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*Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety  
The Chair*

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24.01.2023

Mr Salvatore De Meo  
Chair  
Committee on Constitutional Affairs  
BRUSSELS

Subject: Opinion on Proposals of the European Parliament for the amendment of the Treaties(2022/2051(INL))

Dear Mr Chair,

The coordinators of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI) decided on 4 July 2022 that ENVI would provide an opinion on the *Proposals of the European Parliament for the amendment of the Treaties (2022/2051(INL))* in the form of a letter. Therefore, both as ENVI Chair and Rapporteur for this opinion, let me provide you with ENVI's contribution in the form of resolution paragraphs, which was adopted by ENVI at its meeting<sup>1</sup> of 24 January 2023 and which I kindly request will be taken into account by your committee:

1. Recalls its resolution of 4 May 2022 on the follow-up to the conclusions of the Conference on the Future of Europe (2022/2648(RSP)) stating that the EU should be empowered with tools allowing it to act on important transnational challenges, *inter alia*, in the fields of health, climate change and environment;

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<sup>1</sup> The following were present for the final vote: Pascal Canfin (Chair), Bas Eickhout (Vice-Chair), Anja Hazekamp (Vice-Chair), César Luena (Vice-Chair), Eric Andrieu, Bartosz Arłukowicz, Margrete Auken, Petras Auštrevičius, Aurélie Beigneux, Hildegard Bentele, Michael Bloss, Delara Burkhardt, Traian Băsescu, Sara Cerdas, Mohammed Chahim, Tudor Ciuhodaru, Beatrice Covassi, Marie Dauchy, Christian Doleschal, Cyrus Engerer, Agnès Evren, Malte Gallée, Gianna Gancia, Jens Gieseke, Catherine Griset, Teuvo Hakkarainen, Martin Hojsík, Jan Huitema, Martin Häusling, Yannick Jadot, Adam Jarubas, Karin Karlsbro, Petros Kokkalis, Athanasios Konstantinou, Ewa Kopacz, Joanna Kopcińska, Stelios Kypouropoulos, Peter Liese, Sylvia Limmer, Javi López, Lukas Mandl, Liudas Mažylis, Dace Melbārde, Marina Mesure, Tilly Metz, Silvia Modig, Alessandra Moretti, Ulrike Müller, Ljudmila Novak, Grace O'Sullivan, Jutta Paulus, Jessica Polfjård, Stanislav Polčák, Bergur Løkke Rasmussen, María Soraya Rodríguez Ramos, Robert Roos, Sándor Rónai, Massimiliano Salini, Günther Sidl, Ivan Vilibor Sinčić, Maria Spyraiki, Nicolae Ștefănuță, Nils Torvalds, Véronique Trillet-Lenoir, Edina Tóth, Achille Variati, Petar Vitanov, Alexandr Vondra, Mick Wallace, Sarah Wiener, Michal Wiezik, Tiemo Wölken, Anna Zalewska

2. Stresses that Treaties changes should be based on the need to live well within the planetary boundaries, which should be reflected in Article 191 paragraph 3, and achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals;
3. Underlines that the *One Health* approach, the non-regression principle and the *do no significant harm* principles should be central, in addition to the *polluter pays, rectify at source* and *precautionary and preventive principles* which are already enshrined;
4. Highlights, further, that Article 4 paragraph 2 letter (d) should add “*forestry*”, and letter (e) should add “*biodiversity, ‘restoration and protection of ecosystems, in particular those with the most potential to capture and store carbon’ and climate neutrality and adaptation*” amongst the areas subject to shared competence;
5. Suggests that Article 11 TFEU should provide that “Environmental *and climate* protection requirements must be integrated into the definition and implementation of the Union's policies and activities, in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development ”;
6. Underlines that the TFEU should include a new Article on climate neutrality, with the aim to limit the increase in the global average temperature to below 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels;
7. Underlines that the TFEU should *inter alia*, help to speed up the green transition, in particular through more investments in renewable energy, in order to reduce external energy dependency, as well improving quality and interconnectivity in order to enhance safety and enable the transition to renewable energy sources.
8. Underlines that in Article 168 TFEU, fourth paragraph,
  - letter (b), measures in the veterinary, *animal welfare and (...) in line with the one health approach* should be added;
  - letter (d), *measures setting out common indicators and minimum quality standards for the Unions healthcare systems, in order to ensure universal and equal access to affordable and high-quality public health care services* should be added;
  - letter (e), *measures for the early notification, monitoring and control of serious cross-border threats to health, in particular in the event of pandemics* should be added with the following additional clarification: *These measures shall not prevent Member States from maintaining or adopting reinforced protective measures where these are imperative.*
  - letter (f), *measures for monitoring and coordinating the access diagnostics, information and care on rare diseases* should be added;
9. Highlights that in Article 168 TFEU, fifth paragraph, after the remark regarding tobacco and the abuse of alcohol “*according to the latest scientific evidence*” should be added;
10. Highlights that the EU should include health among the shared competencies between the EU and the EU Member States, as follows, in Article 4, second paragraph, letter (k): *'public health, including cross-border health threats and the protection and*

*improvement of human health, including on sexual and reproductive health and rights'*, based on the one health approach, while a new letter should be added in that provision, according to which *measures setting out minimum standards for the Unions healthcare systems* should also be subject to shared competences of the EU and the Member States;

11. Calls for the deletion of the derogation from the ordinary legislative procedure in Article 192(2), particularly in points (b) on water resources and land use and (c) on energy sources and general structure of energy supply;
12. Believes that, as a part of the convention, a European Charter on the Environment shall be discussed;

Yours sincerely,

Pascal Canfin