

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Jean Lambert, Caroline Lucas, Alejandro Cercas and Luigi Cocilovo

on workers' environmental representatives

Lapse date: 22.1.2009

Written declaration on workers' environmental representatives

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - A. whereas, given the EU Sustainable Development Strategy, the European Council (Presidency Conclusions, 8-9 March 2007) has committed to 2020 EU targets of 20-30 % reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, energy consumption reductions of 20 %, and 20 % of energy demand from renewables, and the Commission has proposed renewable energy targets for each Member State,
 - B. whereas industry's meeting of environmental targets should be undertaken in a just way, requiring the active participation and support of employees and workplace representatives,
 - C. whereas trade unions are ideally placed to promote, implement, and help develop best environmental workplace practice,
 - D. whereas some employers and trade unions have developed environmental workplace policies, and workers' environmental representatives are recognised in some workplaces,
1. Calls on the Council and Commission to acknowledge the importance of trade unions and workers' environmental representatives in meeting environmental challenges, particularly delivering on the EU's Sustainable Development Strategy and climate change and environmental objectives;
 2. Calls on the Council and Commission to work to secure rights for workers' environmental representatives, including time for relevant training, the undertaking of workplace environmental audits and other duties;
 3. Calls on Member States to afford workers' environmental representatives these aforementioned rights, and to work with trade unions and employers to achieve environmental objectives in the most just way;
 4. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, the Council, the Commission and Member States.