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DRAFT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to Questions for Oral Answer B7-0000/2009 and B7-0000/2009

pursuant to Rule 115(5) of the Rules of Procedure

on the EU strategy for the Copenhagen Conference on Climate Change (COP 15)

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on behalf of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

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United in diversity

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B7-0000/2009

European Parliament resolution on the EU strategy for the Copenhagen Conference on Climate Change (COP 15)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and to the Kyoto Protocol to the UNFCCC,
 - having regard to the forthcoming fifteenth Conference of the Parties (COP 15) to the UNFCCC and the fifth Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (COP/MOP 5) to be held in Copenhagen, Denmark, from 7 to 18 December 2009,
 - having regard to the climate and energy package adopted by Parliament on 17 December 2008, in particular Directive 2009/29/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009 amending Directive 2003/87/EC so as to improve and extend the greenhouse gas emission allowance trading system of the Community¹ and Decision No 406/2009/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009 on the effort of Member States to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions to meet the Community's greenhouse gas emission reduction commitments up to 2020²,
 - having regard to its previous resolutions regarding climate change, and in particular those of 4 February 2009 on '2050: The future begins today - Recommendations for the EU's future integrated policy on climate change'³ and of 11 March 2009 on 'an EU strategy for a comprehensive climate change agreement in Copenhagen and the adequate provision of financing for climate change policy'⁴,
 - having regard to the oral questions of ... to the Commission and to the Council on the EU strategy for the Copenhagen Conference on Climate Change (COP 15) (O-0000/2009 – B7-0000/2009, O-0000/2009 – B7-0000/2009),
 - having regard to Rules 115(5) and 110(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas negotiations on a comprehensive international post-2012 agreement on climate change are due to be concluded in Copenhagen in December 2009; whereas that agreement should be consistent with the objective of limiting the overall global annual mean surface temperature increase to 2°C above pre-industrial levels ("the 2°C objective"),
- B. whereas in order to meet the 2°C objective, it is necessary that industrialised countries take the lead in significantly reducing their emissions and that developing countries also

¹ OJ L 140, 5.6.2009, p. 63.

² OJ L 140, 5.6.2009, p. 136.

³ Texts adopted, P6-TA(2009)0042.

⁴ Texts adopted, P6-TA(2009)0121..

contribute to the attainment of that objective,

- C. whereas significantly increased financial resources are needed to enable the necessary mitigation and adaptation actions to be taken in developing countries, hence, resources should be committed to tackle climate change on a similar scale as was needed to tackle the current financial crisis,
 - D. whereas the EU has adopted the above-mentioned climate and energy package consisting of legislative measures to implement a unilateral 20 % reduction in greenhouse gas emissions compared to 1990 levels by 2020, with the commitment to move to a 30 % reduction if a sufficiently ambitious and binding international agreement is reached in Copenhagen,
1. Urges the EU to speak with one voice to maintain its leading role in the negotiations at COP 15, and to maintain a high level of ambition in discussions with its international partners, in order to achieve an ambitious international agreement in Copenhagen, in line with the latest developments in science and consistent with the 2°C objective;

Reduction commitments

2. Stresses that the international agreement should be based on the principle of a "common but differentiated responsibility", with the industrialised countries taking the lead in reducing their domestic emissions while the developing countries and the emerging economies, in particular China, India and Brazil also commit themselves, in accordance with the Bali Action Plan, to taking nationally appropriate mitigation actions in the context of sustainable development, supported and enabled, in a measurable, reportable and verifiable manner, by technology, financing and capacity-building from industrialised countries;
3. Recalls that the international agreement should ensure collective greenhouse gas emissions reductions in the industrialised countries at the high end of the 25-40 % range for 2020 compared to 1990 as recommended by the Fourth Assessment Report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC 4AR), and calls for those reductions to be domestic; recalls that a long-term reduction target should be set for the EU and the other industrialised countries of at least 80 % by 2050 compared to 1990;
4. Furthermore recalls its recommendation that certain principles adopted in the climate and energy package be used as blueprint for the international agreement, in particular the binding linear pathway for industrialised country commitments, differentiation on the basis of verified emissions, and a strengthened compliance regime with an annual abatement factor;

Financing

5. Emphasises that an agreement in Copenhagen could provide the necessary stimulus for a 'Green New Deal' boosting economic growth, promoting green technologies and securing new jobs in both industrialised and in developing countries; recognises that upfront investments by the public sector in a green energy infrastructure and in complementary research and development will bring down costs;

6. Emphasises that the active participation of all countries in tackling the climate challenge will only come about if developing countries can maintain sustainable economic growth. Hence, calls for more truly integrated policy responses to development and climate challenges;
7. Emphasises the responsibility of industrialised countries for providing sufficient, sustainable and predictable financial and technical support to the developing countries to allow them to commit themselves to the reduction of their greenhouse gas emissions, to adapt to the consequences of climate change and to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, as well as to enhance capacity-building in order to comply with obligations under the future international agreement on climate change; insists that such commitments must provide for predictable financing for mechanisms set up in the UNFCCC context which are additional to Official Development Assistance (ODA) and independent from annual budgetary procedures in the Member States;
8. Recalls that the collective contribution by the EU towards developing countries' mitigation efforts and adaptation needs should not be less than EUR 30 000 million per annum by 2020, a figure that may increase as new knowledge is acquired concerning the severity of climate change and the scale of its costs;
9. Underlines that a substantial part of the revenues generated by the auctioning of certificates in the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS), including auctioning for aviation and maritime transport, should be earmarked for enabling developing countries to fight and adapt to climate change;
10. Underlines that, in order to guarantee that financial transfers are being used in a sustainable manner, experience from development policy and established principles like "good governance" should be applied;
11. Calls on the EU and its Member States to strengthen their existing climate partnerships with developing countries, and to enter into new partnerships where these do not currently exist, providing significantly increased financial support for technology development and transfer, agreement on intellectual property rights and institutional capacity-building;

A Global Carbon Market

12. While emphasising that market solutions, including the development of a global carbon market, through "cap and trade" mechanisms or taxation schemes in developed countries, are not the solution for developing countries in the near future, calls on the EU and its partners in the world to find the most effective way of promoting future links between the EU ETS and regional or federal trading schemes in the USA and elsewhere, which in turn would promise greater diversity of abatement options, improved market size and liquidity, and ultimately a more efficient allocation of resources;
13. Welcomes the Kyoto Protocol's Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) as a possible way to enable developing countries to participate in the carbon market and to provide them with modern and efficient technologies; underlines, however, that the use of offsets to meet emission reduction targets by industrialised countries cannot be part of the

responsibility of developing countries to mitigate their greenhouse gas emissions in an international agreement on climate change, and is not a substitute for financial and technological support to developing countries for their mitigation action;

14. Insists, furthermore, that stringent project quality criteria must be part of future offsetting mechanisms, in order to prevent industrialised countries taking away the low-cost reduction options from developing countries, and to guarantee the high standard of such projects, with reliable, verifiable and real additional emission reductions that also provide for sustainable development in such countries;

Land Use Change, Deforestation and Forest Degradation

15. Considers that significant financial support as well as technical and administrative assistance must be provided to developing countries to halt gross tropical deforestation by 2020 at the latest, and that demonstration of commitment to this will be decisive in the international negotiations for a comprehensive global post-2012 climate agreement;
16. Supports the Commission's proposal to create a Global Forest Carbon Mechanism (GFCM) under the UNFCCC framework, based on a permanent-financing scheme; calls on Member States to support their commitment to halting global deforestation and forest degradation by earmarking a significant part of the auctioning revenues from the EU ETS to reduce deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries; calls on Member States to support the Commission's proposal to embrace the funding proposal made by Norway and to allocate part of future revenues from auctioning of Assigned Amount Units to the GFCM;
17. Calls on the EU to promote strong social and environmental standards for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD); calls on the EU to advocate REDD mechanisms that go beyond the current project approach of CDM and that address underlying causes of deforestation, such as poor governance, poverty, corruption and lack of law enforcement, by supporting policy and institutional reform both at local and national levels;

International Aviation and Maritime Transport

18. Insists that the international aviation and maritime sectors should be subject to the same target as other industries, thereby generating additional revenues from auctioning when included in cap and trade systems;
19. Urges the EU - with a view to the failure of International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) and International Maritime Organisation (IMO) talks - to aim at including the greenhouse gas emissions from international aviation and maritime transport in the international agreement, including an ambitious binding reduction target consistent with the 2°C objective;

European Parliament Delegation

20. Believes that the EU delegation plays an important role in these negotiations on climate change, and therefore finds it unacceptable that the Members of the European Parliament

that are part of that delegation were unable to attend the EU coordination meetings at the previous Conference of the Parties; expects the European Parliament participants to have access to such meetings in Copenhagen on the basis at least of observer status, with or without speaking rights;

21. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the governments and parliaments of the Member States and the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, with the request that it be circulated to all non-EU contracting parties.