



EUROPEAN UNION

DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Head of Delegation

The Honorable James M. Inhofe  
Chairman, Committee on Environment and Public Works  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman,

**In view of the full hearing the Environment and Public Works Committee will conduct on Wednesday, October 5, 2005, on the Kyoto Protocol to assess the status of efforts to reduce greenhouse gases, I have the pleasure to communicate to you the latest information how the EU and its Member States are progressing to meet their Kyoto targets.**

**I would very much appreciate, if this information could be included in the record of the hearing.**

The EU is fully committed to implement its obligations under the Kyoto Protocol. It has adopted a series of policies and measures, such as the EU's greenhouse gas emissions trading scheme, to meet its target in a cost-effective manner. These measures, together with the EU's participation in the global carbon market, will ensure that the EU meets its target.

To ensure its compliance with the Kyoto Protocol, the EU has adopted a series of measures under the European Climate Change Program (ECCP). Most of these measures have recently entered into force and will start to show their full effect over the next few years. These include:

- The EU greenhouse gas emissions trading scheme;
- The promotion of electricity from renewable energy sources;
- The promotion of cogeneration (CHP);
- Increasing the energy performance of buildings;
- The promotion of the use of biofuels for transport.

The tables in Annex I give a full overview of all recently adopted measures and their projected effect. ECCP policies and other actions by EU Member States to date, in combination with restructuring of European industry, particularly in Central and Eastern Europe, have contributed to an absolute reduction of annual carbon dioxide emissions of some 350 million tonnes (5.5%) across the EU-25 by 2003, equivalent to 5 years of emissions from the Republic of Ireland.

In 2003, the 15 EU Member States that share the EU's Kyoto target of -8% had reduced their greenhouse gas emissions by 1.7% compared to 1990 levels. The average EU-15 emissions over the most recent 5-year period, which is also the period over which Kyoto compliance is assessed, are **currently 2.9% below 1990 level**. An overview of the performance of individual Member States is given in Annex II.

The EU will make use of the cost-effective reduction options offered by its participation in the global carbon market, based on the Kyoto Protocol's flexible mechanisms, to meet its Kyoto target. The table in Annex III gives an overview of the planned use by individual Member States of the Kyoto mechanisms.

Whereas the EU is right on track, additional measures at Member States level are required to meet the 8% reduction target. With implementation of those additional measures and use of the Kyoto flexible mechanisms, the EU will reach a 9.4% reduction on base year emissions, of which 6.8% will be achieved by EU Member States measures alone. In other words, the EU will reduce more than is needed to meet the EU-15 Kyoto target.

In summary, the EU has made good progress so far. Further progress depends on the speed and thoroughness of the implementation by Member States of Community legislation and domestic measures. The total of the projections for the EU-15 Member States shows that the Kyoto targets will be met with additional domestic measures and the use of flexible mechanisms, as planned.

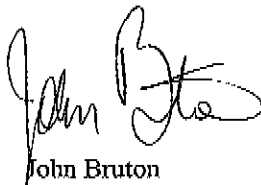
#### *Beyond 2012*

The EU's climate policy does not stop in 2012. Many of the EU policies that are already in place will have an important impact beyond the Kyoto Protocol's first commitment period. The EU's greenhouse gas emissions trading scheme will automatically continue after 2012. The second phase of the European Climate Change Programme will be launched in late 2005. It will include carbon capture and storage, passenger road transport, aviation and strategies to adapt to the effects of climate change, in addition to the work programme already covered.

The European Commission has also adopted a Communication outlining key elements for a strategy for further action post 2012. While it indicates that the EU is ready to engage in an open dialogue between countries concerning the further development of an international framework post 2012, it has highlighted a number of key elements for a successful global climate policy: the need for broader participation by countries and sectors, the development of low-carbon technologies, the continued and expanded use of market-based instruments, and the need to adapt to the inevitable impacts of climate change.

We believe that these policies, and others like them, provide strong, long-term signals to industry, Member State governments and the wider international community that the EU is committed to tackling climate change and expects all of its institutions, businesses and citizens to play their part.

Yours sincerely,



John Bruton  
Ambassador

## Annex I:

### European Climate Change Programme: Overview table of policies and measures

#### Explanation of terminology and estimates of emission reduction potential

1. "In force": These measures are adopted by the EU institutions, the main task for the Commission is to monitor the implementation and review if appropriate (as sometimes laid down through specific legislative requirements). Important upcoming reviews are also indicated in the table
2. "In co-decision": These measures have been proposed by the Commission and are currently in co-decision in the European Institutions
3. "in implementation": these non legislative measures are currently in execution
3. "Advanced stage of preparation": the preparatory policy work is to a large extent completed and a concrete proposal is envisaged in the Commission's work plan
4. "In preparation": the examination of the measure are still on-going

It should be noted that the emission reduction potential for the various ECCP measures are (ex-ante) estimates. The 'ex ante' ECCP evaluation of the potential of a certain measure does not necessarily coincide with the actual realisation in the field, as not all of the detailed provisions of the proposals or adopted measures have been taken into account in the pre-evaluation. Another reason is that the estimated potential is sometimes based on reaching certain (indicative) targets, which will need to be proven in practice (e.g. CHP and biofuels proposals).

#### Summary of implemented and planned policies and measures

##### Cross-cutting issues

Policies and measures 'Cross-cutting'	Emission reduction potential (Mt CO <sub>2</sub> eq) By 2010 – EU-15	Stage of implementation /timetable /comments
EU emissions trading scheme		In force
Revision of the monitoring mechanism	N/a	In force
Link Kyoto flexible mechanisms to emissions trading		In force

##### Energy Supply

Policies and measures 'Energy supply'	Emission reduction potential (Mt CO <sub>2</sub> eq) By 2010 – EU-15	Stage of implementation /timetable /comments
Directive on renewable electricity	100-125 <sup>1</sup>	In force Review in 2005
Directives on the promotion of transport bio-fuels	35-40 <sup>1</sup>	In force
Directive on promotion of cogeneration	22-42 <sup>2</sup>	In force
Further measures on renewable heat (including biomass action	36-48	In preparation

<sup>1</sup> Second ECCP progress report April 2003 -

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/climat/pdf/second\\_eccp\\_report.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/climat/pdf/second_eccp_report.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> COM (2004)366 - final "The share of renewable energy in the EU, May 2004"

plan)		
Intelligent Energy for Europe: programme for renewable energy	N/a	Programme for policy support in renewable energy
TOTAL in implementation	193-255	

#### Energy demand

Policies and measures 'Energy demand'	Emission reduction potential (Mt CO <sub>2</sub> eq) By 2010 – EU-15	Stage of implementation /timetable /comments
Directive on the energy performance of buildings	20 <sup>3</sup>	In force Monitoring and review
Directive requiring energy labelling of domestic appliances	20 <sup>1</sup>	In force Monitoring and review
Existing labels	1	in preparation
New (clovens & AC)	10	
Envisaged revisions (refrigerators/freezers/dish-washers)		In preparation
Planned new (hot water heaters)	23	In preparation
Extension of scope of Directive	N/k	
Framework Directive on eco-efficiency requirements of energy-using products	2010: dependent on implementation of daughter directives	In co-decision (institutional agreement)
Directive on Energy services	40-55 <sup>1</sup>	In co-decision Includes requirements regarding energy efficient public procurement
Action Plan on Energy efficiency as a follow-up to the GreenPaper	N/a	In preparation (2006)
Action under the directive on integrated pollution prevention and control (IPPC) on energy efficiency	N/k	In preparation
Intelligent Energy for Europe programme for energy efficiency	N/a	Programme for policy support in energy efficiency
Public awareness campaign on energy efficiency	N/a	Supporting program as part of Intelligent Energy for Europe: In implementation
Programme for voluntary action on motors (Motor Challenge)	N/a	Supporting programme for voluntary action on efficient motor systems
Public procurement	N/a	EU Handbook developed for guidance for increased energy efficient public procurement
OVERALL in implementation	114-129	

<sup>3</sup> COM (2004)366 – final “The share of renewable energy in the EU, May 2004