerable efforts to date, the **requirement under the WFD to achieve** ‘good ecological status’ by 2015 is likely to be met only for some 53 % of surface water bodies in the EU. **There is also a risk that** the Marine Strategy Framework Directive target to achieve ‘good environmental status’ by 2020 **may be missed**, inter alia due to **continued** overfishing and **the presence of** marine litter **in Europe’s seas**. And while EU air and industrial emissions policies have helped to reduce many forms of pollution, ecosystems continue to suffer from excess nitrogen deposition and ozone pollution associated with emissions from transport, intensive agriculture and power generation.

Amendment

18. Despite considerable efforts to date, the WFD **target of achieving** ‘good ecological status’ by 2015 is likely to be met only for some 53 % of surface water bodies in the EU. The Marine Strategy Framework Directive target to achieve ‘good environmental status’ by 2020 **is also coming under severe pressure**, inter alia due to **continuing human threats such as** overfishing, **pollution (including underwater noise pollution)** and marine litter, **combined with the effects of global warming (acidification of the oceans)**. And while EU air and industrial emissions policies have helped to reduce many forms of pollution, ecosystems continue to suffer from excess nitrogen deposition and ozone pollution associated with emissions from transport, intensive agriculture and power generation.

Or. fr

Amendment 11**Proposal for a decision
Annex – paragraph 18 a (new)***Text proposed by the Commission**Amendment*

18a. Far from enough is being done to exploit the very considerable potential for greenhouse gas emission reduction in the farming sector. With a view to changing farming practices in order to diminish the role the sector plays in climate change,

information and awareness-raising campaigns need to be implemented and economic support needs to be provided while the changes are in progress. The tools are there, but their implementation is being hampered by various information-related and methodological barriers, which must be overcome.

Or. fr

Amendment 12

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 18 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

18b. Furthermore, the land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) sector, the activities in which focus mainly on agricultural land management, is the only sector that acts as a carbon sink, owing to its CO₂ storage capacity. The adoption of a harmonised EU legislative framework laying down accounting rules for the sector that are in keeping with the decisions adopted in the area under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) will be a first step towards the sector's incorporation into the Union's climate change commitments.

Or. fr

Amendment 13

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 18 c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

18c. The greening of the CAP will

enhance agricultural land's carbon storage capacity and, more generally, enable the EU to meet environmental objectives in areas such as biodiversity conservation and water and soil improvement.

Or. fr

Amendment 14

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 19

Text proposed by the Commission

19. Protecting, conserving **and** enhancing the EU's natural capital therefore also requires tackling problems at source through, inter alia, better integration of natural capital objectives into other policies, ensuring that policies are coherent and deliver co-benefits. The greening elements set out in the Commission's reform proposals, notably for EU agriculture, fisheries and cohesion policy, backed by the proposals for greening the EU budget under the Multi-Annual Financial Framework 2014-2020 (MFF) are designed to support these objectives. ***For instance, aquatic ecosystems in rural areas should benefit from the linking of farm payments to compliance with relevant requirements of the WFD as set out in the Commission's proposals for the reform of the CAP.*** Greening of the CAP will also promote the environmentally beneficial agricultural practices of crop diversification, the protection of permanent grassland, and the establishment and maintenance of ecologically valuable farmland and forest areas.

Amendment

19. Protecting, conserving, enhancing **and according proper value to** the EU's natural capital therefore also requires tackling problems at source through, inter alia, better integration of natural capital objectives into other policies, ensuring that policies are coherent and deliver co-benefits. The greening elements set out in the Commission's reform proposals, notably for EU agriculture, fisheries and cohesion policy, backed by the proposals for greening the EU budget under the Multi-Annual Financial Framework 2014-2020 (MFF) are designed to support these objectives. Greening of the CAP will also promote the environmentally beneficial agricultural practices of crop diversification, the protection of permanent grassland and ***grazing land, agroforestry*** and the establishment and maintenance of ecologically valuable farmland and forest areas.

Or. fr

Justification

La suppression de la référence à la directive-cadre sur l'eau est conforme au résultat du vote sur la PAC en Commission AGRI les 23 et 24 Janvier 2013. La grande hétérogénéité des mesures nationales de transposition rend impossible une intégration de la directive-cadre sur l'eau dans la conditionnalité de la future PAC. Le choix de mesures socle et de mesures de verdissement clairement identifiables et applicables en faveur de la protection de la ressource en eau est à rechercher. Aussi les trois mesures vertes telles que proposées par la Commission avec certaines flexibilités vont dans ce sens

Amendment 15

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 20

Text proposed by the Commission

20. *In the case of* the marine environment, while the maritime sector offers economic opportunities, from fishing, shipping and aquaculture to raw materials and offshore energy and marine biotechnology, care needs to be taken to ensure their exploitation is compatible with the conservation and sustainable management of marine and coastal ecosystems.

Amendment

20. ***The Union has a primary responsibility for*** the marine environment, ***given that it has the world's largest maritime domain, not least because of its overseas countries and territories.*** While the maritime sector offers economic opportunities, from fishing, shipping and aquaculture to raw materials and offshore energy and marine biotechnology, care needs to be taken to ensure their exploitation is compatible with the conservation and sustainable management of marine and coastal ecosystems. ***The marine environment is also lagging far behind in terms of protection, as the Natura 2000 marine environment network, which was scheduled for completion in 2012¹, is still neither ecologically coherent nor operational. Member States have made considerable efforts to extend the Natura 2000 marine network on the basis of existing scientific knowledge and implement programmes to acquire the scientific data on the marine environment required in order to complete the network, and those efforts must be continued. Marine protected areas, in particular in the Mediterranean, need to be managed more efficiently.***

Amendment 16

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 23

Text proposed by the Commission

23. To reduce the most significant man-made pressures on land, soil and other ecosystems in Europe, action will be taken to ensure that decisions relating to land use at all relevant levels give proper consideration to environmental as well as social and economic impacts. The Rio+20 Summit outcome called for a 'land degradation neutral world'. The EU and Member States should reflect on how best to make such a commitment operational within their respective competencies **as well as to address soil quality issues within a binding legal framework**. Targets will also be set for sustainable land use and soil.

Amendment

23. To reduce the most significant man-made pressures on land, soil and other ecosystems in Europe, action will be taken to ensure that decisions relating to land use at all relevant levels give proper consideration to environmental as well as social and economic impacts. The Rio+20 Summit outcome called for a 'land degradation neutral world'. The EU and Member States should, ***without delay, reflect on how best to make such a commitment operational within their respective competencies. In keeping with the subsidiarity principle and in view of the fact that widely differing soil protection approaches are currently being implemented at national level, Member States should, within the framework established by the thematic strategy on soil protection, draw up targeted national soil protection strategies and a risk assessment methodology on the basis of which to identify priority polluted sites. The pooling of knowledge and experience among Member States should also be encouraged.*** Targets will also be set for sustainable land use and soil.

Amendment 17

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 26 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

26. In order to protect, conserve **and** enhance the EU's natural capital, the programme shall ensure that by 2020:

Amendment

26. In order to protect, conserve, enhance **and accord proper value to** the EU's natural capital, the programme shall ensure that by 2020:

Or. fr

Amendment 18

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 26 – subparagraph 1 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) The loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services are halted and ecosystems and their services are maintained **and** enhanced.

Amendment

(a) The loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services are halted and ecosystems and their services are maintained, enhanced **and, as far as is possible, restored.**

Or. fr

Amendment 19

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 26 – subparagraph 1 – point g

Text proposed by the Commission

(g) Forests and the services they provide are protected and their resilience to climate change **and** fires is improved.

Amendment

(g) Forests and the services they provide are protected **and managed sustainably** and their resilience to climate change, fires, **storms and pests** is improved.

Or. fr

Amendment 20

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 26 – subparagraph 1 – point g a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ga) EU citizens play an active part in protecting, conserving and enhancing the Union’s natural capital and making sure that it is accorded proper value.

Or. fr

Amendment 21

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 26 – subparagraph 2 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(c) Increasing efforts, inter alia, to ensure that healthy fish stocks are achieved by 2020 at the latest, starting by fishing at, or below, maximum sustainable yield levels as from 2015 in all fisheries, **and** establish an EU-wide quantitative reduction target for marine litter.

(c) Increasing efforts, inter alia, to ensure that healthy fish stocks are achieved by 2020 at the latest, starting by fishing at, or below, maximum sustainable yield levels as from 2015 in all fisheries, **combat pollution**, establish an EU-wide quantitative reduction target for marine litter **and complete the network of marine protected areas in the Union.**

Or. fr

Amendment 22

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 26 – subparagraph 2 – point g

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(g) Developing and implementing a new EU Forest Strategy that addresses the multiple demands on and benefits of forests and contributes to a more strategic approach to protecting and enhancing

(g) Developing and implementing a new EU Forest Strategy that addresses the multiple demands on and benefits of forests and contributes to a more strategic approach to protecting and enhancing

forests.

forests *which strikes a balance between sustainability and the need for the EU forestry industry to be competitive.*

Or. fr

Amendment 23

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 26 – subparagraph 2 – point g a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ga) Enhancing EU public information provision on environmental policy, improving environmental education in national school systems and supporting grassroots action.

Or. fr

Amendment 24

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph - 27 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

- 27. The Europe 2020 strategy seeks to promote sustainable growth, with the priority being to build a low-carbon economy which is more resource-efficient and competitive, through two flagship initiatives which strike a balance between environmental aspirations and industrial policy objectives, namely ‘A resource-efficient Europe’ and ‘An integrated industrial policy for the globalisation era’¹.

¹ COM(2010)0614 of 28 October 2010.

Or. fr

Amendment 25

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 27

Text proposed by the Commission

27. The ***Europe 2020 Strategy's*** 'Resource-efficient Europe' Flagship Initiative aims to support the shift towards an economy that is efficient in the way it uses all resources, decouples absolutely economic growth from resource and energy use and its environmental impacts, reduces GHG emissions, enhances competitiveness through efficiency and innovation and promotes greater energy security. The Roadmap to Resource Efficient Europe and the Roadmap for moving to a competitive low-carbon economy are key building blocks of the Initiative, setting out the framework for future actions to deliver on these objectives.

Amendment

27. The 'Resource-efficient Europe' Flagship Initiative aims to support the shift towards an economy that is efficient in the way it uses all resources, decouples absolutely economic growth from resource and energy use and its environmental impacts, reduces GHG emissions, enhances competitiveness through efficiency and innovation and promotes greater energy security. The Roadmap to Resource Efficient Europe and the Roadmap for moving to a competitive low-carbon economy are key building blocks of the Initiative, setting out the framework for future actions to deliver on these objectives.

Or. fr

Amendment 26

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 27 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

27b. The 'Integrated industrial policy for the globalisation era' Flagship Initiative seeks to develop an industrial policy that will help businesses, in particular SMEs, to make the changeover to a low-carbon economic model and to become more competitive. To do this, the EU needs to use smart environmental regulation¹ based on impact assessments, evaluations of existing policies ('fitness checks') and analyses of impacts on competitiveness² to

boost innovation and industrial development.

¹ ***COM(2012)0746 of 12 December 2012, entitled 'EU regulatory fitness'.***

² ***SEC(2012)0091 of 27 October 2012, entitled 'Operational guidance for assessing impacts on sectoral competitiveness within the Commission impact assessment system'.***

Or. fr

Amendment 27

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 29

Text proposed by the Commission

29. This key requirement for meeting the environmental challenge also has important socio-economic benefits. Potential job growth brought about by the transformation to a low carbon and resource-efficient economy is key for delivering the Europe 2020 employment objectives. Employment in environmental technologies and service sectors in the EU has been growing by around 3 % annually over recent years. The global market for eco-industries is estimated to be worth at least a trillion Euros, and is forecast to almost double over the next 10 years. European companies already have a global lead in recycling and energy efficiency and should be encouraged to benefit from this growth in global demand, supported by the Eco-innovation Action Plan. For example, the European renewables sector alone is expected to generate more than 400,000 new jobs by 2020.

Amendment

29. This key requirement for meeting the environmental challenge also has important socio-economic benefits, ***and environmental policy needs to be used to lever business competitiveness and give EU industry a boost.*** Potential job growth brought about by the transformation to a low carbon and resource-efficient economy is key for delivering the Europe 2020 employment objectives. Employment in environmental technologies and service sectors in the EU has been growing by around 3 % annually over recent years. The global market for eco-industries is estimated to be worth at least a trillion Euros, and is forecast to almost double over the next 10 years. European companies already have a global lead in recycling and energy efficiency and should be encouraged to benefit from this growth in global demand, supported by the Eco-innovation Action Plan. For example, the European renewables sector alone is expected to generate more than 400,000

new jobs by 2020.

Or. fr

Amendment 28

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 29 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

29a. In order for this to be achieved, the EU will need to create and maintain the conditions required for the development of eco-industries, which include making sure that they have a sustainable supply of raw materials¹.

¹ COM(2011)0025 of 2 February 2011, entitled ‘Tackling the challenges in commodity markets and on raw materials’.

Or. fr

Amendment 29

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 29 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

29b. Furthermore, the ‘partnership for a stronger European industry’ will provide a means of stepping up investment and innovation in six green economy-related growth markets, namely: advanced manufacturing technologies for clean production; key enabling technologies; bio-based products; sustainable construction and raw materials; clean vehicles and vessels; and smart grids¹.

¹ COM(2012)0582 of 10 October 2012, entitled 'A stronger European industry for growth and economic recovery: Industrial policy communication update'.

Or. fr

Amendment 30

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 29 c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

29c. The new political framework for tourism in the Union will foster the development of a sustainable form of tourism that will make the sector more competitive and enhance its growth potential¹.

¹ COM(2010)0352 of 30 June 2010, entitled 'Europe, the world's No 1 tourist destination – a new political framework for tourism in Europe'.

Or. fr

Amendment 31

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 30

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

30. Fully implementing the EU Climate and Energy Package is essential to reach the milestones identified for 2020 and for building a competitive, low-carbon economy by 2050. Whereas the EU is currently on track to reduce domestic GHG emissions 20 % below 1990 levels by 2020, meeting the 20 % energy efficiency

30. Fully implementing the EU Climate and Energy Package is essential to reach the milestones identified for 2020 and for building a competitive, low-carbon economy by 2050. Whereas the EU is currently on track to reduce domestic GHG emissions 20 % below 1990 levels by 2020, meeting the 20 % energy efficiency

target will require far more rapid efficiency improvements. This is also important in the light of still-growing demand for energy *and* the on-going debate on conflicts between land use for food and for *bio-energy*. ***The new Energy Efficiency Directive is expected to make a significant contribution in this regard.***

target will require far more rapid efficiency improvements. ***The new Energy Efficiency Directive is expected to make a significant contribution in this regard.*** This is also important in the light of still-growing demand for energy. ***Furthermore, energy efficiency needs to be backed up by resource efficiency. Particular attention needs to be paid to the on-going debate on conflicts between land use for food and for bio-fuels. It is also vital to make sure that wood resources, including biomass for energy use, are sustainably managed and used as efficiently as possible, with due regard for the characteristics of this resource and the economic uses to which it may be put.***

Or. fr

Amendment 32

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 33

Text proposed by the Commission

33. Measures will also be taken to further improve the environmental performance of goods and services on the EU market over their whole life cycle through measures to increase the supply of environmentally sustainable products and stimulate a significant shift in consumer demand for these products. This will be achieved using a balanced mix of incentives for consumers and businesses, including SMEs, market-based instruments and regulations to reduce the environmental impacts of their operations and products. Existing product legislation such as the Ecodesign and Energy Label Directives and the Ecolabel Regulation will be reviewed with a view to improving the environmental performance and resource efficiency of products throughout their lifecycle, thus ensuring a

Amendment

33. Measures will also be taken to further improve the environmental performance of goods and services on the EU market over their whole life cycle through measures to increase the supply of environmentally sustainable products and stimulate a significant shift in consumer demand for these products. This will be achieved using a balanced mix of incentives for consumers and businesses, including SMEs, market-based instruments and regulations to reduce the environmental impacts of their operations and products. ***In this connection, a suitable framework needs to be introduced at EU and national level to help SMEs, which make up the majority of EU firms, to improve their environmental performance¹. The measures provided for as part of that***

more coherent framework for sustainable production and consumption in the EU.

framework should include awareness-raising campaigns and technical/financial assistance programmes targeted specifically at SMEs. Existing product legislation such as the Ecodesign and Energy Label Directives and the Ecolabel Regulation will be reviewed with a view to ***establishing a simplified, unified and comprehensive environmental labelling system, optimising packaging,*** improving the environmental performance and resource efficiency of products throughout their lifecycle, thus ensuring a more coherent framework for sustainable production and consumption in the EU ***and encouraging both businesses and individuals to act in a more responsible manner. Efforts need to be made to establish a harmonised EU method for calculating the environmental footprint of products.***

¹In accordance with principle IX (Enable SMEs to turn environmental challenges into opportunities) of the Small Business Act for Europe, COM(2008)0394 of 19 June 2008.

Or. fr

Amendment 33

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 35

Text proposed by the Commission

35. To set a framework for action to improve resource efficiency aspects beyond GHG emissions and energy, targets for reducing the overall environmental impact of consumption will be set, in particular in the food, housing and mobility sectors. Taken together, these are responsible for almost 80 % of the

Amendment

35. To set a framework for action to improve resource efficiency aspects beyond GHG emissions and energy, targets for reducing the overall environmental impact of consumption will be set, in particular in the food, housing and mobility sectors. Taken together, these are responsible for almost 80 % of the

environmental impacts of consumption. The Rio+20 outcome recognised the need to significantly reduce post-harvest and other food losses and waste throughout the food supply chain.

environmental impacts of consumption. The Rio+20 outcome recognised the need to significantly reduce post-harvest and other food losses and waste throughout the food supply chain. ***It is also essential to assess and limit the environmental impact of EU consumption of products and raw materials likely to contribute to deforestation and forest degradation outside the EU, with a view to meeting climate targets¹.***

¹ ***This applies specifically to the consumption of imported food and non-food products, such as meat, soya beans, palm oil and metal ores, which have not been produced sustainably. See COM(2008)0645 of 17 October 2008, entitled ‘Addressing the challenges of deforestation and forest degradation to tackle climate change and biodiversity loss’.***

Or. fr

Amendment 34

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 38

Text proposed by the Commission

38. Turning waste into a resource, as called for in the Resource Efficiency Roadmap, requires the full implementation of EU waste legislation across the EU, based on strict application of the waste hierarchy and covering different types of waste. Additional efforts are needed to: reduce ***per capita*** waste generation in ***absolute terms, limit energy recovery to non-recyclable materials, phase out landfilling***, ensure high quality recycling, and develop markets for secondary raw materials. Hazardous waste will need to be

Amendment

38. Turning waste into a resource, as called for in the Resource Efficiency Roadmap, requires the full implementation of EU waste legislation across the EU, based on strict application of the waste hierarchy and covering different types of waste. Additional efforts, ***including on the prevention front (e.g. to reduce food waste)*** are needed to: reduce waste generation in ***relation to GNP, gradually shift recyclable and compostable waste away from disposal streams and into recycling and recovery streams, carrying***

managed so as to minimise significant adverse effects on human health and the environment, as agreed at the Rio+20 Summit. To achieve this, market-based instruments that *privilege* prevention, recycling and re-use should be applied much more systematically across the EU. Barriers facing recycling activities in the EU internal market should be removed and existing prevention, re-use, recycling, recovery and landfill diversion targets reviewed so as to move towards a ‘circular’ economy, with a cascading use of resources and residual waste close to zero.

out the planning required in order to develop the necessary recycling and recovery infrastructure, ensure high quality recycling, and develop markets for secondary raw materials. Hazardous waste will need to be managed so as to minimise significant adverse effects on human health and the environment, as agreed at the Rio+20 Summit. To achieve this, *a suitable mix of policy instruments, including economic incentives*, market-based instruments, *regulations and waste management infrastructure planning*, that *places the focus on* prevention, recycling and re-use should be applied much more systematically across the EU *once it has been subjected to impact assessment and cost-benefit analysis. Special attention needs to be paid to the Member States that are lagging furthest behind in this area, with a view to improving their performance and implementation of the EU waste acquis*. Barriers facing recycling activities in the EU internal market should be removed and existing prevention, re-use, recycling, recovery and landfill diversion targets reviewed so as to move towards a ‘circular’ economy, with a cascading use of resources and *raw* residual waste close to zero.

Or. fr

Justification

L'interdiction générale de mise en décharge avant fin 2020 n'est pas réaliste et produirait un effet de découragement. Réduire significativement, dans un contexte de statistiques améliorées, constitue une voie de progrès véritable. Pour mesurer les progrès d'un pays en termes de réduction des déchets, il est nécessaire d'envisager la production de déchets au vu de la croissance économique et du PNB. Il convient donc d'introduire la notion de découplage de la croissance des déchets par rapport à celle du PNB. Les déchets résiduels bruts désignent les déchets sans traitement/prétraitement/tri préalable.

Amendment 35

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 41 – subparagraph 1 – point d

Text proposed by the Commission

(d) Waste is safely managed as a resource, waste generated *per capita* is in *absolute* decline, *energy recovery is limited to non-recyclable materials and landfilling of recyclable and compostable materials is effectively eradicated.*

Amendment

(d) Waste is safely managed as a resource *and in such a way as to prevent any harm being caused to the environment and to health*, waste generated *in relation to GNP* is in decline *and* recyclable and compostable *waste is gradually being shifted away from disposal streams and into recycling and recovery streams.*

Or. fr

Amendment 36

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 41 – subparagraph 2 – point d

Text proposed by the Commission

(d) Establishing a more coherent framework for sustainable production and consumption. Reviewing product legislation with a view to improving the environmental performance and resource efficiency of products throughout their lifecycle. Setting targets for the reduction of the overall impact of consumption.

Amendment

(d) Establishing a more coherent *legal* framework for sustainable production and consumption. Reviewing product legislation with a view to improving the environmental performance and resource efficiency of products throughout their lifecycle. Setting targets for the reduction of the overall impact of consumption. *Combating food wastage. Universalising environmental labelling of products.*

Or. fr

Amendment 37

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 41 – subparagraph 2 – point d a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(da) Taking account of labour market changes and developing training programmes geared to green-economy jobs.

Or. fr

Amendment 38

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 41 – subparagraph 2 – point e

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(e) Fully implementing EU waste legislation. This will include applying the waste hierarchy and the effective use of market-based instruments and measures to ensure that ***landfilling is effectively phased out, energy recovery is limited to non-recyclable materials***, recycled waste is used as a major, reliable source of raw material for the EU, hazardous waste is safely managed and its generation is reduced, illegal waste shipments are eradicated and internal market barriers for environmentally-sound recycling activities in the EU are removed.

(e) Fully implementing EU waste legislation. This will include applying the waste hierarchy ***in accordance with the Waste Framework Directive, on the basis of a lifecycle approach***, and the effective use of market-based instruments and measures to ensure that ***recyclable and compostable waste is gradually shifted away from disposal streams and into recycling and recovery streams***, recycled waste is used as a major, reliable source of raw material for the EU, hazardous waste is safely managed and its generation is reduced, illegal waste shipments are eradicated and internal market barriers for environmentally-sound recycling activities in the EU are removed. ***Special public information efforts will need to be made to back up national and local campaigns providing clear, straightforward information on waste prevention and management, to make people aware of this issue and encourage them to act responsibly so as to reduce pollution and combat environmentally anti-social***

behaviour, to help people understand the rules on sorting and collecting household waste, which should be tailored more closely to consumer needs, and to encourage people to sort their waste.

Or. fr

Amendment 39

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 41 – subparagraph 2 – point f a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(fa) Drafting and implementing an EU action plan for assessing and limiting the environmental impact of EU consumption of products and raw materials likely to contribute to deforestation and forest degradation outside the EU.

Or. fr

Amendment 40

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 51

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

51. In addition, the measures to enhance ecological and climate resilience, such as ecosystem restoration and green infrastructure, can have important socioeconomic benefits, including for public health. The synergies and potential trade-offs between climate and other environmental objectives, such as air quality, need to be adequately managed. For example, fuel switching in response to climate or security of supply considerations could lead to substantial increases in particulate matter and dangerous

51. In addition, the measures to enhance ecological and climate resilience, such as ecosystem restoration and green **and blue** infrastructure, can have important socioeconomic benefits, including for public health. The synergies and potential trade-offs between climate and other environmental objectives, such as air quality, need to be adequately managed. For example, fuel switching in response to climate or security of supply considerations could lead to substantial increases in particulate matter and dangerous

emissions.

emissions.

Or. fr

Justification

The term 'green and blue infrastructure' is used to describe an interconnected network of protected land and water areas. This concept is used in sustainable spatial planning and helps to ensure favourable conservation status for natural habitats and species and good ecological status for water bodies. This environmental network approach is also referred to in the Aichi Biodiversity Targets for the period 2011-2020 (Target 11).

Amendment 41

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 52 – subparagraph 1 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(a) Air quality in the EU has significantly improved

(a) ***Indoor and outdoor*** air quality in the EU has significantly improved, ***in line with the levels recommended by the World Health Organisation***

Or. fr

Amendment 42

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 52 – subparagraph 2 – point c a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ca) Continuing to implement REACH in such a way as to ensure stability and predictability and lighten the administrative and financial burden for SMEs, with a view to ensuring a high level of protection for human health and the environment and the free movement of chemicals within the internal market, and to making EU firms more innovative and more competitive¹.

¹ *General report of 5 February 2013 on REACH, in accordance with Article 117(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 (REACH Regulation) and Article 46(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 (CLP Regulation), and review of certain elements of REACH in line with Articles 75(2), 138(2), 138(3) and 138(6) of REACH.*

Or. fr

Amendment 43

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 52 – subparagraph 2 – point d

Text proposed by the Commission

(d) *Developing an* EU strategy for a *non-toxic* environment, supported by a comprehensive chemical exposure and toxicity knowledge base and conducive to innovation of sustainable substitutes.

Amendment

(d) *Continuing to implement the* EU strategy for a *clean, safe and healthy* environment *in keeping with the goal agreed at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development and reaffirmed at the Rio+20 Summit*, supported by a comprehensive chemical exposure and toxicity knowledge base *compiled from data produced using non-animal test methods wherever possible, with central coordination by the European Chemicals Agency*, and conducive to innovation of *safe and* sustainable substitutes.

Or. fr

Amendment 44

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 52 – subparagraph 2 – point d a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(da) *Standardising, throughout the EU, research protocols and assessment criteria*

for environmental and human biomonitoring in order to optimise the use made of this tool in assessing overall environmental quality and public health in the EU.

Or. fr

Amendment 45

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 54

Text proposed by the Commission

54. The benefits of ensuring that EU environment legislation is actually implemented are threefold: providing a level playing field for economic actors operating in the Single Market, stimulating innovation, and promoting first-mover advantages for European companies in many sectors. The costs associated with failure to implement legislation, by contrast, are high, broadly estimated at around €50 billion a year, including costs related to infringement cases. ***In 2009 alone there were 451 infringement cases related to EU environment legislation.*** The Commission also receives numerous complaints directly from EU citizens, many of which could be better addressed at Member State or local level.

Amendment

54. The benefits of ensuring that EU environment legislation is actually implemented are threefold: providing a level playing field for economic actors operating in the Single Market, stimulating innovation, and promoting first-mover advantages for European companies in many sectors. The costs associated with failure to implement legislation, by contrast, are high, broadly estimated at around €50 billion a year, including costs related to infringement cases. ***In 2011 the environment was the area in which the most infringements of EU law were reported in the Union – 299, representing 17% of all infringements – and 114 new infringement proceedings were initiated.*** The Commission also receives numerous complaints directly from EU citizens, many of which could be better addressed at Member State or local level.

Or. fr

Justification

Figures taken from the 29th annual report on monitoring the application of EU law (2011) (COM(2012)0714).

Amendment 46

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 55

Text proposed by the Commission

55. Improving the implementation of the EU environment acquis at Member State level will therefore be given top priority in the coming years. ***There are*** significant differences in implementation between and within Member States. There is a need to equip those involved in implementing environmental legislation at national, regional and local levels with the knowledge and capacity to improve the delivery of benefits from this legislation.

Amendment

55. Improving the implementation of the EU environment acquis at Member State level will therefore be given top priority in the coming years. ***The fact that EU environmental law is constantly changing and becoming more complex is causing legal instability, confusion and extra costs for businesses, public bodies at all levels, members of the public and people working at grassroots level. This is also resulting in*** significant differences in implementation between and within Member States, ***cumbersome red tape and conflicts of interpretation and case law.*** There is a need to equip those involved in implementing environmental legislation at national, regional and local levels with the knowledge and capacity to improve the delivery of benefits from this legislation.

Or. fr

Amendment 47

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 57

Text proposed by the Commission

57. First, the way knowledge about implementation is collected and disseminated will be improved to help the general public and environmental professionals fully understand how national and local administrations put Union commitments into effect. Implementation challenges specific to an individual Member State will be targeted for assistance, similar to the tailored

Amendment

57. First, the way knowledge about implementation is collected and disseminated will be improved to help the general public and environmental professionals fully understand how national and local administrations put Union commitments into effect. Implementation challenges specific to an individual Member State will be targeted for assistance, similar to the tailored

approach followed in the European Semester process. For instance, partnership implementation agreements involving the Commission and individual Member States will be drawn up, addressing issues such as where to find financial support for implementation and better information systems to track progress.

approach followed in the European Semester process. For instance, partnership implementation agreements involving the Commission and individual Member States will be drawn up, addressing issues such as where to find financial support for implementation and better information systems to track progress. ***With a view to maximising the effectiveness of this approach, local and regional authorities will also be able to take part, for example under three-way partnership agreements, with due regard for the specific administrative set-up in each Member State. The Technical Platform for Cooperation on the Environment set up by the Committee of the Regions and the European Commission will facilitate dialogue and information pooling, with a view to improving the implementation of legislation at local level.***

Or. fr

Amendment 48

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 58

Text proposed by the Commission

58. Second, the EU will extend requirements on inspections and surveillance to the wider body of EU environment law, complementing these with an EU-level capacity that can address situations where there is due reason for concern.

Amendment

58. Second, ***the EU Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law (IMPEL) needs to be properly structured and strengthened, which will require the provision of appropriate long-term financing, with a view to ensuring that it is used more systematically for peer review purposes, that it steps up its work on identifying and pooling best practice, and that it is more present at regional and local levels.*** The EU will ***also*** extend requirements on inspections and surveillance to the wider body of EU environment law, complementing these with an EU-level

capacity that can address situations where there is due reason for concern **and that may be drawn on by Member States on request and on the basis of a cost-benefit approach.**

Or. fr

Amendment 49

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 63 – subparagraph 2 – point -a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(- a) Making sure that smart regulation principles are being adhered to in the environmental field, simplifying legislation and improving the way in which information on environmental legislation is put across to politicians, economic operators and the general public.

Or. fr

Amendment 50

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 63 – subparagraph 2 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(b) Drawing up partnership implementation agreements between Member States and the Commission.

(b) Drawing up ***voluntary*** partnership implementation agreements between Member States and the Commission ***and involving local and regional authorities in this process.***

Or. fr

Amendment 51

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 63 – subparagraph 2 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

(c) Extending binding criteria for effective Member State inspections and surveillance to the wider body of EU environment law, and developing a complementary capacity at EU level to address situations where there is due reason for concern, ***backed up by support for*** networks of professionals.

Amendment

(c) ***Encouraging Member States to rationalise existing inspection capacities and bolster the IMPEL network.***
Extending binding criteria for effective Member State inspections and surveillance to the wider body of EU environment law, and developing a complementary capacity at EU level to address situations where there is due reason for concern, ***at the request of the Member State concerned and on the basis of a cost-effectiveness analysis. Promoting the establishment of networks of professionals modelled on the IMPEL, in order to step up the production of peer reviews at the request of the Member States concerned, including when dealing with situations about which there is serious concern.***

Or. fr

Amendment 52

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 65

Text proposed by the Commission

65. Steps should be taken at EU and international level to further strengthen and improve the science-policy interface for environment, such as through the appointment of Chief Scientific Advisors, as already done by the Commission and some Member States.

Amendment

65. Steps should be taken at EU and international level to further strengthen and improve the science-policy interface for environment, such as through ***the optimisation of the work currently being carried out by national environment agencies and the European Environment Agency (EEA) and its partner organisation, the European Environment Information and Observation Network (EIONET) and*** the appointment of Chief

Scientific Advisors, as already done by the Commission and some Member States. ***It is also important for the EU to play an active role in the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) once it becomes a full member, in order to link up the local, regional and international levels of biodiversity governance.***

Or. fr

Amendment 53

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 79

Text proposed by the Commission

79. Experience gained in the 2007-2013 programming period shows that although significant funds are available for the environment, the uptake at national and regional level in the early years has been very uneven, potentially jeopardising the achievement of agreed objectives and targets. To avoid repeating this experience, Member States should integrate environment and climate objectives in their funding strategies and programmes for economic, social and territorial cohesion, rural development and maritime policy, prioritise the early uptake of funding for the environment and climate change and reinforce the capacity of implementing bodies to deliver cost-effective and sustainable investments in order to secure the adequate and needed financial support for investments in these areas.

Amendment

79. Experience gained in the 2007-2013 programming period shows that although significant funds are available for the environment, the uptake at national and regional level in the early years has been very uneven, potentially jeopardising the achievement of agreed objectives and targets. To avoid repeating this experience, Member States should integrate environment and climate objectives in their funding strategies and programmes for economic, social and territorial cohesion, rural development and maritime policy, prioritise the early uptake of funding for the environment and climate change and reinforce the capacity of implementing bodies to deliver cost-effective and sustainable investments in order to secure the adequate and needed financial support for investments in these areas. ***For example, it is recommended that systematic use should be made of the prioritised action frameworks provided for in the Habitats Directive in order to coordinate Natura 2000 funding requirements.***

Amendment 54

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 79 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

79a. In general, ways of ensuring that EU funding for structural actions in areas such as water, transport, energy efficiency and waste is used efficiently need to be proposed. For example, the provision of EU funding for municipal waste infrastructure is not dependent on the implementation of flanking measures or on meeting EU waste policy objectives, which undermines the effectiveness of Union funding¹.

See in this connection the recommendations made by the European Court of Auditors in Special Report No 20/2012, entitled ‘Is Structural measures funding for municipal waste management infrastructure projects effective in helping Member States achieve EU waste policy objectives?’ (OJ C 28, 30.1.2013, p. 2).

Or. fr

Justification

Too much of the funding that the EU provides for environmental measures is under-used or not used as effectively as possible.

Amendment 55

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 82 – subparagraph 2 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(a) Progressively phasing out

(a) ***Defining, identifying and*** progressively

environmentally harmful subsidies, increasing the use of market-based instruments, including taxation, pricing and charging, and expanding markets for environmental goods and services, with due regard to any adverse social impacts.

phasing out environmentally harmful subsidies, increasing the use of market-based instruments, including taxation, pricing and charging, and expanding markets for environmental goods and services, with due regard to any adverse social impacts.

Or. fr

Amendment 56

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 82 – subparagraph 2 – point g a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ga) Developing arrangements under which compensation is provided for environmental services rendered, where this gives rise to constraints or extra costs in connection with investment and management. Encouraging, in particular, the design and introduction of schemes under which payment will be made for environmental services, with a view to striking a balance between economic-development and conservation needs.

Or. fr

Justification

Les PSE sont des outils économiques incitatifs dont les expériences pilotes se multiplient. Les propriétaires ou gestionnaires sont payés par les usagers ou les bénéficiaires pour la fourniture du service ou pour l'application d'une méthode de gestion spécifique assurant la réalisation du service environnemental désiré. Ils peuvent notamment financer le maintien et le rétablissement des services écosystémiques fournis par les forêts multifonctionnelles, qui entraînent pour les propriétaires privés et les communes des contraintes ainsi que des surcoûts d'investissement et de gestion.

Amendment 57

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 88

Text proposed by the Commission

88. Most cities face a common core set of environmental problems, including poor air quality, high levels of noise, GHG emissions, water scarcity, floods and storms, contaminated sites, brownfields and waste. At the same time, EU cities are standard-setters in urban sustainability and often pioneer innovative solutions to environmental challenges. An ever-growing number of European cities are putting environmental sustainability at the core of their urban development strategies.

Amendment

88. Most cities face a common core set of environmental problems, including poor air quality, high levels of noise, GHG emissions, ***biodiversity developments in urban and suburban areas***, water scarcity, floods and storms, contaminated sites, brownfields and waste ***and energy management***. At the same time, EU cities are standard-setters in urban sustainability and often pioneer innovative solutions to environmental challenges. An ever-growing number of European cities are putting environmental sustainability at the core of their urban development strategies.

Or. fr

Justification

In urban areas, some wildlife species may disappear while the population of others grows out of control. It is therefore important for urban biodiversity to be properly managed.

Amendment 58

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 88 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

88a. The growing urbanisation of the EU has made city dwellers more aware of the environmental issues and awakened in them a desire to reconnect with the natural environment in urban areas. Biodiversity conservation has thus become an important issue in cities. The reintroduction of nature into the urban environment, in particular through new urban landscaping, the creation of green walls and roofs and the development of

green and blue infrastructure, is in keeping with this trend. European cities' biodiversity performance needs to be assessed and improved on the basis of a specific urban biodiversity index, such as the Singapore index presented at the UN Conference on Biodiversity held in Nagoya in 2010.

Or. fr

Justification

The shortage of scientific data on biodiversity in urban areas is hampering the design of projects for its protection.

Amendment 59

**Proposal for a decision
Annex – paragraph 90**

Text proposed by the Commission

90. The EU should further promote and, where appropriate, expand existing initiatives that support innovation and best practice in cities, networking and exchanges between them and encourage cities to showcase their leadership on sustainable urban development. The EU institutions and the Member States should facilitate and encourage the uptake of EU funding available under Cohesion policy and other funds to support cities in their efforts to enhance sustainable urban development, raise awareness and encourage local actors to get involved. The development of, and agreement on, a set of sustainability criteria for cities would provide a common reference base for such initiatives and promote a coherent, integrated approach to sustainable urban development.

Amendment

90. The EU should further promote and, where appropriate, expand existing initiatives that support innovation and best practice in cities, ***such as eco-districts***, networking and exchanges between them¹ and encourage cities to showcase their leadership on sustainable urban development. ***Implementation of the European innovation partnership for smart cities and communities will boost the development of smart technologies for cities, in particular through the pooling of research resources in the energy, transport and information and communications technologies (ICT)***² ***sectors, with cities being given a central, strategic role.*** ***Furthermore***, the EU institutions and the Member States should facilitate and encourage the uptake of EU funding available under Cohesion policy and other funds to support cities in their efforts to enhance sustainable urban development, raise awareness and encourage local actors to get involved. The

development of, and agreement on, a set of sustainability criteria *and indicators* for cities, *drawing, in particular, on the expertise of city professionals (such as town planners, architects and business people)*, would provide a common reference base for such initiatives and promote a coherent, integrated approach to sustainable urban development.

¹ *For example: the Covenant of Mayors brought forward by the Commission following the adoption of the Climate and Energy Package in 2008 and other international agreements, such as the Aalborg Charter (1994 and 2004), the Leipzig Charter (2007), the Toledo Declaration (2010) and the Malaga Charter (2011).*

² *C(2012)4701 of 10 July 2012.*

Or. fr

Amendment 60

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 91 – subparagraph 1 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) A majority of cities in the EU are implementing policies for sustainable urban planning and design.

Amendment

(a) A majority of cities in the EU are implementing policies for sustainable urban planning and design *and mobility*.

Or. fr

Amendment 61

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 91 – subparagraph 2 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) Defining and agreeing a set of criteria to assess the environmental performance of cities, taking into account economic and social impacts.

Amendment

(a) Defining and agreeing a set of **common** criteria **and indicators** to assess the environmental performance of cities, taking into account economic and social impacts **and the historical and geographical specificities of urban models**.

Or. fr

Amendment 62

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 91 – subparagraph 2 – point a a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(aa) Enhancing biodiversity management in urban areas and raising public awareness of the importance of wildlife in cities.

Or. fr

Amendment 63

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 91 – subparagraph 2 – point a b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ab) Supporting healthy and sustainable urban mobility and reducing air and noise pollution. Developing and modernising urban public transport networks. Making provision for the electrification of local transport systems and introducing schemes for the use of electric vehicles in

EU cities. Encouraging the use of alternative transport modes.

Or. fr

Amendment 64

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 91 – subparagraph 2 – point a c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ac) Saving more energy by constructing smart buildings and using ICTs. Promoting sustainable renovation and construction. Developing and networking European scientific and technical expertise in the construction field on the basis of integrated construction approaches covering environmental and energy performance, safety, health, user requirements, innovation and economic competitiveness.

Or. fr

Amendment 65

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 91 – subparagraph 2 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(b) Ensuring that cities have information about and access to financing for measures to improve urban sustainability.

(b) Ensuring that cities have information about and access to financing for measures to improve urban sustainability **and providing them with funding commensurate with their needs.**

Or. fr

Amendment 66

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 92

Text proposed by the Commission

92. Environmental sustainability is key to reducing poverty and ensuring quality of life and economic growth. At Rio+20, world leaders renewed their commitment to sustainable development and recognised the inclusive green economy as an important tool for achieving sustainable development, and the crucial role of a healthy environment in ensuring food security and reducing poverty. In the light of a growing population in an increasingly urbanised world, these challenges will include the need for action on water, oceans, sustainable land and ecosystems, resource efficiency (in particular waste), sustainable energy and climate change, including through the phase out of fossil fuel subsidies. They will need to be addressed through tailor-made approaches at local, national or Union level, as well as committed engagement in international efforts to develop the solutions needed to ensure sustainable development globally.

Amendment

92. Environmental sustainability is key to reducing poverty and ensuring quality of life and economic growth. At Rio+20, world leaders renewed their commitment to sustainable development and recognised the inclusive green economy as an important tool for achieving sustainable development, and the crucial role of a healthy environment in ensuring food security and reducing poverty. In the light of a growing population in an increasingly urbanised world, these challenges will include the need for action on water, oceans, sustainable land and ecosystems, resource efficiency (in particular waste), sustainable energy and climate change, including through the phase out of fossil fuel subsidies. They will need to be addressed through tailor-made approaches at local, national or Union level, as well as committed engagement in international efforts to develop the solutions needed to ensure sustainable development globally.
These efforts must be shared fairly at international level. This programme must send a strong political signal to the rest of the world and must contribute to the creation of an international environmental governance that goes beyond financial solidarity and guarantees that third countries will commit just as much as the EU.

Or. fr

Amendment 67

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 94

Text proposed by the Commission

94. Many of the priority objectives set out in this programme can only be fully achieved as part of a global approach and in cooperation with partner countries. That is why the Union and its Member States should engage in relevant international, regional and bilateral processes in a strong, focused, united and coherent manner. They should continue to promote an effective, rules-based framework for global environment policy, complemented by a more effective, strategic approach in which bilateral and regional political dialogues and cooperation are tailored towards the Union's strategic partners, candidate and neighbourhood countries, and developing countries, respectively, supported by adequate finance.

Amendment

94. Many of the priority objectives set out in this programme can only be fully achieved as part of a global approach and in cooperation with ***the Union's*** partner countries ***and associated countries and territories***. That is why the Union and its Member States should engage in relevant international, regional and bilateral processes in a strong, focused, united and coherent manner. They should continue to promote an effective, rules-based framework for global environment policy, complemented by a more effective, strategic approach in which bilateral and regional political dialogues and cooperation are tailored towards the Union's strategic partners, candidate and neighbourhood countries, and developing countries, respectively, supported by adequate finance. ***The Union's communication policy relating to its global-level actions in the environmental field should be stepped up.***

Or. fr

Justification

Efforts to combat regional and global environmental problems must cover the whole of the EU's territory, particularly its outermost regions, but also the Union's associated Overseas Countries and Territories, given that these territories contain more than 70% of Europe's biodiversity. These territories can serve as examples and liaison points in their regions for delivering the priority objectives set out in this programme. The OCTs will participate in this programme in accordance with the conditions set out in the Overseas Association Decision.

Amendment 68

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 95

Text proposed by the Commission

95. The time span covered by this programme corresponds to key phases in international climate, biodiversity and chemical policy. To remain within the 2 °C ceiling, global GHG emissions need to be cut by at least 50 % of their 1990 levels by 2050. However, only half the emission reductions required by 2020 have been pledged by Parties under the UNFCCC. Without more resolute global action, climate change is unlikely to be curtailed. Even in a best-case scenario, countries will increasingly face inevitable impacts of climate change because of historical GHG emissions and will need to develop climate adaptation strategies. Under the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action, a comprehensive and robust agreement applicable to all is to be agreed by 2015 and implemented as of 2020. The EU will remain engaged proactively in this process, including in discussions on how to close the gap between current emission reduction pledges by developed and developing countries, and on action needed to stay on an emission pathway compatible with the 2oC objective. The follow-up to Rio+ 20 should also help reduce GHG emissions, thus supporting the fight against climate change. In parallel, the EU should pursue and further intensify climate change partnerships with strategic partners and should take further action to mainstream environment and climate considerations in its development *policy*.

Amendment

95. The time span covered by this programme corresponds to key phases in international climate, biodiversity and chemical policy. To remain within the 2 °C ceiling, global GHG emissions need to be cut by at least 50 % of their 1990 levels by 2050. However, only half the emission reductions required by 2020 have been pledged by Parties under the UNFCCC. Without more resolute global action, climate change is unlikely to be curtailed. Even in a best-case scenario, countries will increasingly face inevitable impacts of climate change because of historical GHG emissions and will need to develop climate adaptation strategies. Under the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action, a comprehensive and robust agreement applicable to all is to be agreed by 2015 and implemented as of 2020. The EU will remain engaged proactively in this process, including in discussions on how to close the gap between current emission reduction pledges by developed and developing countries, and on action needed to stay on an emission pathway compatible with the 2oC objective. The follow-up to Rio+ 20 should also help reduce GHG emissions, thus supporting the fight against climate change. In parallel, the EU should pursue and further intensify climate change partnerships with strategic partners and should take further action to mainstream environment and climate considerations in its *external policy, including its trade and development policies, in a spirit of reciprocity and bearing in mind the mutual benefits*.

Or. fr

Amendment 69

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 98

Text proposed by the Commission

98. The EU should also leverage its position as one of the largest markets in the world to promote policies and approaches that decrease pressure on the global natural resource base. This can be done by changing patterns of consumption and production, as well as ensuring that trade and internal market policies support the achievement of environmental and climate goals and provide incentives to other countries to upgrade and enforce their environmental regulatory frameworks and standards. The EU will continue to promote sustainable development through the negotiation and implementation of dedicated provisions in its international trade agreements and should consider other policy options to reduce the impacts of EU consumption on the environment in non-EU countries. An example of such a policy option are the bilateral Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) partnerships, which establish a framework to ensure only legally-harvested timber enters the EU market from partner countries.

Amendment

98. The EU should also leverage its position as one of the largest markets in the world to promote policies and approaches that decrease pressure on the global natural resource base. This can be done by changing patterns of consumption and production, as well as ensuring that trade and internal market policies support the achievement of environmental and climate goals and provide incentives to other countries, ***in a spirit of reciprocity***, to upgrade and enforce their environmental regulatory frameworks and standards ***and combat environmental dumping. In order to guarantee the environmental integrity of European measures, to ensure fair competition, and to avoid carbon leakage and the relocation of European businesses, the debate on establishing a carbon inclusion mechanism, while also complying with WTO rules, should continue.*** The EU will continue to promote sustainable development through the negotiation and implementation of dedicated provisions in its international trade agreements and should consider other policy options to reduce the impacts of EU consumption on the environment ***and the exploitation of resources*** in non-EU countries. An example of such a policy option are the bilateral Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) partnerships, which establish a framework to ensure only legally-harvested timber enters the EU market from partner countries. ***In a general way, the Union will seek improvements in areas related to the duty of diligence throughout all supply chains.***

Justification

Distortions of competition and risks of environmental dumping are becoming more and more prevalent, at the expense of businesses and workers sited in the European Union who are subject to higher standards. The carbon inclusion mechanism would make it possible to counteract the risks of transferring CO2 emissions to third countries.

Amendment 70

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 100 – subparagraph 2 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

b) Working towards a more effective UN structure for sustainable development through strengthening UNEP ***in line with*** the outcome of Rio+20, while continuing to strive for an upgrade of UNEP's status to that of UN Agency, and supporting ongoing efforts to enhance synergies between Multilateral Environmental Agreements;

Amendment

b) Working towards a more effective UN structure for sustainable development through strengthening UNEP ***based on*** the outcome of Rio+20 ***and on the accession of all UN member states to the Governing Council of UNEP, by enhancing its financial resources and its capabilities and strengthening its regional offices,*** while continuing to strive for an upgrade of UNEP's status to that of UN Agency, and supporting ongoing efforts to enhance synergies between Multilateral Environmental Agreements;

Or. fr

Amendment 71

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 100 – subparagraph 2 – point d

Text proposed by the Commission

d) Engaging with partner countries in a more strategic way. This should involve focusing cooperation: with strategic partners on the promotion of best practice in domestic environment policy and legislation and convergence in multilateral environmental negotiations; with countries

Amendment

d) Engaging with partner countries in a more strategic way. This should involve focusing cooperation: ***i)*** with strategic partners on the promotion of best practice in domestic environment policy and legislation and convergence in multilateral environmental negotiations; ***ii)*** with

covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy on gradual approximation with key EU environment and climate policy and legislation and on strengthening cooperation to address regional environmental and climate challenges; with developing countries to support their efforts to protect the environment, fight climate change and reduce natural disasters, and implement international environmental commitments as a contribution to poverty reduction and sustainable development.

countries covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy on gradual approximation with key EU environment and climate policy and legislation and on strengthening cooperation ***and sharing information and capabilities*** to address regional environmental and climate challenges; ***iii)*** with developing countries to support their efforts to protect the environment, fight climate change and reduce natural disasters, and implement international environmental commitments as a contribution to poverty reduction and sustainable development. ***iv) on the implementation of the Ten Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production adopted at the Rio+20 Conference;***

Or. fr

Amendment 72

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 100 – subparagraph 2 – point e

Text proposed by the Commission

e) Engaging in multilateral environmental processes, including the UNFCCC, CBD and the chemicals-related conventions, as well as other relevant fora, such as the International Civil Aviation Organization and the International Maritime Organization, in a more consistent, proactive and effective way with a view to ensuring that commitments for 2020 are met at EU and global level, and to agree on international action to be taken beyond 2020.

Amendment

e) Engaging in multilateral environmental processes, including the UNFCCC, CBD, ***the various intergovernmental conventions on the global conservation of wildlife and its habitats*** and the chemicals-related conventions, as well as other relevant fora, such as the International Civil Aviation Organization and the International Maritime Organization, in a more consistent, proactive and effective way with a view to ensuring that commitments for 2020 are met at EU and global level, and to agree on international action to be taken beyond 2020.

Or. fr

Amendment 73

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 100 – subparagraph 2 – point g a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

ga) Adopting a commercial strategy based on reciprocity of environmental standards, both multilaterally in the WTO and bilaterally under free trade agreements with the various third countries, taking into consideration their level of development;

Or. fr

Amendment 74

Proposal for a decision

Annex – paragraph 100 – subparagraph 2 – point g b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

gb) ensuring the active participation of citizens and civil society organisations working for global sustainable development in accordance with the Rio +20 declaration¹, and improving environmental governance by promoting the development of regional and national initiatives;

¹ ***Paragraph 88 h) of the Rio+20 Declaration.***

Or. fr

Amendment 75

Proposal for a decision Annex – paragraph 102

Text proposed by the Commission

102. The indicators used to monitor progress towards meeting priority objectives include those used by the EEA to monitor the state of the environment and those to monitor the implementation of existing environment and climate-related targets and legislation, including the climate and energy targets, biodiversity targets, and resource efficiency milestones. Additional indicators to measure overall progress towards a resource-efficient European economy and society and its contribution to prosperity and well-being will be developed in coordination with stakeholders in the context of the Roadmap to a Resource-efficient Europe.

Amendment

102. The indicators used to monitor progress towards meeting priority objectives include those used by the EEA to monitor the state of the environment and those to monitor the implementation of existing environment and climate-related targets and legislation, including the climate and energy targets, biodiversity targets, and resource efficiency milestones. ***Progress should also be made on the availability and harmonisation of data on the production and treatment of waste, in the context of existing European statistical regulations.*** Additional indicators to measure overall progress towards a resource-efficient European economy and society and its contribution to prosperity and well-being will be developed in coordination with stakeholders in the context of the Roadmap to a Resource-efficient Europe ***and in the common implementation framework of the 2020 biodiversity strategy.***

Or. fr

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The last European Union Environment Action Programme ended on 31 July 2012. It is therefore high time to agree on the new general framework for the period up to 2020 and propose an ambitious and realistic vision for 2050, as part of the process launched at the Rio+20 Conference.

The very title of the programme ‘Living well, within the limits of our planet’ suggests a philosophical reflection on humanity’s relationship with nature and on the need to reconcile economic activity with the environment in line with the notion of sustainable development. In other words we should transcend the blind will to survive, and seek instead to live according to an ethic of responsibility summed up in the proverb: ‘We haven’t inherited the earth from our ancestors, we have borrowed it from our children’.

All of this was already present in the 1982 World Charter for Nature, but it is clear that, 30 years on, there are still major challenges in terms of pressure on natural resources, damage to ecosystems, energy consumption, pollution, waste, health risks and indeed climate change. However, at the same time there is the major challenge of maintaining or improving the conditions of life for individuals in Europe and in the world. So how can we be both guardians of the planet and creators of wealth?

In these times of economic crisis and austerity, stressing environmental policy could seem to be a gamble, as this would appear to be a secondary priority, or even a constraint and a handicap to economic growth and employment. However, this is a divisive, short-term vision, and it would surely be more sensible to seek instead for an effective way of combining the environmental message with our economic and industrial concerns, bringing together all stakeholders in an innovative, progressive approach.

Environmental action has major costs – as does environmental inaction, of course – but it also brings benefits which neither public finance nor private investors can afford to ignore at this time. This is why environmental concerns must no longer be an adjustment variable, but must be mainstreamed at a very early stage in the various sector-specific policies.

By setting out an overarching framework, the 7th Environment Action Programme can serve both as a grand environmental manifesto for the European Union vis-à-vis its citizens and the rest of the world, and as the founding document of a European environmental New Deal in the run-up to 2020, bringing greener growth and creating jobs.

The idea of green growth, as set out in the 2009 OECD Declaration, is not the property of a particular political movement and can attract a broad consensus. It is founded on an economy that uses less energy and raw materials, or uses them better, that produces and consumes intelligently, avoiding waste, and that monitors discards and waste, easing the pressure on the environment. It is not synonymous with negative growth; on the contrary, it aims for effective use of resources, innovation and competitiveness of businesses.

To achieve this green growth, the 7th Environment Action Programme requires many efforts to be made. It is important that people should understand these efforts. However, the

permanent evolution and ever-increasing complexity of European environmental legislation, the overlapping and indeed duplication of rules, results in legal instability, difficulties with comprehensibility and anxiety among businesses, administrations at all levels, and individuals. This also leads to major disparities in implementation between and within Member States, to red tape and conflicts of interpretation and case law. On top of this there is also sometimes a lack of political will once commitments have been made at European and international level.

As a result, in 2011 the environment was the area in which the most infringements of Community law were reported in the EU (299), representing 17% of all infringements, and 114 new infringement proceedings were initiated; these infringements are costly in both financial and human terms.

So in order to gain wider acceptance and be more effectively applied, environmental legislation needs to have a solid foundation of scientific knowledge, to become simpler and more consistent, but also to respect the principles of smart environmental regulation based on impact assessments, evaluations of existing policies ('fitness checks') and analyses of impacts on competitiveness.

In addition, checks on its implementation must be vigorously stepped up throughout the EU, consolidating national environmental inspection systems, boosting the involvement of local and regional authorities and providing for Community support where needed. Similarly, it is important to enhance the use and effectiveness of European funding in the environmental field in order to guarantee tangible results on the ground.

Another point which deserves greater attention is communication on the Union's environmental policy. More awareness-raising is necessary to ensure that the EU's environmental choices are understandable and predictable, something that is essential for administrations at all levels, for businesses and investors, and for individual citizens. This can only improve the implementation of European legislation. It will also enhance the sense of ownership, making Europeans proud to protect their natural capital and to improve the environment in Europe and in the world.

The 7th Environment Action Programme should also send a strong political signal to the rest of the world and contribute to the creation of an international environmental governance which goes beyond financial solidarity. The EU must obtain assurances from third countries that they will commit themselves just as strongly to environmental and climate goals as it does itself.

It must not remain isolated in the efforts it makes at international level and must be able to count on reliable partners. Its environmental diplomacy must therefore avoid the trap of commercial naivety, while respecting the principles of the WTO. So the EU must define more clearly the conditions for access to its market and must only open it up if third countries are environmentally responsible and reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, and if European businesses are not hampered by unfair competition. The EU must therefore redouble its efforts to combat environmental dumping and carbon leaks. If Europe was content with unilateral commitments, this would not be seen as fair by European undertakings and would discourage their business activities within the Union.

Finally, environmental concerns are a responsibility for the EU, for third countries, but also and in particular for the individual. The 7th Environment Action Programme must put European citizens back at the heart of the matter. The new European programme must also have as its objectives to educate and inform European citizens, to get them more involved at an everyday level, and to encourage their civic activities as well as promoting their access to environmental justice. What better opportunity could there be than 2013, the European Year of Citizens, for enhancing environmental public-spiritedness in the Union?