



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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Committee on Development

2013/2135(INI)

11.11.2013

OPINION

of the Committee on Development

for the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety and the
Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

on a 2030 framework for climate and energy policies
(2013/2135(INI))

Rapporteur: Norbert Neuser

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Development calls on the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety and the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, as the committees responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in their motion for a resolution:

1. Acknowledges the historical responsibility of the EU and other major greenhouse gas (GHG) emitters vis-à-vis developing countries and disadvantaged people, especially women, who are the prime victims of climate change; points to the need for renewed EU leadership in international climate negotiations in order to reach an ambitious binding agreement at the UNFCCC in Paris in 2015, based on a process of equitable effort-sharing; emphasises that in order to be credible in this leadership role and encourage all other countries to come forward with emission reduction pledges, the EU must first reinvigorate efforts to bring down its own emissions, aiming at the higher end of its 80-95 % GHG emission reduction target for 2050;
2. Recognises that the timeframe for global action is rapidly closing as per the latest scientific reports by the IPCC, and that the cost of inaction is several times greater than the cost of early climate action; expresses alarm that climate impacts have the potential to reverse recent progress made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), could increase global hunger by 10-20 % by 2050, and are already leading to loss of lives and livelihoods in the poorest and most vulnerable countries;
3. Stresses the need to ensure, as a priority, that developed countries cut their own emissions first and fast and provide necessary financial flows to developing countries for adaptation and mitigation; warns, however, against using instead offsetting mechanisms such as the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), considering that such mechanisms have not proven effective tools for reducing greenhouse emissions, and that they delay essential structural change in developed-country economies;
4. Acknowledges the agreed international climate goal to hold global mean warming at under a 2 degrees Celsius increase over the pre-industrial level;
5. Calls on the Member States to adopt three binding targets for 2030, i.e. a reduction of GHG emissions to at least 50 % below 1990 levels, a share for renewable energy of at least 40 %, and an increase of at least 30 % in energy efficiency; recalls that both energy efficiency and the deployment of renewables reduce GHG emissions and therefore facilitate the achievement of an EU GHG target of at least 50 %;
6. Urges the Commission and the Member States to phase out all subsidies and state aid for fossil fuels and nuclear energy and to finalise the internal electricity market in a manner that benefits renewable energy;
7. Emphasises the need to reduce the carbon footprint of the transport sector; notes, in this respect, that some biofuels are failing to live up to expectations as regards GHG emission reductions, can contribute to rising food prices by competing for land and may threaten access to vital resources, including land and water, for local and indigenous communities in developing countries; takes the view that in order to avoid negative impacts on the right

to food, public incentives for the production of crop-based biofuels (such as the binding 10 % EU target for renewable energy in transport or subsidies) must be reduced and removed no later than 2020; calls, in particular, for effective measures to prevent harmful social and environmental impacts of biomass for energy production for European markets;

8. Stresses the need to reduce energy consumption in the transport sector, since a percentage target for energy from renewable sources is likely to become increasingly difficult to achieve sustainably if overall demand for energy for transport continues to rise;
9. Stresses the need to reconcile development and climate change goals; emphasises that climate change threatens the ability of entire regions to feed themselves, thereby demonstrating the links with the aim of global poverty eradication underlying both the MDGs and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) process launched by the Rio+20 conference; calls for those two processes to be integrated into a single, overarching post-2015 framework;
10. Recalls the EU's commitments under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change to support the efforts of developing countries, especially the least developed countries, to mitigate and adapt to climate change, and to enhance resilience through capacity building, investment in research, technology transfer and contributions to the Green Climate Fund (GCF), which must become fully operational as a matter of urgency;
11. Emphasises the critical role of finance in enabling developing countries to take ambitious climate action; insists, therefore, on the need to build up a coherent financial architecture for climate change; calls for greater efforts by the Member States to help fulfil the commitment made by developed countries to provide at least USD 100 billion per year in climate financing, additionally to the commitment to allocate 0.7 % of GNI as Official Development Assistance by 2020;
12. Highlights the fact that women in the least developed countries are those who bear the most responsibilities in the sectors threatened by climate change; stresses the importance of and need for gender analysis and the inclusion of a gender perspective in all action programmes for climate change mitigation or adaptation and disaster risk reduction that are financed by the EU or by Member States;
13. Stresses the need to address the growing impact of airline emissions on climate change; regrets, therefore, the fact that the EU has had to temporarily freeze the implementation of the EU emissions trading scheme for flights which are not within the EU; emphasises the need for an expanded and better-functioning Emissions Trading System (ETS) which provides efficient climate goals and effective incentives for GHG emissions reductions, ensures a meaningful price for CO₂ and reflects the true costs of fossil fuels; stresses that the total amount of carbon credits must decrease gradually so that climate neutrality is reached by 2050; deems it essential to raise additional climate finance and to set aside, within the remit of the ETS, a percentage of auctioning revenues as climate finance for a fully operational GCF;
14. Notes that a recent report by the European Environment Agency found that between 1990 and 2012 the EU reduced its emissions by 18 %, close to the target of a 20 % emissions reduction by 2020; calls, therefore, on European leaders to raise the current climate target

to 30 % for 2020, to avoid a lack of action during the period remaining up to that year.

RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

Date adopted	5.11.2013
Result of final vote	+: 14 -: 12 0: 0
Members present for the final vote	Thijs Berman, Corina Crețu, Véronique De Keyser, Nirj Deva, Leonidas Donskis, Charles Goerens, Catherine Grèze, Mikael Gustafsson, Eva Joly, Miguel Angel Martínez Martínez, Gay Mitchell, Bill Newton Dunn, Andreas Pitsillides, Jean Roatta, Birgit Schnieber-Jastram, Alf Svensson, Ivo Vajgl, Daniël van der Stoep, Anna Záborská, Iva Zanicchi
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	Eduard Kukan, Isabella Lövin, Cristian Dan Preda
Substitute(s) under Rule 187(2) present for the final vote	Iratxe García Pérez, María Muñoz De Urquiza, Bogusław Sonik