Council of the European Union

Brussels, 6 October 2017
(OR. en)

12911/17

CLIMA 261
ENV 805
ONU 126
DEVGEN 220
ECOFIN 789
ENER 384
FORETS 39
MAR 166
AVIATION 127

NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Council
Subject:	Draft Council conclusions on the Paris Agreement and preparations for the UNFCCC meetings (Bonn, 6-17 November 2017) - Adoption

1. The Paris Agreement on climate change agreed at COP21 in December 2015 entered into force on 4 November 2016.

2. The present set of conclusions sets out the main elements of the EU position in view of the UNFCCC Climate Change Conference in Bonn (6-17 November 2017), focusing on its main deliverables and preparation for the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

3. The Council (ECOFIN) is expected to adopt conclusions on climate finance on 10 October 2017.

4. The text of the draft Council conclusions was slightly amended in paragraph 8 on the basis of comments made in Coreper on 6 October 2017 and it should be acceptable to all delegations.

5. The Council (Environment) on 13 October 2017 is invited to adopt the text of the conclusions.

ANNEX

Paris Agreement and preparations for the UNFCCC meetings

(Bonn, 6-17 November 2017)

- *Draft Council conclusions* -

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Global action under the Paris Agreement

1. UNDERLINES the crucial importance of a rules-based global order, with multilateralism as its key principle and the United Nations at its core for a peaceful and sustainable world;

2. WELCOMES the rapid entry into force of the Paris Agreement, as a testimony to the international community's determination to confront the shared challenge of climate change; STRESSES that the Paris Agreement is irreversible and its full integrity and implementation are key for security and prosperity of the whole planet; EMPHASISES the clear signal that it provides to governments, subnational authorities, civil society, business and the private sector on the direction of global actions on climate change;

3. RECOGNISES with great concern the increasing intensity and/or frequency of extreme weather events that have caused numerous deaths and extensive displacement of population, impacted the livelihood and human health of millions around the world, and resulted in billions of euros worth of damage to infrastructure and ecosystems; NOTES that according to scientific research climate change is contributing to increased intensity and/or frequency of these extreme weather events; NOTES with concern the Arctic Council's recent findings that the Arctic is warming at more than twice the rate of global average resulting in serious global consequences;

4. EMPHASISES that the participation and contribution of each and every country is essential for strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change and achieving the long term goals of the Paris Agreement, in the context of sustainable development, poverty eradication, food security, gender equality, respect for human rights, respect for the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, and protection of biodiversity; EXPRESSES its solidarity with the most vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change;

5. RECONFIRMS the European Union's commitment to implement fully the Paris Agreement, most recently expressed by the 2017 June European Council and the 19 June Foreign Affairs Council; EMPHASISES the critical importance of the Paris Agreement as the global instrument for enhancing collective action against climate change, contributing to global security and accelerating the transition to low-greenhouse gas emission, sustainable and climate resilient economies and societies;

6. REAFFIRMS that the EU will continue to lead global efforts to combat climate change and remains committed to continuing cooperation with all Parties on the implementation of the Paris Agreement, to strengthen its existing partnerships and to seek new alliances with our international partners and work together with diverse actors, that have voiced their support for the Paris Agreement and that are taking ambitious climate action; CALLS ON all partners to keep up the momentum towards successful results at COP23, COP24 and beyond;

7. WELCOMES the ratification of the Paris Agreement by 166 Parties, including the completion of ratifications by all EU Member States; ENCOURAGES all other countries to ratify the Agreement as soon as possible; REITERATES its strong support to the inclusive approach ensuring that all Parties can participate in and fully contribute to the operationalisation and implementation of the Paris Agreement;

Advancing implementation of the Paris Agreement

8. RECONFIRMS the EU's commitment to continue the implementation of its climate policies, in line with the 2030 climate and energy policy framework for the European Union agreed by the October 2014 European Council; WELCOMES progress towards implementation of the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) of the EU and its Member States to achieve the target of reducing domestic greenhouse gas emissions of at least 40% by 2030 compared to 1990 levels; RECOGNISES the importance of the long term goals and the five-year review cycles in the implementation of the Paris Agreement;

9. UNDERLINES that the EU is on track to meet its greenhouse gas emissions reduction target for 2020 of reducing emissions by 20% compared to 1990; REITERATES that the EU and its Member States are already meeting their obligations under the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol and that according to recent data they are likely to exceed their 2020 target, while the economy grew;

10. URGES all countries to proceed with preparations and implementation of their nationally determined contributions (NDCs), and, as appropriate, country-driven adaptation planning processes; NOTES that the effort and actions by G20 countries, accounting for some 80% of global greenhouse gas emission, are of critical importance; REAFFIRMS the EU and its Member States' commitment to continue sharing experiences with and support partner countries in developing and implementing their NDCs, in the context of low-emission and climate-resilient development and to foster linking of NDCs with national development strategies, including through initiatives such as the NDC Partnership; RECOGNISES efforts by Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States;

11. UNDERLINES the increasing contributions resulting from multilateral cooperation through the Convention and voluntary and collaborative actions through the Global Climate Action Agenda (GCAA) for achievement of the goals of the Paris Agreement; APPRECIATES current and announced efforts and pledges by sub-national authorities, businesses, civil society, and other non-state actors to advance climate action; INVITES further efforts in this field; WELCOMES the work of the Global Climate Action Champions; ENCOURAGES their efforts to build understanding on the progress and delivery of GCAA initiatives and coalitions; and SUPPORTS their approach towards the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action;

12. UNDERLINES the critical role of the IPCC in providing the scientific inputs to the work of the UNFCCC and the main scientific basis for the implementation of the Paris Agreement; LOOKS FORWARD to the IPCC's Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 ºC above preindustrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways; CONSIDERS that the 1.5°C Special Report will be a valuable source of information for the discussions next year in the context of the 2018 facilitative dialogue;

13. HIGHLIGHTS the importance of long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies as a policy tool for developing reliable pathways and the long term policy changes needed to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement; and ENCOURAGES the development thereof; WELCOMES the initiative of the European Commission and Member States to prepare an in-depth analysis of the environmental, economic and social impacts of pathways that are coherent with the long-term temperature goals of the Paris Agreement so as to inform EU political debates with a view to formulate the EU strategy in accordance with paragraph 35 of Decision 1/CP21;

14. RECALLS that ambitious climate action is a strategic priority in the EU and its Member States' diplomatic dialogues to enhance cooperation and concrete joint action with partner countries in line with the 2016 Climate Diplomacy Action Plan and the Council conclusions of March 2017 on EU climate and energy diplomacies;

15. RECALLS its conclusions of 10 October 2017 on climate finance]; [REAFFIRMS that the EU and its Member States are committed to continuing to scale up the mobilisation of international climate finance, as part of the collective developed countries' goal to jointly mobilise USD 100 billion per year by 2020 through to 2025 for mitigation and adaptation purposes, from a wide variety of sources, instruments and channels; REITERATES that public climate finance will continue to play a significant role; HIGHLIGHTS that the EU and its Member States are the largest provider of public climate finance and stresses the need for future participation of a broader range of contributors;

16. REITERATES its call on all Parties to design the global stocktake (GST) as the key element of a wider ambition cycle that will inform and incentivize processes to progressively enhance ambitious action, both domestically and collectively; CONSIDERS that the GST should result in a shared understanding of the overall effect of Parties' contributions and of what collectively needs to be done to achieve the purpose of the Paris Agreement and its long term goals, as well as for concrete opportunities for climate action; STRESSES the importance of striving towards common time frames for all Parties' NDCs;

COP23 deliverables

17. APPRECIATES Fiji's unique leadership as the first small island state to preside a COP; CONFIRMS its support for the incoming Fijian Presidency of the COP/CMP/CMA in its initiatives in the run-up to and at COP23 with a view to a successful meeting;

18. WELCOMES the inclusive and transparent consultations held by the current and incoming Moroccan and Fijian COP Presidencies in May 2017 on the organization of the 2018 facilitative dialogue, the first key political moment after Paris where Parties will take stock of their collective efforts towards achieving the objective set out in Article 4 (1) of the Paris Agreement; NOTES that results of the facilitative dialogue will inform the preparation of NDCs in accordance with paragraph 20 of Decision 1/CP.21; STRESSES the importance of leaving COP23 with sufficient clarity on how the 2018 facilitative dialogue will be conducted; ENVISAGES the active participation of the EU and the Member States in the 2018 facilitative dialogue;

19. LOOKS FORWARD to a constructive Global Climate Action Champions High-level Event at COP23 and an enhanced role of non-state actors;

20. RECOGNISES the progress made on the Paris work programme by Marrakech COP22 and the Bonn Subsidiary Bodies meetings in May 2017; UNDERLINES that COP23 in Bonn should make substantial progress in the form of draft decisions or textual elements in all mandated items of the Paris work programme with a view to secure the adoption of decisions at COP24; SUPPORTS advancing the preparation of the implementation of all provisions of the Agreement in a balanced manner, comprising mitigation, adaptation, means of implementation and the transparency framework as a core element to ensure the effectiveness of the Paris Agreement;

21. LOOKS FORWARD to work productively with other Parties, in the run-up to and at COP24 in Katowice in Poland in 2018, with a view to a successful outcome under the agreed work programme in preparation for the implementation of the Paris Agreement;

Other processes

22. STRESSES the importance of pursuing the enhanced coordination coherence and synergies between the Paris Agreement, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction as well as with other Rio Conventions and relevant UN strategies; NOTES that these multilateral instruments demonstrated the necessity and the capacity of all UN Member States to work in partnership to address global issues - climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to reduce and manage disaster risk, and to eradicate poverty;

23. WELCOMES the adoption of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer to phase-down hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) at the twenty-eighth Meeting of the Parties, and RECALLS the adoption by the Council of the decision to conclude, on behalf of the EU, the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol; WELCOMES the fact that a number of Member States have already initiated and some already completed their national ratification procedures of the Kigali Amendment; ENCOURAGES other Member States to complete their national ratification procedures and other Parties to ratify the Kigali Amendment as soon as possible, in order to ensure the entry into force of the Kigali Amendment on 1 January 2019;

24. WELCOMES the agreement by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) on the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA) and looks forward to the finalisation of its operational rules and its timely implementation; STRESSES the need to ensure environmental integrity, including by avoiding double counting; INVITES all Parties to participate in the voluntary phase of CORSIA;

25. CALLS on the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to further accelerate its efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the maritime sector and to adopt in April 2018 an ambitious initial IMO Strategy on reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from ships including further measures in line with the IMO roadmap and the long term temperature goals of the Paris Agreement.