

## **12/12/2008 – Closing statement of COP 14**

On behalf on the European Union,

Mr. President,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished delegates,

I am particularly happy to announce good news – which you probably already know. The Heads of state and government of the European Union have agreed on an operational action plan to reduce the EU greenhouse gas emissions by 20% by 2020, and to increase the share of renewable energy sources in energy consumption from 8.5% in 2006 to 20% in 2020. Today's Decision by the European Council confirms the announcement of the European Union, that if we reach an international agreement, it will further reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 30% by 2020 in line with IPCC recommendations to developed countries to reduce their emissions.

Now, Europe has policies and measures which will enable it to meet the objectives it set itself. We have succeeded. We have succeeded by taking into account each other's national circumstances and the different forecasts for growth among EU member States. And in particular, we have succeeded because we have shared the efforts between us in an equitable and efficient way.

The European Parliament, in a spirit of cooperation with the European Council, has already started to improve the modalities of the operational implementation of this plan. It will vote in the next few days. I trust that in its decision the European Parliament will formally confirm the EU commitments.

In this time of major economic and financial crisis, these commitments will generate a new economic and social development, which is environmentally-sound and creates jobs.

I know that many countries are already working on the implementation of their "climate-energy" packages. These actions show our collective will to face the challenge of climate change. Such initiatives should be coordinated in order to reach an ambitious global agreement.

This international agreement is achievable. It has to be concluded next year, in 2009, in Copenhagen in order to limit temperature increase to 2 degrees and to give a legacy to our children and future generations of a livable world. Our work here in Poznan is therefore an important milestone.

We have made much progress already. The conference has enabled us to achieve positive results in all topics of the Bali roadmap, and to set up a robust work programme to ensure success in Copenhagen. One of our key agreements is to immediately make the adaptation fund operational. In Bali, we committed ourselves to implementing it. Now it's done. We made useful progress on the reduction of emissions from deforestation and forest degradation; we have made progress in the improvement of the CDM; and we have reinforced the implementation of decisions linked to technology.

However, as General Secretary Ban Ki-Moon pointed out, each one of us must fully engage in the negotiation process. I have the impression that we are all ready and willing to act. We have had discussions on all the key topics and now we can start the concrete work on proposals for negotiation texts.

All the elements exist today for us to reach an ambitious, efficient and equitable agreement. In less than two years, the European Union has translated its commitments into concrete measures. What the European Union has achieved at regional scale, we can do at a global level. This points to the need, as several Parties have mentioned, for solidarity mechanisms

through which resources sufficient to respond to the climate challenge can be mobilized. The EU has already expressed its willingness to use at least half of the revenues generated by its measures to support a wide range of climate actions including mitigation, adaptation and technology. Our aim is to show how we can all make the transition to a safe and sustainable low-carbon economy.

We need to go faster in the preparation of Copenhagen. Our determination shall bring us towards this goal.

Thank you for your attention.