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REPORT

on the communication from the Commission to the Council and European Parliament entitled Ten years after Rio: preparing for the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002
(COM(2001) 53 – C5-0342/2001 – 2001/2142(COS))

Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Policy

Rapporteur: Mihail Papayannakis

CONTENTS

	Page
PROCEDURAL PAGE	4
MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION.....	5
EXPLANATORY STATEMENT	18
OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY, EXTERNAL TRADE, RESEARCH AND ENERGY	22

PROCEDURAL PAGE

By letter of 6 February 2001, the Commission forwarded to Parliament a communication to the Council and European Parliament entitled Ten years after Rio: preparing for the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002 (COM(2001) 53 – 2001/2142(COS)).

At the sitting of 3 September 2001 the President of Parliament announced that she had referred the communication to the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Policy as the committee responsible and the Committee on Industry, External Trade, Research and Energy and the Committee on Development and Cooperation for their opinions (C5-0342/2001).

The Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Policy had appointed Mihail Papayannakis rapporteur at its meeting of 12 March 2001.

The committee considered the Commission communication and the draft report at its meetings of 26 March and 23 April 2002.

At the last meeting it adopted the motion for a resolution by 28 votes to 1 , with 18 abstentions.

The following were present for the vote: Caroline F. Jackson, chairman; Alexander de Roo, Mauro Nobilia and Anneli Hulthén, vice-chairmen; Mihail Papayannakis, rapporteur; Emmanouil Bakopoulos (for Pernille Frahm), Jean-Louis Bernié, Hans Blokland, David Robert Bowie, John Bowis, Dorette Corbey, Chris Davies, Marialiese Flemming, Karl-Heinz Florenz, José Manuel García-Margallo y Marfil, Robert Goodwill, Françoise Grossetête, Cristina Gutiérrez Cortines, Jutta D. Haug (for Rosemarie Müller), Heidi Anneli Hautala (for Hiltrud Breyer), Hedwig Keppelhoff-Wiechert (for Peter Liese), Christa Klauf, Eija-Riitta Anneli Korhola, Bernd Lange, Paul A.A.J.G. Lannoye (for Marie Anne Isler Béguin), Giorgio Lisi (for Raffaele Costa), Torben Lund, Jules Maaten, Minerva Melpomeni Malliori, Helmuth Markov (for Marit Paulsen), Jorge Moreira da Silva, Antonio Mussa, Riitta Myller, Ria G.H.C. Oomen-Ruijten, Encarnación Redondo Jiménez (for María del Pilar Ayuso González), Frédérique Ries, Dagmar Roth-Behrendt, Guido Sacconi, Giacomo Santini (for Giuseppe Nisticò), Karin Scheele, Ursula Schleicher (for Emilia Franziska Müller), Inger Schörling, Bart Staes (for Patricia McKenna), Catherine Stihler, Nicole Thomas-Mauro, Astrid Thors, Antonios Trakatellis, Kathleen Van Brempt, Phillip Whitehead, Rainer Wieland (for Horst Schnellhardt).

The opinion of the Committee on Industry, External Trade, Research and Energy is attached; the Committee on Development and Cooperation decided on 17 April 2002 not to deliver opinion.

The report was tabled on 25 April 2002 .

The deadline for tabling amendments will be indicated in the draft agenda for the relevant part-session.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

European Parliament resolution on the communication from the Commission to the Council and European Parliament entitled Ten years after Rio: preparing for the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002 (COM(2001) 53 – C5-0342/2001 – 2001/2142(COS))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the communication from the Commission to the Council and European Parliament entitled Ten years after Rio: preparing for the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002 (COM(2001) 53 – C5-0342/2001¹),
- having regard to Article 2 of the EC Treaty,
- having regard to the European Commission Communication entitled A Sustainable Europe for a Better World: A European Union Strategy for Sustainable Development (COM(2001) 264)²,
- having regard to the Environment Council Conclusion of 8 March 2001 (6752/01) on the World Summit on Sustainable Development,
- having regard to the Commission's communication to the European Parliament, the Council, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions entitled Towards a global partnership for sustainable development (COM(2002) 82)³,
- having regard to the decisions of the Göteborg European Council on promoting a sustainable development strategy in the Union, and in particular, to revise it annually at its spring meetings,
- having regard to its previous resolutions on sustainable development and especially its resolution of 28 February 2002⁴ on a sustainable development strategy for the Barcelona Summit,
- having regard to the conclusions of the 15 and 16 March 2002 Barcelona European Council, which constitute a first step towards the adoption of a general EU position vis-à-vis the Johannesburg Summit, to be agreed at the June meeting in Seville,
- having regard to the motion for a resolution on Sustainable Development and Rio +10 of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly meeting in Cape Town (South Africa) 18-21 March, 2002, (ACP-EU 3394/02/fin.) and on communicable diseases (ACP-EU 3393/02/fin.),
- having regard to Rule 47(1) of its Rules of Procedure,

¹ OJ not yet published

² OJ not yet published

³ OJ not yet published

⁴ Adopted texts, item 5

- having regard to the report of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Policy and the opinion of the Committee on Industry, External Trade, Research and Energy (A5-0151/2002),
- A. whereas the Rio+10 Summit in Johannesburg represents a vital opportunity to reinforce the notion of a global community and extend sustainable development principles that aim at reconciling continued economic stability and development with high environmental protection requirements and improved social standards and living conditions for all at world-wide level,
- B. whereas the expectations raised at the Rio Summit in 1992 have not been realised, the commitments have not been honoured and substantial obstacles will have to be overcome and concrete policies will have to be outlined if we want to see that the Johannesburg Summit leads to concrete action to make sustainable development a reality,
- C. whereas world population will increase to 7.5 billion people by 2015, i.e. a 50% increase since 1990. The extra people are equal to the entire world population in 1950,
- D. whereas 20% of the world's population account for 86% of global consumption. In 1960, the world's richest 20% had an income 30 times higher than the 20% poorest, rising to 82 times higher in 1995 (UNDP Human Development Report 2000),
- E. whereas social and economic progress and the democratic development of a country are intimately linked, for which reason there can be no sustainable social and economic development without democratic progress,
- F. whereas the precautionary principle and preventive action are important tools for achieving sustainable development,
- G. Whereas it is recognised that peoples have the right to achieve self-sufficiency in food production and to bring about social and economic development by their own means,
- H. whereas water, air, land and the genetic heritage are the common property of mankind, for which reason they must be treated, protected and preserved as such and may not be regarded as merchandise,
- I. whereas several million people die each year through lack of access to drinking water and whereas clean water supply is likely to become one of the most pressing issues in the 21st century. In 1997, one third of the world's population lived in countries experiencing a shortage of water compared with consumption needs; this could rise to two-thirds by 2025 (World Resources, 1998-1999),
- J. whereas one third of the world's population (around 2 billion people) does not have access to adequate energy services, and at the same time the greatest stimulus to climate change comes from the world's unsustainable use of energy,
- K. whereas the constraints acting on the environment and on the stock of natural resources have continued to increase since the Rio Summit, whereas the exploitation of many resources

exceeds the ability of those resources to replenish themselves, whereas in 1996, 25% of the world's approximately 4630 mammal species, 11% of the 9675 bird species and 15% of all flowering plant species were at significant risk of total extinction (IUCN, 1996). 70% of the fish stocks on the planet offer no possibility for increased catches, and whereas commercial overhunting (especially in Africa) threatens many wild species such as the Great Apes with extinction,

- L. whereas since the Rio Conference, new developments which have taken place are showing that there is an urgent need to agree on the design of a global deal recognising the complementary roles and responsibilities of governments, the business sector and civil society and which would be a new breakthrough for people, planet and prosperity,
- M. whereas in the 'Global Deal' proposal, endorsed by the Göteborg European Council, it was suggested that OECD countries should show leadership by setting the objective of:
- meeting the commitment to provide 0.7% of GNP as ODA,
 - decoupling environmental degradation from economic growth,
 - incorporating sustainable development and environmental concerns into international trade negotiations,
 - living up to commitments in the various international environmental agreements,
- N. whereas, however, this proposal relies on an inter-governmental process only and does not adequately address the issue of how such a 'global deal' would solve the 'crisis of implementation' which remains a major constraint on the realisation of the Agenda 21 goals,
- O. whereas, as regards the European Union, the results of the Barcelona Summit should have been more ambitious with regard to sustainable development, so as to consolidate the EU as a leader in sustainable world development cooperation,
- P. whereas over the last ten years, sustainable development in Africa has remained elusive and most countries in the Africa region continue to be marginalised, and whereas eradicating poverty and hunger and promoting sustainable development livelihoods are central to the achievement of sustainable development,
- Q. whereas human activities are having an increasing impact on the integrity of complex natural ecosystems that provide essential support for human beings and economic activities; whereas managing this natural resource base is essential for protecting the land, water and living resources on which human life and development depend; whereas, furthermore, the harmful effects which human activities have on the historical and cultural heritage of developing countries must be minimised in order to prevent any damage to that heritage, and whereas there should be cooperation with those countries in order to enable that heritage to be enjoyed on a sustainable basis through the promotion of activities such as cultural tourism which generate wealth and employment,
- R. whereas there is a deep 'global governance gap' and whereas good governance at national and international level as well as transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems are essential for sustainable development,

- S. having regard to the need for a change in production and consumption patterns which will help to bring about more equitable worldwide social and economic development in line with the principles of sustainable development,
- T. whereas, under any development strategy, particular attention must be paid to the inequalities experienced by women and children, and whereas the removal of such inequalities is also a way of contributing to a more sustainable world,
1. Welcomes the decision of the UN General Assembly in Resolution A/55/199 convening the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002 in Johannesburg, which represents a unique opportunity for world leaders to set the sustainability agenda for the next 10 years with a programme of work which would build on the agreements generated at the Earth Summit in Rio; regrets, therefore, that certain countries appear reluctant to commit themselves to an ambitious agenda, thus permitting only slow progress so far; also regrets that only a small number of EU Heads of State have as yet committed themselves to attending the WSSD itself; that without such high level attendance the success of the Summit will be in jeopardy;
 2. Expresses its dismay therefore that the Third Preparatory Committee meeting in New York has failed to reach a consensus on producing viable proposals on the scope of the future work of the Commission on Sustainable Development or on strengthening the institutional framework, has failed to produce any working text to go forward to the Ministerial PrepCom IV and that proposals for extraneous partnership agreements are being promoted as replacements for, rather than as complements to, governmental commitments. Calls on the Commission and the Council to press the WSSD Secretariat to ensure that PrepCom IV is better managed and structured so that the governments meeting in Johannesburg can deliver clear and positive global commitments;

Sustainable management and conservation of natural resources

3. Considers that the Johannesburg Summit should develop specific initiatives, building on work undertaken since Rio, in areas such as: fresh water, oceans and seas (including coral reefs), coastal zones, mountains, land use, forests, desertification, biodiversity, waste, chemicals, air pollution, biosafety, energy, minerals and metals;
4. Specifically supports the development of a global action plan on access to safe freshwater, based on principles of Integrated River Basin Management; considers, in more general terms, that sustainable management should be a feature of policies on water from all sources and for all uses; considers, moreover, that a policy which embraces all these factors could be embodied in an international water management charter;
5. Recognises the critical role played by various economic sectors and the need to ensure that those sectors take full account of the limits of natural resources, and the need to share resources equitably; recognises the need for mechanisms to evaluate the external impact of the EU's policies and urges that these should be included within the list of structural indicators being developed for the evaluation of sustainable development as part of the Spring Summit and Lisbon process review;
6. To this end, calls on the EU to set out its commitments for reform of agriculture and fisheries policies ahead of Johannesburg. This includes a new partnership on third-country fisheries

access agreements that takes full account of the social and environmental interests in the region, and respects the right of developing countries to exploit and benefit fully from their own natural resources; considers that a sustainable policy for tourism should be drawn up in the same spirit. Calls on the WSSD to promote agriculture which is both sustainable and humane;

7. Supports effective solutions for the sustainable development, management, use and conservation of natural resources, inter alia through programmes of action, voluntary processes and mechanisms, legal instruments and cooperation with industry which are designed to take into account the views and interests of relevant stakeholders; seeks to find effective solutions to serious global and regional environmental problems through international and regional legal instruments, including multilateral environmental agreements, while taking care to ensure that local and indigenous populations are involved in such measures;
8. Calls on the EU to promote strengthening the Convention on Biological Diversity to make a commitment to providing adequate, predictable long-term funding for its implementation, particularly for developing countries; encourages, on an urgent basis, the ratification and implementation by all states of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) with the object of ensuring an adequate level of protection in the field of the safe transfer, handling and use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs); supports the idea that world leaders should agree in WSSD to bring the biodiversity loss worldwide to a halt by 2015, in the context of the work done by the Convention on Biodiversity;
9. Urges the Commission to promote new rules in the WTO to allow discrimination based on process and production methods, if the environmental damage caused by production is transboundary, the measures are not arbitrary, and are proportionate to the environmental damage caused;
10. Considers, in view of the growing pressure on natural resources and the environment, that there is a need for responsible concentration on the development of infrastructure and expansion of establishments to take account of environmental requirements; calls on the Commission to assist the organisation of working partnerships with industry to raise awareness of and encourage a culture of environmental responsibility and the application of good practice;
11. Recognises that mountain ecosystems include watershed resources and biological diversity and that many are particularly fragile and vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change; encourages therefore the WSSD to make concrete commitments to protect mountain ecosystems;
12. Encourages international joint observation and research and the dissemination of scientific knowledge for effective disaster and risk reduction; stresses the need for natural-risk factors to be incorporated into regional and urban planning;
13. Believes that the precautionary principle should be incorporated in all international agreements;

14. Urges countries to meet their national commitments fully, such as limitation and reduction targets for greenhouse-gas emissions in all their sectors, and to ratify the Kyoto Protocol so as to ensure that it comes into force before the Johannesburg Summit; calls, furthermore, on countries to take prompt action to combat other sources responsible for atmospheric pollution;
15. Considers that further measures for substantial increases in energy and resource efficiency are indispensable; calls on the EU to take the lead by setting a target of 25% of all energy supplies to be from renewable sources by 2020;
16. Urges the WSSD to make a commitment to accelerating the development of renewable energy globally and thereby bringing down the cost of such new energy technology, so that it can play a primary role in regard to poverty eradication and in reducing emissions and combating climate change;
17. Calls on the international community at the WSSD summit to make available the finance and the infrastructure to bring basic sustainable energy services to two billion people who have no access to the grid within ten years, and to agree on an international energy-efficient standard initiative, through the introduction of sustainable systems which gives priority to renewables and energy-use efficiency;
18. Asks the Commission to undertake further research into greater resource-use efficiency; and to explore new and innovative ways of promoting technology co-operation and transfer to developing countries to bridge the digital divide and to facilitate 'technology leapfrogging' in areas including energy, transport, and waste management, incorporating the aspect of sustainable water and forestry management and combating desertification and to consider a programme specifically targeted at eradicating rural poverty at the same time as promoting renewable energy in developing countries, by funding technology for converting biomass either directly into electricity or into methanol and/or hydrogen for use in fuel cells;

Changing Production and Consumption Patterns

19. Recognises that sustainable management, use and conservation of natural resources are needed in order to reverse current trends in unsustainable consumption and production at national and global levels; notes also that the lack of progress in understanding what constitutes non-sustainable production models may be attributed in large measure to a failure to take account of the environmental cost of economic activities; recognises at the same time that, in order to address poverty in developing countries, there will be a need to increase consumption. Stresses, therefore, that significant improvements in resource efficiency will be critical to achieving sustainable development. Stresses also how important it is that sectors and various industrial operations pay the true cost to society. Pricing products so that the real social and environmental costs are reflected provides an incentive for the consumer and producer when they are deciding which goods and services are to be produced or purchased;
20. Recognises the need to adjust lifestyles in order to bring about a significant reduction in the use of resources and generation of waste by developed countries. This requires absolute decoupling of economic growth from resource efficiency and use; calls on WSSD to agree

absolute decoupling in the developed countries, with a view to significantly reducing overall resource use by 2010;

21. Calls for the current criteria used for the purpose of calculating economic growth to be supplemented by new human-development criteria such as standards of education and health care, life expectancy, the distribution of created wealth and changes in the state of the environment;
22. Wishes, in this regard, that efforts will be made to change consumption patterns in the north using a variety of instruments, including process and product standards, taxation on energy and other resource use, removal of environmentally harmful subsidies, targets for the market share of products certified as sustainable, increased awareness of the impacts (both local and global) of consumption choices (eco-labels etc.), and to combine such instruments into integrated product policies addressing all phases of the product life-cycle, including design, production, consumption and disposal;
23. Encourages the Commission in this regard to present a plan to phase out subsidies paid in respect of non-sustainable energy production and to present an action programme to identify and remove obstacles to the promotion of clean and resource-efficient technologies;
24. Calls on the Commission to make a thorough revision of the incentives structure in the economy – including fiscal instruments, subsidies, norms and standards etc. – with the objective of promoting environmentally sustainable systems of production and consumption;
25. Acknowledges the importance of technological innovation as a means of de-coupling economic growth and the intensive use of natural resources, and therefore calls for extra financial and human resources to be allocated in all areas of innovation, particularly those which contribute to the efficient use of natural resources; calls for the best available techniques to be more widely transferred to the developing countries at the lowest possible cost;
26. Calls for a legal framework of corporate social responsibility for EU private corporations to be established by 2004, requiring private investors to comply with core labour and environmental standards defined in national legislation and international law; as a first step, calls for a directive on mandatory reporting on social and environmental performance; at global level, calls on the WSSD to strengthen existing guidelines for multi-national enterprises, leading to the adoption of a legally binding instrument supportive of corporate social responsibility; all MEAs should include provisions relating to natural resource use and investment controls;

Poverty eradication

27. Emphasises that the WSSD should promote a better understanding of linkages between the environment, poverty, trade and protection of human health so as to ensure better integration between environmental protection and policies for poverty eradication and economic development; therefore, in the process leading up to the Johannesburg Summit, seeks enhanced cooperation and solidarity with developing countries based on partnership and mutual responsibility for combating poverty and promoting sustainable development, taking

into account in particular the process launched at the 1995 World Summit for Social development;

28. Pledges the WSSD to initiate a global plan of action with clear, time-bound commitments, resources and monitoring mechanisms so as to attain the International Development Targets and the Millennium Development Goals¹, in particular the target of halving extreme poverty in the world by 2015; in this connection, notes with interest the outcome of the Monterey Conference but considers that it still falls short of the effort needed to achieve what are in any case the modest targets set by the Conference itself;
29. Welcomes the Doha Development Agenda to integrate, inter alia, developing countries more effectively into the trading system, to remove trade distortions and to give the least developed countries duty-free and quota-free market access, and supports the launching of a new round of trade negotiations at the next session of the WTO, with sustainable development as an overarching objective;
30. Calls on all the G7 countries and all the EU Member States to swiftly achieve the agreed goal of 0.7% of GNP being spent on development assistance and advocates cancellation of the debt owed by the most heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC) and the swift implementation of the debt relief initiative for very poor countries, which enhances the poor countries' capacity to reduce poverty by their own means. The HIPC initiative should also be extended to less poor but similarly indebted countries, and an international monitoring process should be developed to make certain that new debt remains at sustainable levels; calls on WSSD to agree to a firm plan of action for achieving these goals;
31. Recognises the need to secure access by the rural poor to natural resources and to enhance their capacity to manage those resources sustainably, and also acknowledge the right of those people to exploit such resources primarily for the purposes of their own subsistence and their endogenous development;
32. Emphasises the need to enable the rural poor to gain more control over the resources in and around their communities, and to provide technical and economic support to assist the use of natural resources in a sustainable manner;
33. Emphasises the fact that prevailing models of economic development have failed to reduce poverty in the least-developed countries. WSSD should launch a debate, around the activities of the Bretton Woods institutions, to promote a new model of economic development based on securing sustainable livelihoods, including investment in public health and consumer protection, education and trade in high-value and service-based economic sectors;
34. Recognises that good health is a prerequisite to economic wellbeing for individuals and communities, which in turn provides the ability to protect the environment; welcomes the commitment made by the Commission in Cape Town at the EU/ACP Joint Assembly to the effect that it intends to mainstream the health needs of children, the elderly and people living with disabilities; calls for sustained action to prevent ill health and disability and to tackle the massive, and often linked, challenges of HIV / AIDS, TB, mental illness, malaria, meningitis, river blindness, epilepsy and other diseases and disorders;

35. Stresses the need for public services to be maintained and developed in essential sectors such as water, health, social security, education, communication services, transport, housing and energy;

Role of local and regional authorities

36. Regrets that both Commission Communications make little mention of the contribution of local and regional authorities to sustainable development, despite Agenda 21's defining of local government as a 'major group', one of the nine key partners involved in ensuring sustainable development;
37. Calls for the development and the implementation of 'Local Agenda 21' strategies on sustainable development, in order to promote innovative local solutions supporting partnerships of local people, community and voluntary organisations, indigenous people, local authorities and communities, together with business and trade unions;
38. Believes that citizens and civil society as a whole must be given the chance to evaluate our policies. It is equally essential for us as a political power to be able to see that measures we have adopted produce the desired results. Therefore we need a number of indicators for the three dimensions of sustainable development that are also broken down sector by sector and at national level;
39. Considers that, if the aim is to redress the regional imbalances that globalisation can cause, there is a need to support local and regional development models, with production systems capable of long-term continuity, based on the complementary nature of economies, and to seek formulas that permit the use of human resources and serve to stimulate local potential in a specific region;
40. Considers that to secure sustainable world development there is a need to encourage the growth of small local businesses, creating productive centres capable of promoting the local economy and consolidating social progress in depressed regions;

Strengthening governance for sustainable development at the national, regional and international levels

41. Believes that good governance, including respect for human rights (in particular, those of women and children), the rule of law, democracy, transparency and combating corruption, forms part of the necessary foundation for sustainable development in all countries; it is of the view that the WSSD should initiate new efforts to improve partnerships with civil society, business and industry and other groups in seeking sustainable solutions to development challenges; to show their commitment to good governance, international decision-making bodies should lead by example and adopt inclusive, transparent and accountable decision-making processes, notably within the G7/8, and WTO and its dispute settlement system. This should be based on financial support and capacity-building at home, as supported by the Doha Agreement; also calls for the prompt ratification and general implementation of the Aarhus Treaty to improve access to information, public participation and access to justice;

42. Acknowledges that both governance on sustainable development and international governance may require implementation and coordination efforts at regional level and will need a more coherent regional institutional framework; urges therefore the WSSD to consider the creation of a World Environment Organization under the auspices of the UN; urges international organisations, notably the United Nations bodies and organisations, working on environmental and sustainable development issues at regional or national levels, to extend their consultations with non-governmental organisations and other major groups; calls upon the Summit to discuss ways and means to promote compliance with, and enforcement of, multilateral environmental agreements; at the same time, WSSD should clarify that responsibility for workers' rights and environmental protection remain with governments and the respective international fora (ILO, UNEP, etc), and that the roles of those fora should be strengthened;
43. Confirms at the same time, however, that underdevelopment is also attributable to corruption, wars and poor governance . Points out that cooperation with industrialised countries should therefore be tied to standards of democracy and the rule of law;
44. Proposes that sustainability and gender impact assessments and the precautionary principle become an integral part of the mandate and conclusion of all international trade agreements between the EU and third countries; calls on the Commission to strengthen environment and social governance in EU bilateral and regional Association Agreements, and to identify and include environmental provisions and safeguards in the Economic, Trade and Investment Chapters of the Agreements, in line with Article 6 of the EC Treaty;

Making Globalisation Work for Sustainable Development

45. Considers that sustainable development should ensure that globalisation contributes to ensuring long-term welfare for all countries, by achieving increased international equity and by respecting the carrying capacity of the world's resources and ecosystems; political decisions should therefore be based on a holistic analysis that reflects the effects of such decisions on all three dimensions of sustainable development;
46. Considers that, in order to compensate for the effects of globalisation, social and economic development policies should be promoted in specific places and increased aid should be made available to allow sustainable exploitation of resources, access to services and the promotion of local wealth, so as to reduce the need for emigration and to stimulate local economies, in accordance with the principles of regional equity;
47. Considers that trade rules and their implementation should support rather than contradict the effective implementation of environmental, social, health and consumer protection objectives. Furthermore, trade should actively promote ecologically sustainable production of and trade in goods and services by providing positive incentives, technical assistance and capacity building in developing countries. Trade instruments should be used to address conflict and poverty issues as well as environmental and public health issues;
48. As part of the forthcoming IGC, asks the Council and Commission to secure increased transparency of trade policy making within the EU, in particular in relation to the 133 Committee of the Council. Priorities are the development of a more effective system of

consultations with other Council formations; opening up consultation with stakeholders; and strengthening the role of the European Parliament in EU trade policy;

49. Emphasises the fact that investment in sound environmental technology produces synergy effects as it simultaneously improves health and human well being, reduces healthcare costs, curtails absence from work due to illness and creates new jobs;
50. Recognises the growing role played by Foreign Direct Investment and considers that this should support corporate social responsibility, while social, development and environmental criteria in lending and financing decisions by Export Credit Agencies and investment banks should be strengthened; calls on WSSD to strengthen existing guidelines for multi-national enterprises, leading to adoption of a legally binding instrument. Investment provisions should also be introduced in international environmental agreements relating to natural resource use;
51. Welcomes in principle the EU's commitment to replenishing the Global Environment Facility (GEF) by at least 50% this year but insists that the integration of additional tasks such as the Persistent Organic Pollutant (POP) Convention, land degradation, deforestation and possibly desertification can only be accepted on condition that substantial supplementary resources are made available; demands in addition that the scope of application of the GEF should reflect an adequate balance between the needs of developing and developed countries in order to avoid the bias towards issues motivated by the industrialised countries;

Means of Implementation

52. Urges all countries to intensify their efforts to implement already-agreed commitments at UNCED and recommends the ratification and effective implementation of conventions and protocols adopted since UNCED and designed to bring about sustainable development, the endorsement and adoption of environment and development targets to revitalise the political commitment and more effective action and follow-up at national, regional and international level; international assistance flows, including debt relief and official development assistance (ODA, which must be increased), should supplement domestic and private efforts towards sustainable development. To this end, developed countries should reconfirm their commitment to and specify an action plan designed to achieve the 0.7 per cent ODA target;
53. Calls on the European Union to propose to the World Summit on Sustainable Development that the concept of 'social traceability' should be introduced at international level as a reflection of an integrated production system which takes due account of social considerations throughout the production and marketing process;
54. Urges the Commission to seek out alternative sources for development financing, such as taxation of currency transactions, and expects the EU to present the conclusions of its analysis at the latest for the WSSD;
55. International investments must be made conditional on the existence of national policies which take account of social and environmental costs of development and the need to ensure an equitable distribution of benefits;

56. Urges the development partners to continue to make available financial and technical assistance for the promotion of sustainable development in developing countries and countries in transition;
57. Asks the development partners to provide developing countries with access to publicly owned environmentally sound technologies and to promote capacity building for the purpose of absorbing and adapting knowledge and techniques; in this connection, stresses the need for international bodies active in the field of development cooperation to step up their efforts with regard to education and information campaigns aimed at the peoples with whom they work so as to ensure that, in particular:
- the abovementioned sustainable technologies are transferred for the purpose of ensuring better and cleaner agricultural production,
 - the best technologies which will enable better use to be made of water resources and water to be brought up to drinking standard are transferred,
 - as regards health, any information on health protection is passed on which will enable the impact of diseases such as AIDS to be reduced and help in the drawing up of family-planning policies designed to help to alleviate the demographic problems experienced by certain countries is passed on;
58. Exchange of technology in the environment sector is of particular importance as a contribution to progress in the global environmental work and to economic and social development in developing countries. Calls on the EU to commit itself to setting up a European Centre to promote the Transfer of Environmentally Sustainable Technology, to support the development and the spreading of renewable energy technologies as well as energy effective technologies to developing countries, with the main aim of supporting the implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements such as the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol, CBD, CCD, UN Fish Stocks Agreement, etc.;
59. Supports the Commission's efforts to make progress in the areas of technology transfer and resource creation, facilitating greater market access and increasing participation by LDCs, universities and research centres;
60. Calls on the Commission to take steps to restart the dialogue within OECD in order for environmental guidelines for export credit agencies to be established. Recalls in this context the statement of the G8 Environment Ministers at Trieste 'to quickly develop and implement common binding environmental guidelines for export credit agencies [...] based on the practices of other internationally recognised, publicly supported multilateral finance agencies such as the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Finance Corporation of the World Bank. Export credit agencies should also adopt common measures to increase the transparency of their decision-making process, including public access to environmental information, public consultation and consideration of relevant elements of the recommendations of the World Commission on Dams (WCD)';
61. Considers that sustainability impact assessments (SIA) must be undertaken for all major policy initiatives and notes that these require an analysis of the impact on sustainable development of all international trade negotiations; wishes to see such SIA become a mandatory precondition for all EU trade agreements and programmes;

62. Calls for the establishment by the Johannesburg Summit of development targets especially focused on the eradication of poverty and for these to be subject to an overall evaluation within 10 years, preceded by a mid-term review; while, at the Rio Summit in 1992 the starting progress was to identify strategies and make commitments, it will from now on be important to measure progress, using universal indicators for sustainable development;
63. Calls for the initiation of a set of headline indicators for sustainable development at the Johannesburg Summit which shall take into account social, economic and environmental issues;
64. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, and the Governments and the Parliaments of Member States.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

In 1992 the United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development was held in Rio de Janeiro. The Conference adopted a declaration in which the signatories committed themselves to working towards sustainable development by setting social and economic goals, outlining necessary conservation and resource management measures, eliminating unsustainable modes of consumption, establishing a global partnership and describing means of implementation.

The World Summit on Sustainable Development (also known as Rio+10), organised to mark the tenth anniversary of the 1992 Rio 'Earth Summit', will be a Summit gathering from 26 August to 4 September 2002 in Johannesburg, of world leaders, civil society, United Nations agencies, multilateral financial institutions and other major actors, having as its 'main thrust to move from the answers agreed on paper to action on the ground' (Nitin Desai, Under Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs to head the WSSD). The countdown has begun, few months remain to the WSSD, and there is as yet no fixed agenda on the table.

However it is ultimately defined, sustainable development undoubtedly includes economic growth (production, trade, finance, and so on), social cohesion (placing particular emphasis on the eradication of poverty) and the incorporation of an environmental dimension into all policies (the objectives being to protect the environment, public health and quality of life – objectives which are once again linked these days to social cohesion, especially at international level).

Experience and scientific analysis teach us that such objectives may prove to be contradictory, and recent history has demonstrated that, generally speaking, they are. The various aspects of production (production growth, production technology and methods, production rates and cycles, the globalisation of production) are becoming increasingly divorced from considerations relating to social and ecological balances at either national or international level – balances which were regarded as far from satisfactory both before and after Rio.

Bearing this in mind we identified five key themes that should be addressed in this report; they have been selected on the basis of the relative severity of the problems addressed, the urgency with which they need addressing, the fact that existing practices are leading to irreversible damage and the important dimension at international level. These priority themes are:

- 1. Sustainable Management and Conservation of Natural Resources** (water, land, soil, air, non-renewable and renewable sources of energy, and biodiversity),
- 2. Making Globalisation work for sustainable development - enabling new pathways**, which will include issues such as 'A new Global Deal', 'Changing Production and Consumption Patterns' and 'Trade and Sustainable Development',
- 3. Poverty eradication**, including financing for development and science and technology transfer,
- 4. Governance at all levels and across all sectors and the role of local and regional authorities**, and
- 5. Means of implementation.**

1. For many people and the environment, the situation is worse today than it was ten years ago. Natural resources are vanishing at an unprecedented rate. Most initiatives that address natural resource management and environmental issues without addressing the economic and financial needs of poor populations have had limited success at best. Major crises might have to be faced

in the coming years in relation with climate change, access to clean water, energy efficiency, land and soil degradation, and biodiversity.

2. Globalisation offers major new opportunities for economic growth, for communication and for the spread of ideas, knowledge and technologies. At the same time it allows new risks and threats to emerge, whilst formidably increasing the scale of those to which the market economy has traditionally been exposed: financial and economic crises are spreading throughout the world and almost in real time, whilst company relocations and international trade are redistributing jobs too quickly, creating unemployment here and destabilising traditional economies (particularly rural ones) there. The resulting migratory flows and the political crises of all kinds which contribute in equal measure are occurring on an unprecedented scale and there is hardly any real scope for effective monitoring and regulation. Globalisation requires a new global deal, changing production and consumption patterns and new ways of making trade policy.

'Tackling global problems needs simultaneous action from all nations and will only succeed if **all** including the USA commit themselves to politically challenging choices. This global partnership, or even clearer **global deal** needs to embrace **all** stakeholders' (Poul Nielson).

It must, however, be recognised that this general concept of 'global deal' cannot be reduced to good intentions and ad hoc international agreements, even though the latter are necessary and extremely useful. It is also very difficult to ensure that such agreements are accepted and observed, especially by the USA (Kyoto, toxic and biological weapons, etc.). The stage reached in the globalisation process is such that there is an increasingly pressing need for a leader (and hence for technical and political leadership) who is capable of ensuring that all the interested parties accept sustainable action frameworks and rules. International organisations both old and new are already doing useful and necessary regulatory and coordination work in many areas, from the transport sector to public health and even trade and finance. However, this is not enough even from the technical point of view and it raises even more serious political issues. What is missing are the weightings and the political choices which those organisations are neither able nor entitled to make publicly and in accordance with rules agreed and accepted by all or most of the interested parties. For obvious reasons, providing such political leadership cannot be the job of a single country. As things stand at present, revitalising the UN or establishing new multinational bodies capable of securing a broad and freely agreed consensus would probably be the most promising – if somewhat utopian - scenario.

Concerning the more specific problem of a necessary ecological approach, one should stress the fact that the major cause of the combined deterioration of the global environment is the unsustainable pattern of consumption and production, particularly in industrialised countries. Changing consumption patterns towards sustainable development will require a multi-pronged strategy focusing on meeting basic needs and improving the quality of life, while reorienting consumer demand towards sustainably produced goods and services. More efficient use of energy is critical to sustainable consumption.

Liberalised international trade is increasing the access to, and use of, natural resources and boosting transport-related pollution as well as resource-intensive consumption patterns. We need to create fair trade opportunities for the developing countries, while reducing debt, mobilising more financial resources (official development aid, including debt relief, which represented 0,33% of donors' GNP in 1992, declined to 0,22% by 1998, while the ODA target of 0,7% of GNP reconfirmed in Rio is far from being met) and launching a New Round of multilateral trade

negotiations. Doha, Monterrey, Bretton Woods, WTO, ILO need to work consistently towards sustainable development.

3. 'The single most important threat to sustainable development globally is poverty and the widening gap between the rich and the desperately poor. This is not only a threat to poor nations but also to wealthy as the instability, conflict, disease and environmental degradation associated with poverty threaten the overall socio-economic status of our planet' (Minister Moosa, Republic of South Africa, 10 September 2001).

Over one billion people are living in extreme poverty. Their purchasing power is less than one US dollar per capita per day. The target of halving poverty by 2015 can only be reached if poverty reduction is considered a shared international mission which requires political action and is based on the partnership of governments of developing and industrialised countries, multilateral organisations and civil society forces from all countries.

4. The progressive collapse of ineffective systems of governance has culminated in instability, political crisis and conflict-based emergencies for millions of people. At the very heart of good or sound governance operates an increasingly widespread set of generative principles, including participation, equity, sustainability, transparency, effectiveness and the rule of law. The WSSD will have to address a new global governance scheme. Emphasis should be given to the mutually reinforcing character of good governance at local, regional, national and international levels.

The proclamation of such principles would no doubt be useful, but the credibility of such a proclamation would quickly be lessened if advantage were not taken of the Summit in order to secure a number of specific commitments from all the participants regarding the application of those principles in certain areas, such as trade, financial-crisis management, the surveillance of international transactions involving financial and stock-exchange capital, food crises, migrant flows, and so on. Governance is certainly not equivalent to some or other form of world government, although the agreements, initiatives and operations of any kind in areas considered ripe for policy globalisation should be devised as though they were part of a conscious global policy. For the purpose of such an exercise, which could open ways ahead, the Johannesburg Summit seems more suitable than meetings of the heads of state and government of certain developed countries which try to solve the world's problems and which therefore perform exactly the same exercise, but with much less political likelihood of convincing all or most of the other countries and securing acceptance of effective policies.

5. In this sense, the Heads of States at the WSSD should seek to answer questions related to how they plan to reach meaningful global environmental and social agreements with the necessary enforcement mechanisms. They need to address the global power structures blocking the way, and set the necessary framework for the global economy. As a first step, they should ensure that Multilateral Environmental Agreements cannot be overruled by the WTO. It is essential that the outcome of the Summit be action-oriented with clearly identified measures for implementation and follow up. Such measures and the application thereof clearly cannot depend on good will or occasional meetings of the interested parties. Once again the issue arises of the permanent rules and of institutions already in existence and waiting to be revitalised, or needing to be set up from scratch. Whether it is dealt with in terms of governance, regulation or political leadership (according to individual preference), this issue emerges as the crucial element in the credibility and hence in the actual effectiveness of whatever decisions might be taken at the Johannesburg Summit. In such areas (as may easily be seen from recent examples), multilateralism is a

necessary (albeit insufficient) condition of success, whereas arbitrary unilateralism is likely to be a disappointment and to unravel the *acquis* in all the areas discussed here

A leading role for the EU

For some time to come, though probably not for always, the EU will have sufficient weight and size to be a world player in numerous areas. The role which it has recently played in the adoption of the Kyoto agreements is a shining example of this. Despite the lack of political unity it displays in drawing up, expressing and implementing its policies, it nonetheless has considerable scope for making its presence felt and for active engagement, and it has much experience of cooperation. It remains to be seen whether or not it has the determination and the capability to formulate clear, decisive views on the issues discussed here. The answer to this question is relatively difficult. On the one hand, Europe is riddled by the same contradictions (and sometimes by the same conflicts) as the others as regards the problems and the challenges of sustainable development. On the other hand, however, it has often managed to provide answers (both in its internal legislation and in international negotiations) which have opened ways ahead in several areas relating to sustainable development, despite the slowness with which it addresses issues such as development aid, writing off the poorest countries' debt, and so on. As regards concepts and ideas, interesting trends emerge from speeches and statements of very different political origin and on topics discussed recently in forums as diverse as Porto Alegre and Davos (and this time in New York): topics such as world government, action to eradicate poverty and the sustainable management of natural resources have very often on such occasions been dealt with by European leaders along converging lines. However, statements still have to be translated into specific action and initiatives: into a shift in the rules on international trade within the WTO (in Doha recently the EU gave some encouraging signs), with particular reference to the relationship between those rules and the rules on biosafety; into a revision (more than timely, in the eyes of many experts) of the rules on finance and support for the balance of payments of the least-developed countries, which could at least prevent crises such as the one which recently occurred in Argentina; into proposals for the concerted resumption of development aid, especially of the multilateral kind; into areas as diverse as water-resource management, renewable energy-resource technologies and the international dissemination thereof, security at sea and marine pollution, protection of threatened species, and so on. Progress in these areas would be a good way for the EU to acquire the kind of credibility and authority which would enable it to play an essential role in the efforts which must be made to regulate globalisation and the difficult compromises which will undoubtedly be required at the higher levels at which world affairs are coordinated and run, such as those relating to the serious issues of war and peace which are undoubtedly linked, in a complex though very real way, to the issues to be dealt with in a few months' time in Johannesburg.

16 April 2002

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY, EXTERNAL TRADE, RESEARCH AND ENERGY

for the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Policy

on the Communication from the Commission to the Council and European Parliament on: "Ten years after Rio: Preparing for the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002" (COM(2001) 53 – C5-0342/01 – 2001/2142 (COS))

Draftsman: Caroline Lucas

PROCEDURE

The Committee on Industry, External Trade, Research and Energy appointed Caroline Lucas draftsman at its meeting of 18 September 2001.

It considered the draft opinion at its meetings of 18 March 2002 and 16 April 2002.

At the latter meeting it adopted the following conclusions by 42 votes to 1, with 7 abstention.

The following were present for the vote: Carlos Westendorp y Cabeza, chairman; Yves Piétrasanta, vice-chairman; Caroline Lucas, rapporteur; Sir Robert Atkins, Luis Berenguer Fuster, Mario Borghezio (for Marco Cappato), Felipe Camisón Asensio (for Werner Langen), Massimo Carraro, Giles Bryan Chichester, Elisa Maria Damião (for Gérard Caudron), Willy C.E.H. De Clercq, Harlem Désir, Carlo Fatuzzo (for Guido Bodrato), Concepció Ferrer, Francesco Fiori (for Umberto Scapagnini), Colette Flesch, Christos Folias (for Christian Foldberg Røvsing), Glyn Ford (for Reino Paasilinna), Cristina García-Orcóyen Tormo (for Jaime Valdivielso de Cué), Per Gahrton (for Claude Turmes), Neena Gill (for Gary Titley), Norbert Glante, Michel Hansenne, Roger Helmer (for Peter Michael Mombaur), Peter Liese (for Godelieve Quisthoudt-Rowohl), Hans Karlsson, Bashir Khanbhai, Rolf Linkohr, Patricia McKenna (for Nuala Ahern, pursuant to Rule 153(2)), Eryl Margaret McNally, Erika Mann, Marjo Matikainen-Kallström, Elizabeth Montfort, Angelika Niebler, Paolo Pastorelli, Elly Plöoij-van Gorsel, Samuli Pohjamo (for Nicholas Clegg), John Purvis, Daniela Raschhofer, Imelda Mary Read, Mechtilde Rothe, Paul Rübig, Ilka Schröder (for Roseline Vachetta), Konrad K. Schwaiger, Esko Olavi Seppänen, W.G. van Velzen, Alejo Vidal-Quadras Roca, Dominique Vlasto, Myrsini Zorba, and Olga Zrihen Zaari.

SHORT JUSTIFICATION

In anticipation of the Rio+10 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) which will take place in Johannesburg in August 2002, the Commission published its Communication *"Ten years after Rio - Preparing for the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002"* in January 2001. A much delayed Communication *"Towards a Global Partnership for Sustainable Development"* on the *external dimensions* was finally made available in February 2002.

This delay is extremely regrettable, since it means that Parliament and civil society will have no opportunity to influence the External Strategy before it is presented at the Barcelona Summit in March 2002 – just as happened in preparation for the Gothenburg Summit in 2001. Such cavalier disregard for the democratic process is unacceptable. If the Commission genuinely wants a “partnership” approach, it must treat its partners with more respect.

Moreover, the External Strategy is hardly a strategy in any serious sense of the word, since it contains very few objectives which are either measurable or timebound. Given that the Commission has itself frankly acknowledged that many of the expectations of the Rio Earth Summit have not been fulfilled (*Ten Years After Rio*), it should approach Rio Plus 10 with a far greater sense of urgency. Pressure on the environment and on the natural resource base have grown since Rio, and poverty has continued to increase globally.

In *Ten Years After Rio*, the Commission suggests that the reasons for this are a failure to change unsustainable patterns of production and consumption, a shortage of financial resources, insufficient response from international institutions and weaknesses in domestic governance and capacity. In its External Strategy, the Commission builds on this analysis by rightly identifying a “global governance gap”, with global market forces running ahead of efforts to achieve global governance and reform political institutions. Yet the very measures which the Commission proposes to close that gap are woefully insufficient. Your rapporteur points in particular to the lack of political will to create binding international legal measures to effectively implement already established agreements and to meet already set targets which would further ensure liability, accountability and transparency in governments and corporations.

What should be an important signal to the rest of the world on just how seriously the EU will take its commitment to sustainable development is now in danger of becoming a pretext for promoting a trade-oriented agenda at the coming WSSD. The Commission’s disproportionate emphasis on free trade and investment as engines for development in its External Strategy should be balanced with far stronger commitments to binding frameworks for corporate social and environmental accountability, together with rigorous sustainability and gender impact assessments for all bilateral and regional economic agreements, with a commitment to revise such agreements as necessary to maximise their potential to promote sustainable development.

One of the most serious obstacles to achieving sustainable consumption and production patterns is the WTO’s prohibition on discrimination between products on the basis of the way in which they have been produced (PPMs). Your rapporteur suggests that there is scope to devise new rules on PPMs which would not be open to abuse.

Achieving sustainable energy supplies is one of the most important challenges on the sustainable development agenda. Specific strategies, targets and timetables are needed both for promoting renewable energy sources and to achieve the Kyoto commitments, and beyond.

The Commission should also use this opportunity to examine the impact of all of its policies on the potential for sustainable development in developing countries, and to revise those policies in the light of that examination as necessary. It should also take care not to “export” unsustainable practices. For example, it should call for the adoption of the principle both North and South that agriculture should be both sustainable *and humane*: industrial animal farming not only imposes suffering on animals, but also – crucially – is detrimental to poverty eradication as it undercuts small-holder farmers and leads to the loss of rural jobs and livelihoods. Moreover, industrial agriculture also threatens food security, leads to environmental pollution and degradation, and endangers human health and food safety.

Finally, new and innovative ways of promoting technology co-operation and transfer to developing countries are urgently needed to bridge the digital divide and to facilitate "technology leapfrogging" in areas including energy, transport, and waste and water management. The Commission should take a lead in this vital area, and in the area of research into greater resource-use efficiency.

CONCLUSIONS

The Committee on Industry, External Trade, Research and Energy calls on the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Policy, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following points in its motion for a resolution:

1. Asks the Commission to develop clear targets and achievable goals by 2003, and this should include a systematic assessment of how the EU's external policies can contribute to greater achievement of sustainable development in developing countries. This should encompass all areas of policies, and result in a Communication to the Parliament;
2. Confirms at the same time, however, that backwardness is also, as African countries noted in connection with the WTO conference in Doha, attributable to corruption, wars and poor governance – as recently underlined by the scandalous proceedings in Zimbabwe. Points out that cooperation with industrialised countries should therefore, following the independent African initiative, be tied to standards of democracy and the rule of law;
3. proposes that sustainability and gender impact assessments and the precautionary principle become an integral part of the mandate and conclusion of all international trade agreements between the EU and third countries; calls on the Commission to strengthen environment and social governance in EU bilateral and regional Association Agreements, and to identify and include environmental provisions and safeguards in the Economic, Trade and Investment Chapters of the Agreements, in line with Article 6 of the EC Treaty;
4. urges the Commission to promote new rules in the WTO to allow discrimination based on process and production methods, if the environmental damage caused by production is

transboundary, the measures are not arbitrary, and are proportionate to the environmental damage caused;

5. Calls for a legal framework for corporate social responsibility for EU corporations to be established by 2004, with a directive on (deletion) reporting on social and environmental performance as the first step;
6. Considers, in view of the growing pressure on natural resources and the environment, that there is a need for responsible concentration on the development of infrastructure and expansion of establishments to take account of environmental requirements; calls on the Commission to assist the organisation of working partnerships with industry to raise awareness of and encourage a culture of environmental responsibility and the application of good practice;
7. Considers that to secure sustainable world development there is a need to encourage the growth of small local businesses, creating productive centres capable of promoting the local economy and consolidating social progress in depressed regions;
8. Agrees with the World Energy Council that further use of nuclear energy, including the building of new nuclear power stations, should at least remain an open option, not least out of responsibility to parts of the world still short of energy resources and to future generations;
9. Asks the Commission to undertake further research into greater resource-use efficiency; and to explore new and innovative ways of promoting technology co-operation and transfer to developing countries to bridge the digital divide and to facilitate 'technology leapfrogging' in areas including energy, transport, and waste management, incorporating the aspect of sustainable water and forestry management and combating desertification and to consider a programme specifically targeted at eradicating rural poverty at the same time as promoting renewable energy in developing countries, by funding technology for converting biomass either directly into electricity or into methanol and/or hydrogen for use in fuel cells;
10. Supports the Commission's efforts to make progress in the areas of technology transfer and resource creation, facilitating greater market access and increasing participation by LDCs, universities and research centres;
11. Calls on the Commission to take steps to restart the dialogue within OECD in order for environmental guidelines for export credit agencies to be established. Recalls in this context the statement of the G8 Environment Ministers at Trieste 'to quickly develop and implement common binding environmental guidelines for export credit agencies [...] based on the practices of other internationally recognised, publicly supported multilateral finance agencies such as the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Finance Corporation of the World Bank. Export credit agencies should also adopt common measures to increase the transparency of their decision-making process, including public access to environmental information, public consultation and consideration of relevant elements of the recommendations of the World Commission on Dams (WCD)';

12. Considers that, if the aim is to redress the regional imbalances that globalisation can cause, there is a need to support local and regional development models, with production systems capable of long-term continuity, based on the complementary nature of economies, and to seek formulas that permit the use of human resources and serve to stimulate local potential in a specific region;
13. Calls on the Commission to make a thorough revision of the incentives structure in the economy – including fiscal instruments, subsidies, norms and standards etc. – with the objective of promoting environmentally sustainable systems of production and consumption;
14. As part of the forthcoming IGC, asks the Council and Commission to secure increased transparency of trade policy making within the EU, in particular in relation to the 133 Committee of the Council. Priorities are the development of a more effective system of consultations with other Council formations; opening up consultation with stakeholders; and strengthening the role of the European Parliament in EU trade policy;
15. Urges the Commission to seek out alternative sources for development financing, such as taxation of currency transactions, and expects the EU to present the conclusions of its analysis at the latest for the WSSD;