



**COUNCIL OF
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NOTE

from:	General Secretariat
to:	Delegations
Subject:	Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council - Progress towards achieving the Kyoto objectives (required under Article 5 of Decision 280/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning a mechanism for monitoring Community greenhouse gas emissions and for implementing the Kyoto Protocol) - Information from the Commission

Delegations will find annexed an information note from the Commission on the above topic, which will be dealt with under "other business" at the Environment Council meeting on 10 October 2011.

Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council - Progress towards achieving the Kyoto objectives (required under Article 5 of Decision 280/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning a mechanism for monitoring Community greenhouse gas emissions and for implementing the Kyoto Protocol)

- Information Note from the Commission -

This latest progress Report assesses the actual and projected progress of Member States and the Union as a whole towards fulfilling their greenhouse gas emissions commitments under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol.

This Commission Report analyses actual greenhouse gas emissions data from 2009, together with projections of emissions based on Member States projections submitted under the Decision 280/2004/EC. These projections include also the use of flexible mechanisms under the Kyoto Protocol and land use, land use change and forestry activities (LULUCF). Although this report assesses the progress of the EU-27, developments in the EU-15 are highlighted because of their collective Kyoto reduction target of 8% and the joint fulfilment agreement under the Kyoto Protocol.

EU-27 greenhouse gas emissions (covering the scope of the gases and sectors under the Kyoto Protocol) in 2009 were 17.4% lower than in 1990. The projections show that by 2012 the EU-27 will reduce their emissions by 15.7% compared to 1990 when additional measures are implemented along with the use of flexible mechanisms and LULUCF activities.

By 2009, EU-15 GHG emissions had decreased by 12.7% from the base year level. The projections show that by 2012 the EU-15 will reduce its emissions by 13.4% and over-achieve its Kyoto Protocol emission reduction commitment when additional measures are implemented along with the use of flexible mechanisms and LULUCF activities.

The report concludes that the EU-15 will reach and even over-achieve its Kyoto target when the existing and additional policies and measures, the use of Kyoto mechanisms and carbon sinks deliver as estimated. Member State which joined the Union after 2004 and have individual commitments under the Kyoto Protocol are on track to deliver on them.

The EU-27 is also progressing on its way towards its 2020 headline target (whose scope is broader than under the Kyoto Protocol as it also includes emissions from international aviation) of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 20% compared to 1990. In 2009, emissions were around 16.1 % below the 1990 levels. However, further efforts by Member States will be needed especially in sectors not covered by the EU ETS, such sectors as transport, agriculture or waste.

The report provides also an indicative estimation of the gap towards the 2020 targets set for each Member State under the Effort Sharing Decision (406/2009/EC), concluding that 11 MS are expected to meet their commitments with policies already in place, further 7 MS would deliver on their targets when their additional policies and measures deliver as expected. The remaining 9 MS need to design additional policies in order to accomplish their targets.