

Draft topical resolution

Post Copenhagen – Climate Change

Tabled by the EGP committee

Preamble

During the Barcelona Council held from 18th until 21st of March 2010 in Barcelona the European Green Party Council will debate and vote on a resolution on Post Copenhagen – Climate Change

The resolution "Post Copenhagen – Climate Change" is supported by 2 documents:

- 1. The draft decision CP.15 Copenhagen Accord**
- 2. The Barcelona Accord**

Resolution

1 -The EGP regrets the outcome of the UNFCCC climate summit (COP15) in Copenhagen in December 2009, which fell far below even the modest expectations. The main outcome of the conference, the Copenhagen Accord, was merely taken note of by the conference, reflecting its lack of ambition and the exclusive process by which it was agreed.

2- Recognising the need to conclude an international agreement as soon as possible to prevent dangerous climate change, the EGP calls for all parties to redouble their efforts in order to ensure a binding UN climate agreement can be concluded at the next UN climate summit in Mexico (COP16) this year. To this end, EU statements that seek to play down expectations for the outcome of COP16 are a source of regret.

3- As different analyses have shown, the emissions pledges that are currently on the table clearly fall far short of what is necessary to achieve the EU goal, as reflected in the Copenhagen Accord, of limiting the increase in global temperatures to less than 2°C above pre-industrial levels. All developed countries will need to increase their pledged emissions reductions to ensure that they achieve a collective reduction in their emissions at the high end of the scale recommended by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC): 25-40% by 2020 below 1990 levels.

4- The EU's current pledged emissions target is clearly inconsistent with the scientific recommendations and its responsibility and capacity to deliver these emissions reductions. The EGP calls on the EU to increase its emissions pledge to an unconditional 30% reduction target by 2020 below 1990 levels immediately, with a view to increasing this to 40% in the event of a UN climate agreement. In order to ensure this pledge is credible, the EU should also strictly limit the use of offsetting, agree not to bank surplus assigned amount units (AAUs), and agree to rules on how to account for emissions from land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF) that ensure the environmental integrity of developed countries' reduction targets.

5- The decision by developed countries to commit \$30 billion to 'fast start' climate financing for developing countries from 2010-12 was one positive outcome of the COP15. The EU has committed to contribute €2.4bn per year from 2010-12. It is vital that this is new funding and is additional to existing commitments on official development aid. As regards long-term climate financing, the figure mentioned in the Copenhagen Accord is below the amount deemed necessary to meet the climate adaptation and mitigation needs of developing countries. This would require the provision of €120bn per year by 2020 of new and additional funding, of which the EU would be expected to contribute €30-35bn.

6-In the run up to the COP 16 climate negotiations in Mexico in December 2010, the European Green Party and its member parties commit to organise a series of Common Actions (to begin with the action around the negotiations in Bonn from 31st May to 11th June 2010 and one around the COP 16 negotiations in Mexico from 29th November to 10th December 2010). These Common Actions will involve as many member and observer parties of the European Green Party as possible. In our common action around the Bonn meeting, the focus will be on demanding that the EU lives up to its responsibilities and increases its emissions pledge to an unconditional 30% reduction target by 2020 below 1990 levels immediately, with a view to increasing this to 40% in the event of a UN climate agreement. It will also focus on ensuring adequate, new and additional climate financing for developing countries is put in place. In our common action around the meeting in Mexico, the focus will be on ensuring that a binding UN agreement is concluded, that will deliver the collective emissions reductions recommended by scientists to limit the increase in global temperatures to less than 2°C above pre-industrial levels.

7-The EGP supports the initiative of the Greens/EFA Group in the European Parliament, in conjunction with the German Green Party, to hold a meeting in Bonn on 29/30 April which will discuss the EU's role in the UN climate negotiations and EU climate policies, and calls on its member and observer parties to participate in this meeting.

58 8-The EGP and its member parties will continue to build alliances with NGOs and civil society to
59 raise public awareness about climate change and the urgent need for action at political level to
60 combat it.

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62 9- The EGP calls on Green national and regional parliamentarians to continue to put pressure on
63 the governments of member states towards the EU Council, to act together as a strong and united
64 European bloc in order to increase the EU emissions pledge as stated above and have the EU
65 Council build alliances with civil society and NGO's in order to achieve this goal.

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67 10-The EGP welcomes the various studies and research projects currently being undertaken by the
68 Climate Core Group of the Greens/EFA Group in the European Parliament (including that on the EU
69 emissions reduction target and those planned on the issues of carbon leakage and energy savings)
70 and encourages its parties to make use of these in their campaigns and political work. It also
71 welcomes the campaign and communications tools and actions that have been developed by the
72 Climate Core Group, as well as those that are planned for the coming year, which are available on
73 the www.stopclimatechange.net website, and encourages its parties to make use of these in their
74 campaigns and political work.

Appendix I

The draft decision CP.15 Copenhagen Accord

See separate document

Appendix II

Barcelona Accord

The European Green Party, on behalf of its XX member parties and X observer parties, meeting in Barcelona for its 12th Council,

In pursuit of the ultimate objective of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change as stated in its Article 2,

Noting the results of work done by the two Ad hoc Working Groups, as emerging from the COP15/CMP5 at Copenhagen,

Endorsing decision FCCC/CP/2009/L.6 of the COP15 on the Ad hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action, extending the mandate of the Working Group, with a view to its presenting its outcome to the COP16 for adoption,

Endorsing decision FCCC/KP/CMP/2009/L.8 of the CMP5 that requests the Ad hoc Working Group on Further Commitments of Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol to continue its work, , with a view to its presenting its outcome to the COP16 for adoption,

has adopted the following accord with a view to giving political guidance to the ongoing negotiations in the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in order to produce a binding international agreement under the UNFCCC framework.

1. Climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time. There is a need for strong political will to urgently combat climate change in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. However, political will alone will not suffice and, therefore, it is imperative to conclude a legally-binding international agreement without delay under the UNFCCC framework in order to achieve the ultimate objective of the Convention to stabilise greenhouse gas concentration in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system. This agreement should have as its guiding principle the recommendation of the scientific consensus to limit the increase in global temperature to less than 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. To this end, on the basis of equity and in the context of sustainable development, all UN members should enhance their long-term cooperative action to combat climate change. It is important to recognise the critical impacts of climate change on countries particularly vulnerable to its adverse effects. Establishing a comprehensive adaptation programme including comprehensive international support will be crucial to addressing this.

2. We agree with the scientific consensus, as documented in IPCC Fourth Assessment Report, that deep cuts in global emissions are required in order to limit the increase in global temperature to less than 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. All countries must take action to meet this objective, consistent with science and on the basis of equity. To this end there is a need to ensure that global greenhouse gas emissions peak by 2015 and begin to decline thereafter. The goal should be to achieve a global reduction in greenhouse gas emissions at the high end of the scale recommended by the IPCC, 50-85% by 2050 (below 2000 levels). To this end, it is important to

recognise that the time frame for peaking will be longer in developing countries and to bear in mind that social and economic development and poverty eradication are the first and overriding priorities of developing countries and that a low-emission development strategy is indispensable to sustainable development. In line with the recommendations of the IPCC, this implies that developed countries will be responsible for reducing their greenhouse gas emissions 80-95% by 2050 (below 1990 levels).

3. Adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change is a challenge faced by all countries. Enhanced action and international cooperation on adaptation is urgently required to ensure the implementation of the Convention by enabling and supporting the implementation of adaptation actions aimed at reducing vulnerability and building resilience in developing countries, especially in those that are particularly vulnerable, especially least developed countries, small island developing States and Africa. We agree that developed countries shall provide adequate, additional, predictable and sustainable financial resources, technology and capacity-building to support the implementation of adaptation action in developing countries.

4. Annex I countries must commit to collectively achieve reductions in their greenhouse gas emissions at the high end of the scale recommended by IPCC Fourth Assessment Report, 25-40% by 2020 (below 1990 levels). This will entail industrialised country parties being allocated quantified economy wide emissions reduction targets on the basis of historical responsibility, current per capita emission levels, and respective capabilities. Delivery of reductions and financing by developed countries will be measured, reported and verified in accordance with existing and any further guidelines adopted by the Conference of the Parties, and the accounting of these targets and finance must be rigorous, robust and transparent. These targets should be legally enforceable, with a compliance mechanism that reflects climate impacts of delaying reductions.

5. Developing countries, in particular emerging economies, should implement mitigation actions with a view to collectively delivering an emissions trajectory in line with the recommendations of the IPCC, namely a 15-30% reduction in emissions from a business as usual scenario, consistent with Article 4.1 and Article 4.7 and in the context of sustainable development. These reductions may take the forms of emissions targets or other policies but should be quantifiable. Least developed countries and small island developing States may undertake actions voluntarily and on the basis of support. Mitigation actions subsequently taken and envisaged by developing countries and emerging economies, including national inventory reports, shall be communicated through national communications consistent with Article 12.1(b) of the Convention every two years on the basis of guidelines to be adopted by the Conference of the Parties. Those mitigation actions in national communications or otherwise should be submitted to the Secretariat and be subject to measurement, reporting and verification, the result of which will be reported every two years. Nationally appropriate mitigation actions seeking international support will be recorded in a registry along with relevant technology, finance and capacity building support. These supported nationally appropriate mitigation actions will also be subject to measurement, reporting and verification in accordance with guidelines adopted by the Conference of the Parties.

6. Given the fact that the underlying science is being constantly updated, it is important that the agreement include a provision enabling the agreement to be reviewed to take account of the latest science. This should include consideration of amending the goal for limiting the rise in global temperature to below 1.5 degrees Celsius, as well as much more rigorous emissions reduction targets.

7. We recognise the crucial role of reducing emission from deforestation and forest degradation and the need to enhance removals of greenhouse gas emission by forests and agree on the need to provide positive incentives to such actions through the immediate establishment of a mechanism, to enable the mobilisation of financial resources from developed countries amounting to €30 billion per annum. The REDD mechanism must be structured to promote co-benefits, including the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem function and services, and access to benefits by local and indigenous communities.

8. Scaled up, new and additional, predictable and adequate funding as well as improved

access shall be provided to developing countries, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention, to enable and support enhanced action on mitigation, including substantial finance to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, adaptation, technology development and transfer and capacity-building, for enhanced implementation of the Convention. The collective commitment by developed countries is to provide new and additional resources, including forestry and investments through international institutions, approaching \$30 billion (€22 billion) for the period 2010-2012, with balanced allocation between adaptation and mitigation. Funding for adaptation will be prioritised for the most vulnerable developing countries, such as the least developed countries, small island developing States and Africa. In the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation, developed countries commit to a goal of providing €120 billion a year by 2020 to address the needs of developing countries. This funding should come from public sources of finance, complemented by innovative sources such as revenues from mechanisms to address maritime and aviation emissions or financial transactions, and be new and additional to existing development aid commitments. New multilateral funding for adaptation will be delivered through effective and efficient fund arrangements, with a governance structure providing for equal representation of developed and developing countries. A significant portion of such funding should flow through the Copenhagen Green Climate Fund, which is to be established following the COP15 in Copenhagen.

9. As decided in Copenhagen, it is imperative that the Copenhagen Green Climate Fund shall be established as an operating entity of the financial mechanism of the Convention to support projects, programme, policies and other activities in developing countries related to mitigation including deforestation and forest degradation, adaptation, capacity building, technology development and transfer.

10. It is important to swiftly implement the decision on the establishment of a Technology Mechanism to accelerate technology development and transfer in support of action on adaptation and mitigation that will be guided by a country-driven approach and be based on national circumstances and priorities.

11. It is important to recall that this accord and all other accords (such as the Copenhagen Accord) are merely intended to give political guidance to the ongoing negotiations in the UNFCCC under the two Ad Hoc Working Groups. The goal of these negotiations must be to conclude a comprehensive, legally binding international agreement under the UN framework, including the elements outlined above, by the COP16/CMP6 in Mexico at the very latest.