



Malta-EU Steering & Action Committee

ENVIRONMENT



10.07.09

MEUSAC's Environment Sectoral Committee meets to discuss the Waste Framework Directive

The second MEUSAC Environment Sectoral Committee meeting was held on the 2nd of July 2009 at Projects House, Beltissebh, Floriana, at 1000hrs to discuss the transposition and implementation of the revised Waste Framework Directive. Mr. Kevin Mercieca from MEPA which is the government agency responsible for transposing the Directive to national law gave a presentation on the subject (attached to this document) to launch the consultation process on the subject which is expected to end on the 14th of August 2009.

Organisations present for the meeting were: Alternattiva Demokratika, Żminijietna – Voice of the Left, Malta Chamber of Commerce, Enterprise and Industry, Union Haddiema Magħqudin, National Council of Women, Kamra tal-Periti, GRTU, Maltese Islands Agri Federation, Malta Maritime Law Association, Malta Hotels and Restaurants Association and officials from the OPM.

Mr. Mercieca said that by 12 December 2010, Member States are required to bring into force the laws, regulation and administrative provision necessary to comply with this Directive and repeal Directive 74/439/EEC on waste oils, 91/689/EEC on hazardous waste and 200/12/EC on waste. After the presentation, the floor was opened for members present to discuss the matter.

Minutes of the meeting will be sent to the members of the committee in the near future.

The Office of the Prime Minister and the Malta Environment and Planning Authority welcomes views on the preferred option for transposition of the revised Directive. Any response must be received by **Friday 14 August 2009** and may be sent by e-mail to: **contact.unitD@mepa.org.mt** or by post to: **MEPA, UNIT D, St. Francis Ravelin, Floriana, P.O. Box 200, Marsa, MRS 1000.**



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Climate Change on G8 Agenda



On the first day of the G8 summit, discussions have focused on the financial and economic crisis and the climate and global issues. Some 30 heads of state and government from around the world are taking part in the different meetings being held. **Swedish Prime Minister Fredrik Reinfeldt, who is representing the EU at the summit**, thinks that the discussions so far have been productive.

“I came here hoping that we could begin to come close to concrete measures to save the climate. It is not only the G8 countries who are gathered here, but also other large industrialised countries, who are key players if we are to succeed in reaching an international climate agreement”, says Fredrik Reinfeldt.

He also believes that all countries must act together, but that it is the larger economies that must lead the way. “President Obama’s commitment to the climate issue is important; we cannot succeed without the USA. We in Europe must demonstrate that it is possible to combine the fight against climate change with the handling of the financial and economic crisis.”

The G8 has now agreed on a two degree target, that global emissions must be halved by 2050, and that developed countries will set an example by reducing their emissions by 80 per cent or more. These are strong political signals that are being sent to the international climate negotiations. “I hope that we can get further important input over these days”, said Fredrik Reinfeldt.

.....in the meantime.....

President Barroso speaks on Climate Change at the Major Economies Forum: 2 °C target is now written in stone

Coming out of the meeting between the world's major economies in L'Aquila, where the G8 summit is held, European Commission President José Manuel Barroso said:

“I am happy that one of the EU's most important benchmarks for progress ahead of the Copenhagen climate conference has been reached: The 2°C target is now written in stone. We have for the first time firmly anchored this target for limiting average temperature rises both within the G8 and within the Major Economies Forum.”



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Science tells us that if we are to have a fair chance of staying below two degrees Celsius we must cut global emissions by at least 50% compared to 1990 by 2050. The EU has provided leadership by agreeing to cut emissions by 20% by 2020 and more, if others follow.

Barroso continued: *“The road to Copenhagen and a global deal still remains steep and rocky, and the last stretch is always the most difficult. But the scene is now set for the global deal we must reach in Copenhagen in December, and today we have provided our negotiators with a clear yardstick for the deal. After our meetings here in L’Aquila I am confident that we have firmly increased the chances of an ambitious and truly global deal in Copenhagen. The EU will continue to play its full part, including on finance where we will bring forward proposals by September. The EU remains determined to inspire and support global climate action in all possible respects.”*