

Green 9 'To Do' list for the Barroso Commission

1. **Sustainable Development** should be the main objective of the Barroso Commission. The concept is increasingly distorted to sideline environmental and social issues. EU policies should in all cases improve, not reduce, environmental protection. The European Council has already brought together the Göteborg and Lisbon strategies. This means that the Lisbon strategy should have appropriate targets, such as to improve energy and resource efficiency significantly by 2010.
2. **Environmental Policy Integration** is laid down in Article 6 of the EC Treaty, and is a requirement for all EU institutions. However, until now, it is only paid lip service. The Commission should make an explicit commitment to this requirement and adopt action programmes for its implementation in all relevant policy sectors. Individual proposals should undergo impact assessments to ensure they integrate environmental considerations. The Commission should develop strategies to make the market work for the environment.
3. Under the **6th Environment Action Programme** the Commission is to deliver, by 2005, seven thematic strategies, in the form of proposals for **framework directives**. These concern soil protection, marine environment, air pollution, pesticides, urban environment, resource management and recycling of waste.
4. Europe should continue to take the global lead on **climate change**. The Barroso Commission should secure legally binding greenhouse gas reduction targets (at least 30% by 2020 compared to 1990 levels) which are consistent with the EU objective of limiting global temperature rise to 2°C. The Commission must ensure that all related sectors (incl. energy, transport, agriculture, chemical) deliver on long-term climate policy goals. Among others, they must support a target of 20% renewable energy sources for the EU by 2020, increased energy efficiency, an improved emissions trading scheme and an end to all subsidies to fossil fuels and nuclear power.
5. The European Council in Göteborg committed the EU to halt **biodiversity loss** by 2010, but the Commission has done little until now to make this commitment reality. It should implement existing legislation to protect nature, including proper financing, and propose new legislation on sustainable forestry, marine reserves and liability for damage caused by GMOs.
6. Hazardous **chemicals** contaminate our everyday living environment. They cause thousands of deaths annually through pollution of air, water and the food chain, work-related illness and accidents. They are a permanent threat to the environment and to wildlife. The Commission should ensure the systematic substitution of carcinogens, toxic, persistent and bioaccumulative substances, wherever possible. The EU Action Plan on **Environment and Health** must deliver concrete improvements in health, particularly for Europe's children. The Commission should set up a monitoring system to inform and educate the public, and make better knowledge-based policy decisions, especially on emerging environmental threats.
7. **Energy** policy is now an EU responsibility. The Barroso Commission should adopt a long-term strategy on energy, to stimulate research and efficiency and lead Europe towards a renewable energy future. The outdated Euratom Treaty should be abolished.
8. The EU **development policy** in Africa, but elsewhere, too, does little for the environment. Water and soil, fauna, flora and natural resources are valuable assets in developing countries which need to be preserved by a consistent sustainable development policy of the EU.
9. **Transparency, openness and accountability** were key words of EU governance policy in the past. The Commission must ensure that its administration lives up to these principles. In particular, impact assessments should be fully transparent and open to public participation.
10. The EU has a set of environmental legislation which served, for most of its Member States, as the basis for environmental policy. However, **implementation and enforcement** are crucial: nothing ruins credibility more than provisions that are not applied. The Barroso

Commission should strengthen the implementation of environmental laws, which are currently the least respected area of EU legislation.

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The Green 9 group of environmental NGOs includes: Birdlife International, Climate Action Network Europe (CAN-Europe), European Environmental Bureau, European Public Health Alliance - Environment Network, European Federation for Transport and the Environment, Friends of the Earth Europe, Greenpeace, International Friends of Nature, WWF European Policy Office