

**The European Environment and Sustainable
Development Advisory Councils
EEAC**

**15th Annual Conference, Évora
(Portugal), 10-13 October 2007**

Index

- What is the EU up to?
- How huge is the task?

1. What is the EU up to? (1)

- Combining Energy and Climate Change in a crucial way, on the grounds of:
 - a) Environmental reasons.
 - b) Strategic reasons: autonomy, self-reliance, influence in world system, capacity of initiative.
 - c) Security reasons: avoiding insecurity of supply, preventing scarcity and conflict.

1. What is the EU up to? (2)

- Post Kyoto targets for 2020:
 - Reduction of 30% GHG emissions by developed countries in comparison to 1990 levels.
 - Endorse already now an EU commitment to achieve, in any event, at least a 20% reduction of GHG by 2020 compared to 1990

1. What is the EU up to? (3)

- Internal Electricity and Gas Markets:
 - Ownership unbundling: to separate supply/generation interests from network companies.
 - A European Network of independent regulators [EREGG].

1. What is the EU up to? (4)

- Energy Efficiency and renewable goals:
 - Endorse the objective of saving 20% of the EU's energy consumption in a cost-efficiency manner by 2020 as presented in the Commission Energy Efficiency Action Plan.
 - Endorse the binding targets of 20% for the share of renewable energy in overall EU energy consumption by 2020 and 10% minimum biofuels.

1. What is the EU up to? (5)

Scientific framework and objective data

- To avoid an increase of global temperature beyond 2°C, above pre-industrial age.
- The “window” between 445-535 ppmv CO₂ eq. GHG concentration.
- Explosive growth of emissions:
1990s (1.1 percent per year); 2000-2004 (3.3%)

2. How huge is the task?

- To overcome European internal dissidence, different agendas, and strong tendency to fragmentation.
- To lead the international community into a new age within the UNFCCC after 2012.
- To re-engage the USA.
- To involve the new members of the coming World Directory (e.g. China and India).
- To Mobilize citizens and social actors in a long-term steady strategy, mixing mitigation and adaptation.

To live in “interesting times...”

“There are times that try
men’s souls...”

Thomas Paine, *The American Crisis*, December
1776