

WRITTEN QUESTION E-2974/09  
by Ignasi Guardans Cambó (ALDE)  
to the Commission

Subject: Eco-packaging

The 'climate change package' approved by Parliament at first reading on 17 December 2008 set the following European Union targets for 2020: a 20% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions; a 20% improvement in energy efficiency; and a 20% share of renewable energy consumption.

In its resolution of 4 February 2009 entitled '2050: The future begins today – Recommendations for the EU's future integrated policy on climate change' (2008/2105(INI)) Parliament drew attention to the 'urgent need – pursuing a horizontal approach – to incorporate global warming and climate change as new parameters into all spheres and policies, and to take the causes and consequences of global warming and climate change into account in every relevant area of EU legislation'.

In the light of the above, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. Will the Commission take any measures to promote the more widespread use of packaging based on recyclable, sustainable, biodegradable and renewable raw materials?
2. Has the Commission set aside resources as part of the seventh framework programme to support research, development and innovation aimed at bringing about the more widespread use of ecological and sustainable materials such as corrugated cardboard, compact cardboard and wood produced exclusively from recycled fibre, virgin fibre or wood from sustainable forestry operations? If not, does the Commission plan to earmark funds for this purpose under future framework programmes?
3. Is the Commission considering the possibility of including packaging in the scope of Directive 2005/32/EC<sup>1</sup> of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 July 2005 establishing a framework for the setting of ecodesign requirements for energy-using products?

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 191, 22.7.2005, p. 29.