

Barcelona Accord

The European Green Party, on behalf of its 36 member parties and 11 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.