

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1999



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4 September 2001

B5-0539/2001 }  
B5-0540/2001 }  
B5-0541/2001 }  
B5-0543/2001 }  
B5-0551/2001 }  
B5-0552/2001 }  
RC1

## JOINT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 37(4) of the Rules of Procedure by

- Jorge Moreira da Silva on behalf of the PPE-DE Group
- Dagmar Roth-Behrendt, Anneli Hulthén and Dorette Corbey on behalf of the PSE Group
- Chris Davies on behalf of the ELDR Group
- Claude Turmes, Heidi Anneli Hautala, Paul A.A.J.G. Lannoye and Alexander de Roo on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group
- Laura González Álvarez, Jonas Sjöstedt and Mihail Papayannakis on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group
- Jim Fitzsimons on behalf of the UEN Group
- Hans Blokland on behalf of the EDD Group

replacing the motions by the following groups:

- UEN (B5-0539/2001),
- PPE-DE (B5-0540/2001),
- PSE (B5-0541/2001),
- ELDR (B5-0543/2001),
- Verts/ALE (B5-0551/2001),
- GUE/NGL (B5-0552/2001),

on the outcome of the Bonn Conference on climate change

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## European Parliament resolution on the outcome of the Bonn Conference on climate change

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) of December 1997, the Sixth Conference of the Parties (COP-6) in The Hague on 13-24 November 2000, and the last Conference in Bonn (COP-6, part 2) on 16-27 July 2001,
  - having regard to the next Marrakech Conference (COP 7) which will take place at the end of October and in early November,
  - having regard to the statement made by Commissioner Wallström on 4 September 2001,
  - having regard to its resolutions relating to climate change, notably that of 5 July 2001 on the European Union's strategy for the Bonn Conference (COP-6, part 2),
- A. whereas full ratification and implementation are of fundamental importance in tackling the key problem of climate change and for the future of the world's environment,
- B. whereas the European Union and its Member States have a responsibility to proceed with the work required under the Kyoto Protocol and to encourage other parties to follow suit,
- C. whereas the European Union delegation will have to play a major role in this process, and the European Parliament participants should continue to be involved in the work of the delegation to a greater extent than in the past,
- D. whereas the US Administration has not yet reconsidered its negative decision in spite of strong international condemnation and the political and diplomatic initiatives taken by the EU in order to resolve differences, nor yet produced any suggestions of its own to reverse the process of global warming, and whereas it welcomes the decision of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations which passed a unanimous amendment calling on the US to re-engage at COP-7,
- E. whereas developed countries, including the USA, have a major responsibility for greenhouse gas emissions; whereas those countries should therefore play a leading role in the Kyoto process; whereas in its resolution of 5 April 2001 the European Parliament urged the Commission and the Member States of the EU to maintain such a leading role,
1. Welcomes the international agreement to a set of decisions to speed up action on climate change, as reached on 23 July 2001 in Bonn by more than 180 countries, including Japan, Australia, Canada and Russia, but with the notable exception of the US; considers that this agreement gives new impetus to the Kyoto Protocol and is an essential instrument for the implementation of a world strategy against global warming; considers, furthermore, that the Bonn agreement is an important step towards the emergence of a global and multilateral

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decision-making process in the field of the environment;

2. Strongly believes that the European Union should retain its lead role in international efforts to fight climate change and, therefore, calls on the Commission to present urgently a proposal to ratify the Kyoto Protocol, before the Marrakech Conference, and encourages all national governments to present as soon as possible a legislative proposal to ratify the Kyoto Protocol to their national Parliaments in order to meet the thresholds for entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol before the Rio + 10 Conference in September 2002;
3. Urges the Commission to present by the end of the year concrete Directive proposals on the flexible mechanism (emissions trading regime) for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and also on the European Climate Change Programme, containing sectoral measures to reduce these emissions, especially concerning transport emissions, which are increasing faster, and calls on the Commission to consider legislation on CO<sub>2</sub> limits for all kinds of vehicle;
4. Calls on the Commission to encourage all Member States to adopt as soon as possible their own national greenhouse gas emission-reduction plans; expresses its satisfaction that the Bonn agreement refrains from using nuclear power to obtain carbon credits and provides an early start and streamlined procedures for small and renewable energy projects;
5. Strongly believes that the Bonn Conference not only gives a positive message for the fight against climate change but also constitutes a very positive message for all citizens concerned about globalisation;
6. Considers that the statement in Bonn by American businesses shows that they are concerned by the long-term disadvantage for the USA of not being a party to the Kyoto Protocol, especially in terms of clean technologies and energy efficiency; notes with interest that the reactions of several American scientists and economists in newspapers and of American NGOs and citizens give reason to hope that the US Administration could change its position; suggests that COP-9 in 2003 should be held in the United States with international carbon trading, which is due to start in 2008, as one of its main topics;
7. Supports the decision on the establishment of a specific fund for the financing of measures aimed at helping developing countries to adapt to climate change and providing them with new environmentally friendly technologies, and considers it an appropriate first step to address the need for solidarity between developed and developing countries;
8. Welcomes the establishment of a clear mechanism to control and promote compliance by the parties with their respective emission objectives; regrets, however, the shortcomings of the agreement with regard to penalties but considers that the 'enforcement branch' responsible for the determination of possible non-compliance should be the basis for a future, effective and stronger legal instrument together with appropriate sanctions;
9. Regrets the imbalance of the Bonn agreement as regards the importance attached to the respective instruments for a strategy against climate change; refers to its resolution of 26 October 2000, 'Towards a European Climate Change Programme', which stated, in particular, that

- carbon sinks are scientifically questionable and should be used in conjunction with monitoring and to a limited extent only;
  - there should be a similar limitation of the use of flexible mechanisms such as emissions trading;
10. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to take further initiatives to develop an EU strategy based on those principles and more generally on the European Parliament's recommendations as expressed in the above-mentioned resolution; in particular, calls on the Commission to present as soon as possible its communication based on the European Climate Change Programme, including concrete proposals for measures in all relevant sectors;
  11. Urges the Member States to follow the recent lead of Norway<sup>1</sup> and not to use the possibility of domestic sinks to meet their Kyoto target, as provided in the final Bonn agreement;
  12. Considers that the entrance of 'hot air' into the European Union must be made conditional on the use of green funds in Russia and Ukraine: all funds arising from the sale of 'hot air' must be used for projects which have an environmental benefit;
  13. Reiterates that the Kyoto process is only a basis for further work in response to climate change; calls therefore on the contracting parties and particularly the industrialised countries to adopt further ambitious reduction targets;
  14. Underlines that cooperation with the European Parliament, the Commission and the Council was constructive and hopes that the Marrakech Conference will enhance this collaboration and the role of the European Parliament in this process;
  15. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council, the governments and parliaments of the Member States and the Secretariat of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

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<sup>1</sup> Reuters News Service, 7 August 2001