

Coreper I 20 January 2009
Commission drafting suggestions

DRAFT

Mr. Yvo de Boer
Executive Secretary
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
P.O. Box 260124
D-53153 Bonn

Brussels, X January 2010

Subject: Expression of willingness to be associated with the Copenhagen Accord and submission of the quantified economy-wide emissions reduction targets for 2020

Dear Mr. de Boer,

With this letter, Spain, currently holding the Presidency of the Council of the European Union, and the European Commission wish to inform you, on behalf of the EU and its 27 Member States, that the EU and its 27 Member States are willing to be associated with the Copenhagen Accord (verbal note of the Permanent Mission of Denmark to the United Nations on 30 December 2009).

On this occasion, the EU and its 27 Member States wish to reconfirm their commitment to a negotiating process that can achieve the strategic objective of limiting the increase in global average temperature to below 2°C above pre-industrial levels. The EU and its 27 Member States are keen to continue negotiating with the other Parties with a view to concluding a legally binding international agreement for the period starting 1 January 2013.

The EU and its Member States ~~have already~~are committed themselves to an ~~independent autonomous~~ quantified economy-wide emissions reduction target of 20% by 2020, compared to 1990 levels. This target could be increased to 30% under the conditions set out by the European Council of March 2007.

Therefore, the EU and its Member States wish to inform about their commitments in the format set out by Appendix 1 to the Copenhagen Accord:

Annex I Parties	Quantified economy-wide emissions targets for 2020	
	Emissions reduction in 2020	Base year
Common EU target covering and its Member States (Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden, United Kingdom)	20% to 30%*	1990

* It is recalled in this context that the EU objective European Council in December 2009 reiterated the conditional offer to move to is to achieve a 30% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020 compared to 1990 as its contribution to a global and comprehensive agreement for the period beyond 2012, provided that other developed countries commit themselves to comparable emission reductions and economically more advanced developing countries to contributing adequately according to their responsibilities and respective capabilities.

The EU and its 27 Member States will implement the above emissions reduction target jointly in the framework of the Climate and Energy Legislative Package¹. Among other things, this Package consolidates the EU's Emissions Trading Scheme and expands its scope. Pursuant to the 'Effort Sharing Decision', Member States are moreover required to implement policies and measures that are additional to that Scheme in an effort to further limit the greenhouse gas emissions from sources not falling under it.

¹ Decision n° 406/2009/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009 on the effort of Member States to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions to meet the Community's greenhouse gas emission reduction commitments up to 2020 and Directive 2003/87/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 October 2003 establishing a scheme for greenhouse gas emission allowance trading within the Community and amending Council Directive 96/61/EC, as amended by Directive 2009/29/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009, amending Directive 2003/87/EC so as to improve and extend the greenhouse gas emission allowance trading scheme of the Community.

We would be grateful if the Secretariat would communicate this letter to the other Contracting Parties.

Sincerely

HE Mr. Cristobal González-Aller

Ambassador Deputy Permanent
Representative of Spain

Council of the European Union

Mr. Karl-Friedrich Falkenberg

Director-General

Directorate General of the Environment

European Commission