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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee
No. prev. doc.:	7121/21
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Subject:	Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on a General Union Environment Action Programme to 2030 - Preparation for the trilogue

I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 14 October 2020, the Commission adopted a proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and the Council on the General Union Environment Action Programme to 2030, the so-called 8th Environment Action Programme (8th EAP).

2. The Commission proposal sets out that the 8th EAP lays down its priority objectives, identifies enabling conditions for their achievement and establishes a framework to measure whether the Union and its Member States are on track to meet those priority objectives. The 8th EAP should run until 31 December 2030 and should contribute to achieving the environmental and climate objectives defined under the United Nations 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals.

II. WORK AT THE COUNCIL

3. On 17 March 2021, the Committee of Permanent Representatives agreed on a mandate to enter into negotiations with the European Parliament¹.
4. On 7 July 2021, the European Parliament established a position on the proposal in its Plenary session of 5 - 8 July 2021 with 518 votes in favour, 130 votes against and 47 abstentions. The Parliament appointed Ms Grace O’Sullivan (Greens, IE) as rapporteur for the proposal.
5. The European Economic and Social Committee adopted its opinion on the proposal at its plenary session on 27 January 2021². The Committee of the Regions adopted its opinion at its plenary session on 3-5 February 2021³.
6. The first trilogue was held on 6 September 2021. The Presidency engaged in this trilogue on the basis of the mandate of 17 March, also taking into account the preliminary positions expressed by delegations on 5 and 26 July 2021 at the videoconferences of members of the Working Party on the Environment on the 120 amendments voted in Plenary. On 8 September, the Presidency gave a report on this first trilogue to the Committee of Permanent Representatives.

¹ ST 7121/21.

² NAT/811.

³ ENVE VII-012.

7. The second trilogue will take place on 14 October. In order to prepare this trilogue, the Presidency seeks the endorsement of the Committee of an amended mandate. Against that background, the Presidency submitted compromise proposals and provided explanations to the informal videoconference of the Working Party on the Environment at its meeting on 30 September. Following that meeting, the Presidency has revised its compromise suggestions, which are set out in the annexed four-column table document. In the third column of the table (Council mandate) changes to the Commission proposal are bold and deletions are marked by [...]. In the fourth column, new proposed language compared to the Coreper mandate of 17 March 2021 is indicated in **bold** and deletions by [...].

III. PRESIDENCY SUGGESTIONS IN VIEW OF THE SECOND TRILOGUE

Political points

8. The trilogue of 6 September identified eight points to be dealt with at political level. These elements are of the highest importance to the European Parliament and in view of reaching an agreement, the Presidency aims to identify Member States' flexibilities and red lines. In addition to guidance on these points, which are further elaborated below, the Presidency is seeking a discussion at Coreper on the overall scope of the 8th EAP. The Presidency is of the view that many of the additions to the enabling conditions proposed by the European Parliament either fall out of the thematic scope of an environment action programme; go beyond the legal basis of the 8th EAP (too specific measures to implement the priority objectives, which ought to be adopted in a separate legislative act); or are already regulated elsewhere.
9. The term sustainable wellbeing economy was introduced by the European Parliament into the 8th EAP's priority objectives. A related concept, the economy of well-being, was proposed by the Council mandate. The Presidency proposes to agree on the term "wellbeing economy". (See amendments 38 and 42)

10. The European Parliament introduces a commitment to setting binding targets for decreasing the Union’s material and consumption footprints. The Presidency compromise proposal includes language on decreasing the Union’s material and consumption footprints, without a commitment to setting binding targets. (See amendment 89)
11. The European Parliament has significantly expanded on the provision in Article 3(1)e regarding the phase-out of environmentally harmful subsidies, including by proposing dates by which the phase-out should be achieved. A compromise suggestion by the Presidency, taking over certain elements from the European Parliament’s position while refraining from setting precise phase-out dates, did not find support in the Working Party on Environment. The Presidency therefore proposes reverting mostly to the Council mandate of 17 March. (See amendment 59)
12. Regarding provisions on biodiversity and climate spending targets and budget-related provisions, the Presidency proposes including a general reference on investment into biodiversity protection and restoration, while ensuring that the red lines expressed by the Council during the negotiations on the current Multiannual Financial Framework are maintained. (See amendments 61 and 62)
13. The European Parliament added a number of references to the Taxonomy Regulation and the “do no significant harm” principle. The Presidency proposes to refer to the more general “do no harm” principle instead and, if necessary, referring to the Taxonomy Regulation, where applicable and appropriate, in a recital. (See amendments 51, 53 and 58)
14. No concrete wording is yet proposed on the European Parliament’s addition of new concrete actions. The Presidency considers that the provisions in Article 3(1a) (new) fall out of scope of the legal basis of the Environment Action Programme and overlap with the Inter-Institutional Agreement on Better Law-Making.

15. The proposed compromise wording on the assessment of the progress towards reaching the thematic priority objectives aims at strengthening the monitoring framework while not being too prescriptive, as a parallel process on identifying headline indicators is under way. (See amendments 100 and 104)
16. On the mid-term review, the Presidency proposes maintaining the Council mandate obliging the Commission to present a legislative proposal for adding an annex to the 8th EAP with a list of actions for the period after 2025. The Commission maintains a reservation on this point. (See amendments 118 and 119)

Other points

17. The provisions in Article 1 and 2 that do not fall into the above political points have been extensively discussed at technical meetings and compromise wording has been found on several paragraphs. The proposed compromise language is included in the draft mandate in the annex, with a view to it being preliminarily agreed at the trilogue meeting on 14 October.

V. CONCLUSION

The Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to endorse the suggested approach of the Presidency, and to provide further guidance on the above-mentioned political points as well as examine the Presidency compromise suggestions, as set out in the table annexed to this note, with a view to establishing a new Council mandate for the Presidency to engage in the upcoming trilogue.

Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on a General Union Environment Action Programme to 2030

COMMISSION PROPOSAL	EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT POSITION (Plenary vote 7 July 2021)	COUNCIL POSITION (Mandate for negotiations with EP 17 March 2021)	PRESIDENCY COMPROMISE / SUGGESTIONS
<p>THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,</p> <p>Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 192(3) thereof,</p> <p>Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,</p> <p>After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments,</p> <p>Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee¹,</p> <p>Having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions²,</p>			

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<p>Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure,</p> <p>¹ OJ C , , p. .</p> <p>² OJ C , , p. .</p>			
<p>(1) In line with Article 192(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, general environment action programmes have provided the framework for Union action in the field of the environment and climate since 1973.</p>			
<p>(2) Decision No 1386/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council³ established the 7th Environment Action Programme (the 7th EAP), which sets out the Union's environmental agenda until 31 December 2020 as well as a long-term vision for 2050.</p> <p>³ OJ L 354, 28.12.2013, p. 171.</p>			

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Amendment 1 Recital 3			
(3) The Commission's evaluation of the 7 th EAP ⁴ concluded that its 2050 vision and priority objectives are still valid; that it has helped to provide more predictable, faster and better-coordinated action in environment policy; and that its structure and enabling framework have helped create synergies, thus making environment policy more effective and efficient. Moreover, the evaluation concluded that the 7 th EAP anticipated the United Nation's 2030 Agenda by insisting that economic growth and social wellbeing depend on a healthy natural resource base, and facilitated delivering on the Sustainable Development Goals. It also enabled the Union to speak with one voice on the global stage on climate and environmental matters. In its evaluation of the 7 th EAP, the Commission also concluded that progress related to nature protection, health and policy	(3) The Commission's evaluation of the 7 th EAP ¹ concluded that its 2050 vision and priority objectives are still valid; that it has helped to provide more predictable, faster and better-coordinated action in environment policy; and that its structure and enabling framework have helped create synergies, thus making environment policy more effective and efficient. Moreover, the evaluation concluded that the 7 th EAP anticipated the United Nation's 2030 Agenda by insisting that economic growth and social wellbeing depend on a healthy natural resource base, and facilitated delivering on the Sustainable Development Goals. It also enabled the Union to speak with one voice on the global stage on climate and environmental matters. In its evaluation of the 7 th EAP, the Commission also concluded that progress related to nature protection, health and		

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<i>integration</i> was not sufficient.	<p><i>integrating environmental concerns into other policy areas</i> was not sufficient. <i>It also found that there could have been more consideration of social issues in the 7th EAP, building on the existing links between environment and social policy, as regards for example the impact on vulnerable groups, jobs, social inclusion and inequality.</i></p> <p><i>Moreover, the Commission noted in its evaluation that, despite increasingly ambitious environmental targets in many policy domains, spending on environmental protection has remained low in Europe over many years (around 2% of GDP) and that the failure to implement environmental legislation costs the Union economy around EUR 55 billion each year in health costs and direct costs to the environment. The evaluation noted that the 7th EAP's implementation could have been reinforced by a stronger monitoring mechanism.</i></p>		

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⁴ COM(2019) 233 final.	¹ COM(2019) 233 final.		
<p align="center">Amendment 2 Recital 4</p>			
<p>(4) According to the EEA report ‘The European environment – state and outlook 2020, Knowledge for transition to a sustainable Europe’ (‘SOER 2020’), 2020 represents a unique window of opportunity for the Union to show leadership on sustainability and to face the urgent sustainability challenges requiring systemic solutions. As stated in SOER 2020, the changes in the global climate and ecosystems observed since the 1950s are unprecedented over decades to millennia. The global population has tripled since 1950, while the population living in cities has quadrupled. With the current growth model, environmental pressures are expected to increase further, causing direct and indirect harmful effects on human health and well-being. This is especially true for the sectors with the</p>	<p>(4) According to the EEA report ‘The European environment – state and outlook 2020, Knowledge for transition to a sustainable Europe’ (‘SOER 2020’), there is a unique window of opportunity for the Union in the next decade to show global leadership on sustainability by tackling the urgent sustainability challenges which are unprecedented and which can only be met by ensuring systemic change. Systemic change entails a fundamental, transformative, and cross-cutting form of change that implies major shifts and reorientation in systems goals, incentives, technologies, social practices and norms, as well as in knowledge systems, and governance approaches. As stated in SOER 2020, one of the most important factors underlying Europe's persistent environmental</p>		

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<i>highest environmental impact – food, mobility, energy as well as infrastructure and buildings.</i>	<i>and sustainability challenges is that they are inextricably linked to economic activities and lifestyles, in particular the societal systems that provide Europeans with necessities such as goods, energy and mobility. Ensuring policy coherence with, and full implementation of, existing environmental policies would take Europe a long way to achieving its environmental goals up to 2030. However, systemic, long-term frameworks with binding targets in relation to climate and environmental goals are also needed. SOER 2020 concludes that Europe will not achieve its sustainability vision of 'living well, within the limits of our planet' simply by promoting economic growth and seeking to manage harmful side effects with environmental and social policy tools. Instead, sustainability needs to become the guiding principle for ambitious and coherent policies and actions across society.</i>		

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Amendment 3 Recital 5			
(5) The European <i>Commission responded</i> to the challenges identified in the SOER 2020 <i>by adopting</i> the European Green Deal ⁵ : a new growth strategy for the twin green and digital transition that aims to transform the Union into a fair and prosperous society, with a competitive, climate-neutral and resource-efficient economy. Regulation (EU) of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁶ enshrines into law the Union target to achieve climate neutrality by 2050.	(5) The European <i>Commission's response</i> to the challenges identified in the SOER 2020 <i>is outlined in</i> the European Green Deal ² <i>as</i> a new growth strategy for the twin green and digital transition that aims to transform the Union into a fair and prosperous society, with a competitive, climate-neutral and resource-efficient economy <i>and to protect, conserve and enhance the Union's natural capital whilst improving the quality of life of current and future generations. Swiftly achieving climate and environmental targets while protecting the health and wellbeing of people from environmental risks and impacts and ensuring a just and inclusive transition should be the priority.</i> Regulation (EU) of the European Parliament and of the Council ³ enshrines into law the Union target to achieve climate neutrality by 2050 <i>at the latest</i> .	(5) The European Commission responded to the challenges identified in the SOER 2020 by adopting the European Green Deal ¹ : a new growth strategy for the twin green and digital transition that aims to transform the Union into a fair and prosperous society, with a sustainable , competitive, climate-neutral and resource-efficient economy. Regulation (EU) of the European Parliament and of the Council ² enshrines into law the Union target to achieve climate neutrality by 2050.	

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⁵ COM(2019) 640 final. ⁶ COM(2020) 80 final.	² COM(2019) 640 final. ³ COM(2020) 80 final.	¹ COM(2019) 640 final. ² COM(2020) 80 final.	
Amendment 4 Recital 5a (new)			
	<i>(5a) On 28 November 2019, the European Parliament adopted a resolution declaring a climate and environment emergency in Europe and globally, and urged the new Commission to take fast and important action, including by addressing inconsistencies in current Union policies with the climate and environment emergency, in particular through a far-reaching reform of its agricultural, trade, transport, energy and infrastructure investment policies and by ensuring that all relevant future legislative and budgetary proposals are fully aligned with the objective of limiting global warming to under 1,5°C and that they are not contributing to biodiversity loss.</i>		

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Amendment 5 Recital 5b (new)			
	<p><i>(5b) Both in the Union and globally, land and soil continue to be degraded by a wide range of human activities, such as poor land management, land use change, unsustainable agricultural practices, land abandonment, pollution, unsustainable forestry practices and soil sealing, biodiversity loss and climate change, often combined with other factors, thus reducing their capacities to provide ecosystem services and functions. Despite this, the Union and Member States are not currently on track to meet their international and European commitments related to soil and land, including obligations under the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification to combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil and achieve a land degradation-neutral world by 2030. In line with the resolution of the European Parliament of 28</i></p>		

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	<i>April 2021 on soil protection, there is a need for a Union-wide common legal framework for the protection and sustainable use of soil, which fully respects the subsidiarity principle and which addresses all major soil threats. That framework should include, inter alia, a common definition of soil and its functions and criteria for achieving good status and sustainable use, as well as intermediate and final objectives that are accompanied by harmonised indicators and a monitoring and reporting methodology.</i>		
<p style="text-align: center;">Amendment 6 Recital 5c (new)</p>			
	<i>(5c) The COVID-19 pandemic, which has led to an unprecedented economic and health crisis, has demonstrated again the importance of applying the multi-sectoral 'One Health' approach in policy-making, which recognises that human health is connected to animal health and to the</i>		

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	<i>environment, and that actions to tackle threats to health have to take into account all three dimensions. In order to, inter alia, effectively detect, respond to, and prevent outbreaks of zoonoses and food safety threats, information and data should be shared across sectors, and cooperation at national and sub-national levels should be increased to implement effective and common responses. The 8th EAP should contribute to the full integration of the ‘One Health approach’ across all levels of policy- making.</i>		
Amendment 7 Recital 5d (new)			
	<i>(5d) According to the 2020 report on Biodiversity and Pandemics by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)⁴, the underlying causes of pandemics are the same global environmental changes that drive biodiversity loss and climate change including land-use change,</i>		

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	<p><i>agricultural expansion and intensification, and wildlife trade and consumption and other drivers. Climate change has been implicated in disease emergence and will likely cause substantial future pandemic risk, whilst biodiversity loss is also associated with the transformation of landscapes and can lead to increased emerging disease risk in some cases. According to the report, the cost of inaction vastly outweighs the cost of implementing global strategies to prevent pandemics based on reducing the wildlife trade and land-use change and increasing One Health surveillance.</i></p> <p>⁴ IPBES Workshop on Diversity and Pandemics - Executive Summary, 2020.</p>		
<p align="center">Amendment 8 Recital 5e (new)</p>			
	<p><i>(5e) Environmental degradation and the adverse effects of climate change are expected to increase further in the years to come,</i></p>		

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	<p><i>impacting on developing countries and vulnerable populations the hardest. In order to help build resilience and support third countries in their efforts in mitigate and adapt to climate change as well as protect biodiversity, financial assistance from the Union and Member States to third countries should promote the UN 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change⁵ (the ‘Paris Agreement’) and the post-2020 global framework of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity and be in line with the priority objectives of the 8th EAP. Furthermore, the Union and Member States should also ensure that the Paris Agreement and other international climate and environmental agreements are implemented in ways that reflect the principles of equity and of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective</i></p>		

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	<p><i>capabilities, as laid down also in Article 2(2) of the Paris Agreement.</i></p> <p>⁵ OJ L 282, 19.10.2016, p. 4.</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;">Amendment 9 Recital 6</p>			
<p>(6) The European Green Deal underpins the Next Generation EU Recovery Plan which promotes the investments in key green sectors needed to build resilience, and create growth and jobs in a fair and inclusive society. The Recovery and Resilience Facility which will power the Union’s economic recovery from the coronavirus crisis together with the Union budget for 2021-2027, is also based on the priority objectives set out in the European Green Deal. Furthermore, all initiatives under Next Generation EU Recovery Plan should respect the <i>European Green Deal’s</i> “do no harm” <i>oath</i>.</p>	<p>(6) The European Green Deal underpins the Next Generation EU Recovery Plan which promotes the investments in key green <i>and digital</i> sectors needed to build resilience, and create growth and jobs in a fair and inclusive society. The Recovery and Resilience Facility which will power the Union’s economic recovery from the coronavirus crisis together with the Union budget for 2021-2027, is also based on the priority objectives set out in the European Green Deal. Furthermore, all initiatives under <i>the</i> Next Generation EU Recovery Plan should respect the “do no <i>significant</i> harm” <i>principle as set out in Regulation (EU) 2020/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council (the ‘Taxonomy</i></p>	<p>(6) The European Green Deal underpins the Next Generation EU Recovery Plan which promotes the investments in key [...] sectors [...] for the green and digital transition to build resilience, and create growth and jobs in a fair and inclusive society. The Recovery and Resilience Facility which will power the Union’s economic recovery from the coronavirus crisis together with the Union budget for 2021-2027, is also based on the priority objectives set out in the European Green Deal. Furthermore, all initiatives under Next Generation EU Recovery Plan should respect the European Green Deal’s “do no harm” oath.</p>	

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	<p><i>Regulation’)⁶. The Recovery Plan offers an important opportunity to accelerate the pace of the transition towards climate neutrality and the protection of the environment.</i></p> <p>⁶Regulation (EU) 2020/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2020 on the establishment of a framework to facilitate sustainable investment, and amending Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 (OJ L 198, 22.6.2020, p. 13).</p>		
<p align="center">Amendment 10 Recital 7</p>			
(7) Environment action programmes have guided the development of EU environment policy since the early 1970s. The 7 th EAP <i>will expire</i> on 31 December 2020 and its Article 4 (3) <i>requires</i> the Commission, if appropriate, to present a proposal for an Eighth Environment Action Programme (8 th EAP) in a timely manner with a view to avoiding a gap between the 7 th and the 8 th EAP. The European Green Deal announced <i>the</i>	(7) Environment action programmes have guided the development <i>and coordination</i> of EU environment policy since the early 1970s. The 7 th EAP <i>expired</i> on 31 December 2020 and its Article 4 (3) <i>required</i> the Commission, if appropriate, to present a proposal for an Eighth Environment Action Programme (8 th EAP) in a timely manner with a view to avoiding a gap between the 7 th and the 8 th EAP. The	(7) Environment action programmes have guided the development of EU environment policy since the early 1970s. The 7 th EAP [...] <i>expired</i> on 31 December 2020 and its Article 4 (3) <i>requires</i> the Commission, if appropriate, to present a proposal for an Eighth Environment Action Programme (8 th EAP) in a timely manner with a view to avoiding a gap between the 7 th and the 8 th EAP. The European Green Deal announced the adoption	

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<i>adoption of a new environment action programme.</i>	<i>Commission's communication of 11 December 2019 on the European Green Deal announced that the 8th EAP would include a new monitoring mechanism to ensure that the Union remains on track to meet its environmental objectives. The Commission also committed in its communication to launching a dashboard to monitor progress against all of the European Green Deal's objectives.</i>	of a new environment action programme.	
<p style="text-align: center;">Amendment 11 Recital 8</p>			
(8) The 8 th EAP <i>should support the environment and climate</i> action objectives of the European Green Deal in line with the long-term objective to “live well, within the planetary boundaries” by 2050, <i>which is</i> already established in the 7 th EAP. It should <i>contribute to achieving</i> the United Nations’ 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals.	(8) The 8 th EAP, <i>as the overall Union Environment Action Programme, should build on and promote the achievement of the</i> objectives of the European Green Deal in line with the long-term objective to “live well, within the planetary boundaries” by 2050 <i>at the latest, in line with what has been</i> already established in the 7 th EAP. It should <i>also be fully aligned with</i> the United Nations’ 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals <i>(SDGs), which</i>	(8) The 8 th EAP should support the [...] objectives of the European Green Deal in line with the long-term objective to “live well, within the planetary boundaries” by 2050, which is already established in the 7 th EAP. It should contribute to achieving the United Nations’ 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals.	

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	<i>are integrated and indivisible, and drive forward their implementation and achievement, as well as be aligned with the goals of the Paris Agreement, the UN Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant international agreements. The 8th EAP should enable a systemic change to a Union economy that guarantees wellbeing within planetary boundaries where growth is regenerative and should also ensure that the environmental and climate transition is achieved in a just and inclusive way, whilst contributing to reducing inequalities.</i>		
Amendment 12 Recital 8a (new)			
	<i>(8a) The priority objectives of the 8th EAP set a direction for Union policymaking, building on, but not limited to, the commitments of the European Green Deal strategies and initiatives.</i>		

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Amendment 13 Recital 8b (new)			
	<p><i>(8b) The 8th EAP forms the basis for achieving the environmental and climate objectives defined under the United Nations 2030 Agenda and its SDGs. According to a model developed by the Stockholm Resilience Centre, the achievement of the environmental and climate SDGs underpins the social and economic SDGs because our societies and economies depend on a healthy biosphere and because sustainable development can only take place within the safe operating space of a stable and resilient planet. Achievement of the SDGs by the Union and its support for third countries to do the same will be essential if the Union is to demonstrate global leadership in achieving sustainability transitions.</i></p>		

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Amendment 14 Recital 9			
(9) The 8 th EAP should accelerate the transition to a regenerative economy that gives back to the planet more than it takes. <i>A regenerative growth model</i> recognises that the wellbeing and prosperity of our societies depend on a stable climate, a healthy environment and thriving ecosystems, which provide a safe operating space for our economies . As the global population and the demand for natural resources continues to grow, economic activity should develop in a way that does no harm but, on the contrary, reverses climate change and environmental degradation, minimises pollution and results in maintaining and enriching natural capital , therefore ensuring the abundance of renewable and non-renewable resources. Through continuous innovation, adaptation to new challenges and co-creation, the regenerative economy	(9) The 8 th EAP should accelerate the transition to a regenerative growth model that gives back to the planet more than it takes in the context of a sustainable wellbeing economy which enables systemic change , recognises that the wellbeing and prosperity of our societies depend on a stable climate, a healthy environment and thriving ecosystems and provides a safe operating space within planetary boundaries . As the global population and the demand for natural resources continues to grow, economic activity should develop in a sustainable way that does no harm but, on the contrary, reverses climate change, protects and restores ecosystems and biodiversity while halting and reversing their loss, prevents environmental degradation, protects health and wellbeing from negative environmental impacts, prevents and minimises pollution	(9) The 8 th EAP should accelerate the green transition towards a climate neutral, resource efficient, clean and circular economy, in a just and inclusive way, protecting, preserving, sustainably using and restoring biodiversity and enhancing the Union's natural capital as well as protecting the health and well-being of citizens from environment-related risks and impacts. By doing so, the 8th EAP should contribute to an economy of well-being and a regenerative economy that gives back to the planet more than it takes. Those economic models recognises that the wellbeing and prosperity of our societies depend on a stable climate, a healthy environment and thriving ecosystems, which provide a safe operating space for our economies. As the global population and the demand for natural resources continues to grow,	

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strengthens resilience and protects present and future generations' wellbeing.	and results in maintaining and enriching natural resources and biodiversity , therefore ensuring the abundance of renewable and non-renewable resources. Through continuous research and innovation, transformation of production and consumption patterns, and adaptation to new challenges and co-creation, the regenerative and sustainable wellbeing economy strengthens resilience, improves the state of nature and protects present and future generations' wellbeing and their right to a healthy environment .	economic activity should develop in a way that does no harm but, on the contrary, reverses climate change and environmental degradation, protects, uses sustainably and restores biodiversity, achieves land degradation neutrality, prevents or, where not feasible, minimises pollution and results in maintaining and enriching natural capital, promoting a sustainable bioeconomy , therefore ensuring the abundance of renewable and non-renewable resources. Through continuous innovation, adaptation to new challenges and co-creation, the economy of wellbeing and the regenerative economy strengthens resilience and protects present and future generations[...].	
Amendment 15 Recital 9a (new)			
	<i>(9a) According to the OECD, the case for measuring economic performance and societal progress “beyond GDP” is well-established, and taking GDP as a single compass does not provide policy-</i>		

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	<p><i>makers with a sufficiently accurate picture of the way in which the economy performs for citizens or of the long-term impacts of growth on sustainability⁷. In order for the Union to develop a more holistic approach towards economic policy-making, in line with the SDGs, the Paris Agreement and the UN Convention on Biological Diversity, the 8th EAP lays down the requirement for the development of a comprehensive set of ‘beyond GDP’ indicators, as requested by the 7th EAP, in order to measure progress towards a sustainable wellbeing economy and to guide and inform future policy making.</i></p> <p>⁷ SDD Working Paper No. 102 of 18 September 2019 “The Economy of Well-being - Creating opportunities for people’s well-being and economic growth”.</p>		

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Amendment 16 Recital 9b (new)			
	<p><i>(9b) Implementing an effective post-2020 global biodiversity framework will be dependent on reducing finance flows that harm biodiversity, and yet, according to a report by the OECD, the amount of spending by governments annually that is potentially harmful to biodiversity is five to six times bigger than annual global spending for biodiversity⁸. The Aichi Biodiversity Targets laid down the obligation that, by 2020 at the latest, subsidies harmful to biodiversity should be eliminated, phased out or reformed and phasing out environmentally harmful subsidies at Union and Member State level without delay was also an obligation under the 7th EAP. In order for the Union to achieve the 8th EAP's priority objectives, including climate neutrality by 2050 at the latest, it will be necessary to phase out all environmentally harmful</i></p>		

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	<p><i>subsidies, including fossil fuel subsidies. All direct and indirect subsidies, including those in the form of tax exemptions, should be included. A mechanism for Member States to report on the phasing out of environmentally harmful subsidies other than fossil fuel subsidies should also be developed. The phasing out of all environmentally harmful subsidies should follow the principle of the just transition and be accompanied by actions to prevent or alleviate any negative socio-economic impacts at Union, national, regional and local level, while ensuring that no one is left behind.</i></p> <p>⁸ <i>OECD Final report, April 2020 “A Comprehensive Overview of Global Biodiversity Finance”.</i></p>		

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Amendment 17 Recital 9c (new)			
	<i>(9c) One of the priorities of the European Strategy for Environmental Accounts 2019-2023 is to enlarge the list of areas covered by European environmental accounts, with one of the areas under development being ‘subsidies or support measures potentially harmful for the environment’. Through its work on a preparatory action, the Commission will provide a toolbox to stakeholders to help them map environmentally harmful subsidies and then make an evidence-based case for their reform or removal by identifying the social, economic and environmental impacts of their phasing out.</i>		

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Amendment 18 Recital 9d (new)			
	<i>(9d) Marine and coastal ecosystems, such as mangroves, coral reefs, salt marshes and seagrass meadows, are being degraded and negatively impacted through processes such as eutrophication and acidification, impacting the biodiversity they sustain and the ecosystem services and functions they provide as well as their capacity to act as carbon sinks. Urgent action is required to protect and restore these marine and coastal ecosystems, including the ocean floor, and acknowledging the ocean as a global common could facilitate raising awareness, improving ocean literacy and encourage action and adoption of effective measures from all levels of, and actors in, society.</i>		

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<p align="center">Amendment 19 Recital 10</p>			
<p>(10) The 8th EAP should set out thematic priority objectives in areas of climate neutrality, adaption to climate change, protecting and restoring biodiversity, circular economy, the zero pollution ambition and reducing environmental pressures from production and consumption. It should furthermore identify the enabling conditions to achieve the long-term and the thematic priority objectives for all actors involved.</p>	<p>(10) The 8th EAP should set out thematic priority objectives in areas of climate change mitigation, adaptation to climate change, protecting and restoring terrestrial and marine biodiversity, a non-toxic circular economy, the zero pollution environment and minimising environmental pressures from production and consumption across all sectors of the economy. Those thematic priority objectives, which address both drivers and impacts of environmental damage, are inherently interlinked and a systemic approach is therefore necessary for their achievement. The 8th EAP should furthermore identify the enabling conditions to achieve, in a coherent way, the long-term and the thematic priority objectives for all actors involved, as well as coordinate the actions necessary to achieve these conditions.</p>	<p>(10) The 8th EAP should set out thematic priority objectives in areas of climate neutrality, adaptation to climate change, protecting, sustainably using and restoring biodiversity, soil, circular economy, the zero pollution ambition and reducing environmental pressures from production and consumption. It should furthermore identify the enabling conditions to achieve the long-term and the thematic priority objectives for all actors involved.</p>	

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Amendment 20 Recital 10a (new)			
	<i>(10a) The term ‘ecosystem approach’ is established under the UN Convention on Biological Diversity as a strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way in order to help reach a balance between conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing of biological biodiversity, the three objectives of the Convention.</i>		
Amendment 21 Recital 10b (new)			
	<i>(10b) According to the EEA, nature based solutions (NBS) for climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction are actions which work with and enhance nature to restore and protect ecosystems and to help society to adapt to the impacts of climate change and slow further warming, while providing multiple additional</i>		

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	<p><i>benefits⁹. Whilst NBS can provide economic benefits, it should be recognised that these may only materialise over the longer term. NBS should respect certain criteria in order to ensure that their implementation is coherent with, and does not undermine, the 8th EAP's priority objectives. Furthermore, where NBS are financed by biodiversity offsetting mechanisms, these mechanisms should strictly adhere to a mitigation hierarchy ensuring that, inter alia, offsets can only be used as a measure of last resort.</i></p> <p>⁹ EEA Report No 1/2021 "Nature-based solutions in Europe: Policy, knowledge and practice for climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction".</p>		
<p align="center">Amendment 22 Recital 11</p>			
(11) Environment policy being highly decentralised, action to achieve the priority objectives of the 8 th EAP should be taken at different levels of governance, i.e.	(11) Environment policy being highly decentralised, action to achieve the priority objectives of the 8 th EAP should be taken at different levels of governance, i.e.	(11) Achieving the priority objectives requires appropriate enabling conditions. Environment policy being highly decentralised, action [...] should be taken at	

COMMISSION PROPOSAL	EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT POSITION (Plenary vote 7 July 2021)	COUNCIL POSITION (Mandate for negotiations with EP 17 March 2021)	PRESIDENCY COMPROMISE / SUGGESTIONS
at the European, the national, the regional and the local level, with a collaborative approach to multi-level governance. The integrated approach to policy development and implementation should be strengthened with a view to maximising the synergies between economic , environmental and social objectives, while paying careful attention to potential trade-offs and to the needs of vulnerable groups. Moreover, transparent engagement with non-governmental actors is important for ensuring the success of the 8 th EAP and the achievement of its priority objectives.	at the European, the national, the regional and the local level, with a collaborative approach to multi-level governance. <i>Efficient monitoring, implementation, enforcement and accountability are essential, and effective governance is required in order to ensure coherence between policies.</i> The integrated approach to policy development and implementation should be strengthened with a view to maximising the synergies between environmental, social and economic objectives by systematically evaluating the potential trade-offs between them, as well as systematically evaluating the needs of vulnerable and marginalised groups. <i>This integrated approach should meet the specific needs of all regions, including urban and rural areas and outermost regions.</i> Moreover, <i>access to environmental information, public participation in environmental decision-making, and access to justice, in line with</i>	different levels of governance, i.e. at the European, the national, the regional and the local level, with a collaborative approach to multi-level governance. Implementation and enforcement are particularly important. The integrated approach to policy development and implementation should be strengthened with a view to maximising the synergies between economic, environmental and social objectives, while paying careful attention to potential trade-offs and to the needs of vulnerable groups. Moreover, action by local and regional authorities , transparent engagement with non-governmental actors and participation of the private sector [...] are important for ensuring the success of the 8 th EAP [...].	

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	<i>the Aarhus Convention as well as transparent engagement with and between public authorities at all levels of decision making, non-governmental actors and the broader public are important for ensuring the success of the 8th EAP and the achievement of its priority objectives.</i>		
Amendment 23 Recital 11a (new)			
	<i>(11a) Impact assessments undertaken in the context of the 8th EAP should take into account the full range of immediate and long-term impacts on the environment and climate, including their cumulative effects, as well as the costs of action and inaction, and tools will need to be developed to this effect. Those impact assessments should be based on wide and transparent consultation, and within eight weeks of closure of a public consultation, the Commission should systematically present detailed feedback on stakeholder consultation</i>		

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	<p><i>responses, distinguishing between contributions from different types of stakeholders. Furthermore, impacts assessment should be published immediately upon their completion in order to allow scrutiny by stakeholders, in light of the judgment of the Court of Justice of 4 September 2018 in Case C-57/16 P¹⁰, be sufficiently detailed and include all the information used to inform their conclusions, including socio-economic impacts.</i></p> <p>¹⁰ Judgment of the Court of Justice of 4 September 2018, ClientEarth v Commission, C-57/16 P, ECLI:EU:C:2018:660.</p>		
<p align="center">Amendment 24 Recital 11b (new)</p>			
	<p><i>(11b) Action to achieve the Union's environmental and climate objectives needs to be carried out in conjunction and be compatible with the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights.</i></p>		

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Amendment 25 Recital 11c (new)			
	<p><i>(11c) The United Nations Environment Programme and the OECD Global Forum on Environment have highlighted that environmental changes have gender-specific impact. Gender-differentiated roles also cause differentiated vulnerabilities of women and men to the effects of climate change, and climate change impacts exacerbate gender inequalities. Therefore, a gender perspective on actions and goals related to the achievement of the priority objectives of the 8th EAP, including gender impact assessment of planned actions and a focus on gender mainstreaming and gender-responsive actions, is necessary in order to help ensure that gender inequalities are not perpetuated. The 8th EAP recognises that gender equality is a prerequisite for sustainable development and in terms of achieving the best outcomes when</i></p>		

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	<i>responding to climate and environment challenges.</i>		
<p align="center">Amendment 26 Recital 12</p>			
(12) Enhanced cooperation <i>with partner</i> countries, good global environmental governance <i>as well as synergies between internal and external Union policies</i> are key to <i>reach</i> the Union's environmental and climate objectives.	(12) Enhanced cooperation <i>and green diplomacy with third countries, including developing countries, and supporting</i> good global environmental governance, <i>including promotion of access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters,</i> are key to <i>achieving SDGs as well as</i> the Union's environmental and climate objectives. <i>Ensuring synergies and coherence between all internal and external Union policies, including trade policies and agreements, and adhering to Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development (PCSD) is also essential.</i>		

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Amendment 27 Recital 13			
<p>(13) The European Commission should assess the progress in achieving the priority objectives of the 8th EAP by the Union and the Member States in the context of the transition towards <i>greater</i> sustainability, wellbeing and resilience. This is in line with calls of the Council⁷ and the European Economic and Social Committee⁸ for measuring economic performance and societal progress “beyond GDP”, and moving towards using well-being as a compass for policy, which is also supported by the OECD⁹.</p> <p>⁷ See e.g. https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-10414-2019-INIT/en/pdf</p> <p>⁸ https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/our-work/opinions-information-reports/opinions/reflection-paper-towards-sustainable-europe-2030.</p> <p>⁹ See e.g. the OECD Well-being Framework, the OECD Framework for</p>	<p>(13) The European Commission should assess the progress in achieving the priority objectives of the 8th EAP by the Union and the Member States in the context of the <i>just and inclusive</i> transition towards sustainability, wellbeing and resilience <i>within planetary boundaries</i>. This is in line with calls of the Council¹¹ and the European Economic and Social Committee¹² for measuring economic performance and societal progress “beyond GDP”, and moving towards using well-being as a compass for policy, which is also supported by the OECD¹³.</p> <p>¹¹ See e.g. https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-10414-2019-INIT/en/pdf</p> <p>¹² https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/our-work/opinions-information-reports/opinions/reflection-paper-towards-sustainable-europe-2030.</p> <p>¹³ See e.g. the OECD Well-being Framework, the OECD Framework for</p>	<p>(13) The European Commission should assess the progress in achieving the priority objectives of the 8th EAP by the Union and the Member States in the context of the transition towards [...] sustainability, wellbeing and resilience. This is in line with calls of the Council⁷ and the European Economic and Social Committee⁸ for measuring economic performance and societal progress “beyond GDP”, and moving towards using well-being as a compass for policy, which is also supported by the OECD⁹.</p> <p>⁷ See e.g. https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-10414-2019-INIT/en/pdf</p> <p>⁸ https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/our-work/opinions-information-reports/opinions/reflection-paper-towards-sustainable-europe-2030.</p> <p>⁹ See e.g. the OECD Well-being Framework, the OECD Framework for</p>	

COMMISSION PROPOSAL	EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT POSITION (Plenary vote 7 July 2021)	COUNCIL POSITION (Mandate for negotiations with EP 17 March 2021)	PRESIDENCY COMPROMISE / SUGGESTIONS
Policy Action on Inclusive Growth, the Better Life Initiative and the New Approaches to Economic Challenges Initiative.	Policy Action on Inclusive Growth, the Better Life Initiative and the New Approaches to Economic Challenges Initiative.	Policy Action on Inclusive Growth, the Better Life Initiative and the New Approaches to Economic Challenges Initiative.	
Amendment 28 Recital 14			
(14) The assessment of progress towards the priority objectives of the 8 th EAP should reflect the latest developments as regards the availability and relevance of data and indicators. It should be coherent with and without prejudice to monitoring or governance tools covering more specific aspects of environment and climate policy, such as in particular Regulation 1999/2018 of the European Parliament and of the Council ¹⁰ , the Environmental Implementation Review or monitoring tools relating to circular economy, zero pollution, biodiversity, air, water, soil, waste, or any other environment policies. Together with <i>other</i> tools used in the European Semester, the Eurostat SDG Monitoring and in the Commission's Strategic Foresight Report ¹¹ , <i>it would be</i> part	(14) The assessment of progress towards the priority objectives of the 8 th EAP should reflect the latest developments as regards the availability and relevance of data and indicators <i>and should be based on a distance-to-target methodology that is robust, comprehensive and transparent.</i> It should be coherent with and without prejudice to monitoring or governance tools covering more specific aspects of environment and climate policy, such as in particular Regulation 1999/2018 of the European Parliament and of the Council ¹⁴ , the Environmental Implementation Review or monitoring tools relating to <i>a non-toxic</i> circular economy, zero pollution, biodiversity, air, water, soil, waste, or any other environment <i>and industrial</i>	(14) The assessment of progress towards the priority objectives of the 8 th EAP should reflect the latest developments as regards the availability and relevance of data and indicators. Taking into account a systemic approach , it should be coherent with and [...] build upon monitoring or governance tools covering more specific aspects of environment and climate policy, such as in particular Regulation 1999/2018 of the European Parliament and of the Council ¹⁰ , the Environmental Implementation Review or monitoring tools relating to circular economy, zero pollution ambition , biodiversity, air, water, soil, waste, or any other environment policies. Together with other tools used in the European Semester, the Eurostat SDG Monitoring and in	

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of a coherent interconnected set of monitoring and governance tools.	<p>policies. Together with tools used in the European Semester, the Eurostat SDG Monitoring and in the Commission's Strategic Foresight Report¹⁵, <i>assessment of progress towards the 8th EAP's priority objectives should form part of a larger, coherent and interconnected set of monitoring and governance tools, covering not only environmental but also social and economic factors.</i></p> <p>¹⁰ Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action, <i>OJ L 328, 21.12.2018, p. 1–77.</i></p> <p>¹¹ COM/2020/493 final.</p>	<p>the Commission's Strategic Foresight Report¹¹, it would be part of a coherent interconnected set of monitoring and governance tools.</p> <p>¹⁰ Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action, <i>OJ L 328, 21.12.2018, p. 1–77.</i></p> <p>¹¹ COM/2020/493 final.</p>	
<p align="center">Amendment 29 Recital 14a (new)</p>			
	<p><i>(14a) Further developing the scientific knowledge base on planetary boundaries and environmental footprints, including in relation to relevant indicator sets, is important in view of the 8th EAP's priority objectives, in particular its long-term priority</i></p>		

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	<i>objective.</i>		
<p style="text-align: center;">Amendment 30 Recital 15</p>			
(15) The Commission and the EEA and other relevant agencies should access and re-use the data and indicators provided by the Member States in accordance with applicable Union legal acts. In addition, other data sources, such as satellite data and processed information from the European Earth Monitoring Programme (Copernicus), the European Forest Fire Information System and the European Flood Awareness System, or data platforms such as European Marine Observation and Data Network or the Information Platform for Chemical Monitoring should be utilised. The application of modern digital tools and artificial intelligence allows managing and analysing the data in an effective way and thereby reducing administrative burden whilst increasing timeliness and quality.	(15) <i>Robust and meaningful data and indicators are needed in order to monitor progress towards the achievement of the 8th EAP's priority objectives.</i> The Commission and the EEA and other relevant agencies should access, re-use and build on the data and indicators provided by the Member States in accordance with applicable Union legal acts. In addition, other data sources, such as satellite data and processed information from the European Union's Earth Observation Programme (Copernicus), the European Forest Fire Information System, the Biodiversity Information System, the Land System Parcel Identification System and the European Flood Awareness System, or data platforms such as the European Marine Observation and Data Network or the Information	(15) The Commission and the EEA and other relevant agencies should access and re-use the data and indicators provided by the Member States in accordance with applicable Union legal acts. In addition, other data sources, such as satellite data and processed information from the European Earth [...] Observation Programme (Copernicus), the European Forest Fire Information System and the European Flood Awareness System, or data platforms such as European Marine Observation and Data Network or the Information Platform for Chemical Monitoring should be utilised. The application of modern digital tools and artificial intelligence allows managing and analysing the data in an effective and transparent way and thereby reducing administrative burden whilst increasing timeliness and	

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	Platform for Chemical Monitoring should be utilised. The application of modern digital tools and artificial intelligence allows managing and analysing the data in an effective way and thereby reducing administrative burden whilst increasing timeliness and quality.	quality.	
(16) Furthermore, in accordance with the requirements set out in Directives 2003/4/EC, 2007/2/EC and 2019/1024/EU from the European Parliament and the Council, Member States should ensure that the relevant data, information and indicators for monitoring the implementation of the 8 th EAP are freely available, non-discriminatory, with open access, adequate, of high quality, comparable, up-to-date, user friendly and easily accessible online.			

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Amendment 31 Recital 17			
(17) To reach the priority objectives of the 8 th EAP, the EEA and ECHA should be equipped with adequate capacity and sufficient resources to ensure a sound, accessible and transparent knowledge and evidence base to support the implementation of the strategic priorities of the European Green Deal and the assessment of progress under the programme.	(17) To reach the priority objectives of the 8 th EAP, the EEA and ECHA should be equipped with adequate capacity and sufficient resources to ensure a sound, accessible and transparent knowledge and evidence base to support the implementation of the strategic priorities of the European Green Deal and the assessment of progress under the programme. <i>Where relevant, other bodies and agencies should also be involved and contribute to the implementation of these strategic priorities and to the assessment of progress under the 8th EAP.</i>	(17) To reach the priority objectives of the 8 th EAP, the EEA and ECHA, as well as Member States , should be equipped with adequate capacity and sufficient resources to ensure a sound, accessible and transparent knowledge and evidence base to support the implementation of the strategic priorities of the European Green Deal and the assessment of progress under the programme.	
Amendment 32 Recital 17a (new)			
	<i>(17a) By 31 March 2024, the Commission should carry out a mid-term evaluation of the 8th EAP to assess progress on the 8th EAP and to inform the priorities of the incoming Commission. In light of progress outlined in the mid-term</i>	(17a) As the Commission Communication on the European Green Deal contains a roadmap of key actions relevant for the field of environment and climate in the coming years, this Decision on an 8th EAP exceptionally does	

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	<i>evaluation, the Commission incoming after the 2024 European Parliament elections should present, within the first 100 days of its mandate, a report in which it outlines the environment and climate priorities on which it plans to take action during its mandate and how this action is to ensure the full achievement of the 8th EAP's priority objectives.</i>	not define actions to achieve its priority objectives until 2025. However, there will be a need to do so for the period after the European Green Deal's key actions are expected to have been put in place by 2024 to ensure that the thematic priority objectives set out in this Decision can be achieved and that the 8 th EAP continues to set the overarching vision of the Union's environmental policy. For that purpose, there should be a mid-term review in 2024, followed, at the latest by 31 March 2025, by a legislative proposal adding an annex to this Decision to allow the legislator to complete it with the necessary actions to be taken until 2030. Such a review and legislative proposal should take into account the main findings available from the European Environment Agency's report "The European environment – state and outlook".	

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Amendment 33 Recital 18			
(18) In order to take account of evolving policy objectives and the progress made, the 8 th EAP should be evaluated by the Commission in 2029.	(18) In order to take account of evolving policy objectives and the progress made, the 8 th EAP should be evaluated by the Commission in 2029. <i>The Commission should present a report to the European Parliament and to the Council containing the findings of that evaluation, accompanied, if appropriate, by a legislative proposal for the next environmental action programme. Such a legislative proposal should be presented in a timely manner, with a view to avoiding a gap between the 8th and the 9th EAP.</i>	(18) In order to take account of evolving policy objectives and the progress made, the 8 th EAP should be evaluated by the Commission in 2029. A proposal for a 9th EAP should be presented in a timely manner with a view to avoiding a gap between the 8th and the 9th EAP.	
Amendment 34 Recital 18a (new)			
	<i>(18a) Pursuant to Article 191 TFEU, Union policy on the environment is to aim at a high level of protection taking into account the diversity of situations in the various regions of the Union and is to be based on the precautionary principle and on the</i>	(18a) Pursuant to Article 191(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), Union policy on the environment is to aim at a high level of protection taking into account the diversity of situations in the various regions of the Union, and	

COMMISSION PROPOSAL	EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT POSITION (Plenary vote 7 July 2021)	COUNCIL POSITION (Mandate for negotiations with EP 17 March 2021)	PRESIDENCY COMPROMISE / SUGGESTIONS
	<i>principles that preventive action should be taken, that environmental damage should as a priority be rectified at source, and that the polluter should pay.</i>	is to be based on the precautionary principle and on the principles that preventive action should be taken, that environmental damage should, as a priority, be rectified at source and that the polluter should pay.	
(19) Since the objective of this Decision cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States, but can rather by reason of the scale and effects of the proposed action programme, be better achieved at Union level, the Union may adopt measures, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 of the Treaty on the European Union. In accordance with the principle of proportionality, as set out in that Article, this Decision does not go beyond what is necessary to achieve those objectives.			

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HAVE ADOPTED THIS DECISION:			
Article 1 Subject matter			
Amendment 35 Article 1 - paragraph 1			
1. This <i>decisions</i> sets out a general action programme in the field of the environment for the period up to 31 December 2030 ('8 th EAP'). It lays down its priority objectives, identifies enabling conditions <i>for their</i> achievement <i>and</i> sets a framework to measure <i>whether</i> the Union and its Member States <i>are on track to meet those</i> priority objectives.	1. This <i>Decision</i> sets out a general action programme in the field of the environment for the period up to 31 December 2030 (<i>the '8th Environment Action Programme' or '8th EAP'</i>). It lays down its priority objectives, identifies enabling conditions <i>as well as actions necessary for the achievement of the enabling conditions. It</i> sets a <i>monitoring framework to measure and evaluate progress of</i> the Union and its Member States <i>towards the achievement of the</i> priority objectives. <i>It also establishes a governance mechanism to ensure full achievement of the priority objectives.</i>	1. This Decision sets out a general action programme in the field of the environment for the period up to 31 December 2030 ('the 8th Environment Action programme' or '8th EAP'). It lays down its priority objectives, identifies enabling conditions for their achievement and sets a framework to measure whether the Union and its Member States are on track to meet those priority objectives.	1. This Decision sets out a general action programme in the field of the environment for the period up to 31 December 2030 ('the 8 th Environment Action programme' or '8 th EAP'). It lays down its priority objectives, and identifies enabling conditions necessary for the achievement of the priority objectives. It [...] sets a monitoring framework to measure progress of [...] the Union and its Member States towards the achievement of the [...] priority objectives. It also establishes a governance mechanism to ensure full achievement of the priority objectives.

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Amendment 36 Article 1 - paragraph 2			
2. The 8 th EAP aims at accelerating the transition to a climate-neutral, resource-efficient, <i>clean and</i> circular economy in a just and inclusive way, and <i>endorses the environmental and climate</i> objectives of the European Green Deal and its initiatives.	2. The 8 th EAP aims at accelerating the transition to a climate-neutral, <i>sustainable, non-toxic, resource-efficient, renewable energy-based, resilient and competitive</i> circular economy in a just, <i>equitable</i> and inclusive way, and <i>at protecting, restoring and improving the quality of the environment, including air, water and soil, as well as protecting and restoring biodiversity and ecosystems. It builds on and promotes the achievement of the</i> objectives of the European Green Deal and its initiatives.	2. The 8 th EAP aims at accelerating the green transition [...] in a just and inclusive way and at supporting and strengthening an integrated policy and implementation approach, [...] building upon the European Green Deal [...].	2. The 8 th EAP aims at accelerating the green transition to a climate-neutral, sustainable, non-toxic, resource-efficient, renewable energy-based, resilient and competitive circular economy in a just, equitable and inclusive way and at protecting, restoring and improving the state of the environment including by, inter alia, halting and reversing biodiversity loss. It supports and strengthens an integrated policy and implementation approach, building upon the European Green Deal.
Amendment 37 Article 1 - paragraph 3			
3. The 8 th EAP forms the basis for achieving the environmental and climate objectives defined under the United Nations 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals and its monitoring framework <i>constitutes</i> the environment and climate part of the <i>EU's</i> efforts to	3. The 8 th EAP forms the basis for achieving the environmental and climate objectives defined under the United Nations 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals, <i>as well as the objectives pursued by relevant multilateral environmental and climate</i>	3. The 8 th EAP [...] contributes to achieving the environmental and climate objectives defined under the United Nations 2030 Agenda-and its Sustainable Development Goals, as well as to those pursued by multilateral environmental agreements, such as the Rio	3. The 8 th EAP forms the basis for [...] achieving the environmental and climate objectives defined under the United Nations 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals, as well as [...] those pursued by multilateral environmental

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measure progress towards <i>greater</i> sustainability, <i>including climate neutrality and resource efficiency</i> , wellbeing and resilience.	<i>agreements</i> , and its monitoring framework <i>contributes to</i> the environment and climate part of the <i>Union's</i> efforts to measure progress towards sustainability, wellbeing and resilience.	Conventions and the Paris Agreement. [...] Its monitoring framework shall contribute to [...] the EU's efforts to measure progress towards [...] sustainability, [...] wellbeing and resilience.	agreements [...]. Its monitoring framework shall contribute to the Union's efforts to measure progress towards sustainability, wellbeing and resilience.
			Article 1 – paragraph 4 (new) <i>(moved from Art. 2(3) new)</i>
			4. The 8th EAP shall be based on the precautionary principle, the principles of preventive action and of rectification of pollution at source and the polluter-pays principle.
<i>Article 2</i> <i>Priority objectives</i>			
Amendment 38 Article 2 - paragraph 1			
1. The 8 th EAP <i>has</i> the long-term priority objective <i>for</i> 2050 <i>that citizens</i> live well, within the planetary boundaries in a <i>regenerative</i> economy where nothing is wasted, <i>no net emissions of greenhouse gases are produced and economic</i> growth is <i>decoupled from resource use and</i>	1. The 8 th EAP <i>shall have</i> the long-term priority objective <i>that as soon as possible and by 2050 at the latest, people</i> live well, within the planetary boundaries in a <i>sustainable wellbeing</i> economy where nothing is wasted, growth is <i>regenerative, climate neutrality has been achieved and inequalities</i>	1. The 8 th EAP [...] shall have the long-term priority objective for 2050 that citizens live well, within the planetary boundaries in an economy of wellbeing and a regenerative economy where nothing is wasted, [...] climate neutrality in the EU is achieved and economic growth is decoupled	1. The 8 th EAP shall have the long-term priority objective that by 2050 at the latest, people [...] live well, within the planetary boundaries in a wellbeing economy [...] where nothing is wasted, growth is regenerative , climate neutrality in the EU has been achieved and inequalities have

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<i>environmental degradation</i> . A healthy environment underpins the well-being <i>of citizens</i> , biodiversity <i>thrives</i> and <i>natural capital</i> is protected, restored <i>and valued in ways that enhance</i> resilience to climate change and other environmental risks. The Union sets the pace for ensuring the prosperity of present and future generations globally.	<i>have been minimised</i> . A healthy environment underpins the well-being <i>and health of all people</i> , biodiversity <i>and ecosystems thrive</i> and <i>nature</i> is protected <i>and</i> restored, <i>leading to increased</i> resilience to climate change, <i>natural disasters</i> and other environmental risks. The Union sets the pace for ensuring the prosperity of present and future generations globally <i>in line with intergenerational responsibility</i> .	from resource use and environmental degradation. A healthy environment underpins the well-being of citizens, biodiversity thrives and natural capital is protected, restored and valued in ways that enhance resilience to climate change and other environmental risks. The Union sets the pace for ensuring the prosperity of present and future generations globally.	been reduced [...] . A healthy environment underpins the well-being of all people [...] , biodiversity is conserved and ecosystems thrive and nature [...] is protected and restored [...], leading to increased resilience to climate change, weather and climate-related disasters and other environmental risks. The Union sets the pace for ensuring the prosperity of present and future generations globally, guided by intergenerational responsibility .
Amendment 39 Article 2 - paragraph 2 - introductory part			
2. The 8 th EAP <i>has</i> the following six thematic priority objectives:	2. The 8 th EAP <i>shall have</i> the following six <i>interlinked</i> thematic priority objectives, <i>to be achieved by 2030 at the latest</i> :	2. The 8 th EAP [...] shall have the following six thematic priority objectives:	2. The 8 th EAP shall have the following six interlinked thematic priority objectives:

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Amendment 40 Article 2 - paragraph 2 - point a			
(a) <i>irreversible</i> and <i>gradual</i> reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and enhancement of removals by natural <i>and other</i> sinks in the Union to attain the 2030 greenhouse gas emission reduction target <i>and achieve climate neutrality by 2050</i> as laid down in Regulation (EU) .../... ¹² ; ¹² COM/2020/80 final.	(a) <i>swift</i> and <i>predictable</i> reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and, <i>at the same time</i> , enhancement of removals by natural sinks in the Union, to attain the 2030 greenhouse gas emission reduction target as laid down in Regulation (EU) 2021/... ¹⁶ , <i>in line with its climate and environment objectives whilst ensuring a just transition that leaves no one behind</i> ; ¹⁶ COM/2020/80 final.		(a) swift and predictable [...] reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and, at the same time , enhancement of removals by natural [...] sinks in the Union to attain the 2030 greenhouse gas emission reduction target [...] as laid down in Regulation (EU) 2021/1119 ¹² , in line with the Union's climate and environment objectives whilst ensuring a just transition that leaves no one behind ; ¹² OJ L 243, 9.7.2021, p. 1–17
Amendment 41 Article 2 - paragraph 2 - point b			
(b) continuous progress in enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change;	(b) continuous progress in enhancing <i>and mainstreaming</i> adaptive capacity, <i>including on the basis of ecosystem approaches</i> , strengthening resilience <i>and adaptation</i> and reducing vulnerability <i>of the environment and of society as well as all sectors of the economy</i> to climate change,		(b) continuous progress in enhancing and mainstreaming adaptive capacity, including on the basis of ecosystem approaches , strengthening resilience and adaptation and reducing vulnerability of the environment and of society as well as all sectors of the economy to climate

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	<i>while improving prevention of, and preparedness for, natural disasters;</i>		change, while improving prevention of, and preparedness for, weather- and climate-related disasters;
<p style="text-align: center;">Amendment 42 Article 2 - paragraph 2 - point c</p>			
(c) advancing towards a <i>regenerative growth model</i> that gives back to the planet more than it takes, <i>decoupling economic growth from resource use and environmental degradation</i> , and <i>accelerating</i> the transition to a circular economy;	(c) advancing towards a <i>sustainable well-being economy</i> that gives back to the planet more than it takes, and <i>ensuring</i> the transition to a <i>non-toxic</i> circular economy <i>where growth is regenerative and resources are used efficiently in line with the waste hierarchy</i> ;	(c) advancing towards an economy of wellbeing and a regenerative growth model that gives back to the planet more than it takes, decoupling economic growth from resource use and environmental degradation, and accelerating the transition to a circular economy, through a more efficient use of resources and by applying the waste hierarchy ;	(c) advancing towards a wellbeing economy [...] that gives back to the planet more than it takes, [...] and accelerating the transition to a non-toxic circular economy, where growth is regenerative , [...] resources are used efficiently and sustainably , and [...] the waste hierarchy is applied ;

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Amendment 43 Article 2 - paragraph 2 - point d			
(d) pursuing <i>a</i> zero-pollution ambition for a toxic free-environment, including for air, water <i>and</i> soil, and protecting the health and well-being of <i>citizens</i> from environment-related risks and impacts;	(d) pursuing zero-pollution <i>in order to achieve</i> a toxic-free environment, including for air, water, soil <i>as well as in relation to light and noise pollution</i> , and protecting the health and well-being of <i>people, animals and ecosystems</i> from environment-related risks and impacts, <i>including by applying and promoting the ‘One Health’ approach</i> ;	(d) pursuing a zero-pollution ambition for a toxic free-environment, including for air, water and soil, and protecting the health and well-being of citizens from harmful chemicals and other environment-related risks and negative impacts;	(d) pursuing zero-pollution [...], including in relation to harmful chemicals, in order to achieve a toxic free-environment, including for air, water and soil, as well as in relation to light and noise pollution , and protecting the health and well-being of people, animals and ecosystems [...] from [...] environment-related risks and negative impacts;
Amendment 44 Article 2 - paragraph 2 - point e			
(e) protecting, preserving and restoring biodiversity <i>and enhancing natural capital</i> , notably air, water, soil, <i>and forest, freshwater, wetland and</i> marine ecosystems;	(e) protecting, preserving and restoring biodiversity, <i>including by halting and reversing its loss both inside and outside protected areas, and improving the health of the environment</i> , notably air, water <i>and</i> soil, <i>as well as tackling the degradation of</i> marine <i>and terrestrial</i> ecosystems, <i>in particular by implementing the targets outlined in the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 as well as those laid down in relevant</i>	(e) protecting, preserving, sustainably using and restoring biodiversity and ecosystem services , [...] enhancing natural capital, notably air, water, soil, and forest, freshwater, wetland and marine ecosystems, as well as combating desertification and soil degradation ;	(e) protecting, preserving [...] and restoring marine, terrestrial and inland waters biodiversity inside and outside protected areas by, inter alia, halting and reversing its loss and improving the state of ecosystems and their functions and the services they provide, and the environment, in particular [...] air, water, and soil, as well as combating desertification and soil degradation, in particular by implementing the biodiversity

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	<i>Union legislation;</i>		targets set out in Union law;
Amendment 45 Article 2 - paragraph 2 - point f			
(f) <i>promoting</i> environmental sustainability and reducing key environmental and climate pressures related to production and consumption, in particular in the areas of energy, industrial development, buildings and infrastructure, mobility and the food system.	(f) <i>ensuring</i> environmental sustainability, and significantly reducing key environmental and climate pressures related to the Union's production and consumption footprint, including Union-driven global deforestation, in particular in the areas of energy, industrial development, buildings and infrastructure, mobility, tourism, international trade and food chains, including agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture, while internalising climate and environmental externalities;	(f) promoting environmental aspects of sustainability and reducing key environmental and climate pressures related to production and consumption, in particular in the areas of energy, [...] industry, buildings and infrastructure, mobility, tourism and the food system.	(f) promoting environmental aspects of sustainability and significantly reducing key environmental and climate pressures related to the Union's production and consumption footprint, in particular in the areas of energy, industry, buildings and infrastructure, mobility, tourism, international trade and the food system.
Amendment 46 Article 2 - paragraph 2a (new)			
	2a. The thematic priority objectives laid down in paragraph 2 shall be understood as covering the objectives, targets and actions set out in the European Green Deal strategies and initiatives as well as the targets in Union legislation that contribute to the		

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	<i>achievement of these objectives. Those objectives, targets and actions shall be taken into account when developing the monitoring framework for assessing progress towards the priority objectives of the 8th EAP.</i>		
Article 2 - paragraph 3 (new)			
		3. The 8th EAP shall be based on the precautionary principle, the principles of preventive action and of rectification of pollution at source and the polluter-pays principle.	<i>(moved to Art. 1(4) new)</i>
Article 3 <i>Enabling conditions to achieve this programme's priority objectives</i>			
Amendment 47 Article 3 - title			
Enabling conditions to achieve this programme's priority objectives	Enabling conditions to achieve this programme's priority objectives <i>and actions necessary to implement these enabling conditions</i>		

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Article 3 - paragraph 1 - introductory part			
1. Achieving the priority objectives of the 8 th EAP will require:		1. Achieving the priority objectives of the 8 th EAP [...] shall require from the European Commission, the Member States, local and regional authorities and stakeholders, as appropriate:	
Amendment 48			
Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point a			
(a) ensuring effective and efficient implementation of Union legislation on environment and climate and striving for excellence in environmental performance at Union, national, regional and local levels including through providing appropriate administrative and compliance assurance capacity, as laid out in the regular Environmental Implementation Review, as well as stepping up action against environmental crime,	(a) ensuring effective, swift and full implementation of Union legislation on environment and climate and striving for excellence in environmental performance at Union, national, regional and local levels including through providing additional and sufficient administrative and compliance assurance capacity, as laid out in the regular Environmental Implementation Review,	(a) ensuring effective and efficient implementation of Union legislation and strategies on environment and climate and striving for excellence in environmental performance at Union, national, regional and local levels including through providing appropriate administrative and compliance assurance capacity, as laid out in the regular Environmental Implementation Review, supporting and cooperating with networks of practitioners, such as for example the IMPEL network¹³, the ENPE¹⁴ and the EUFJE¹⁵, as well as stepping up action against environmental crime,	

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		¹³ European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law. ¹⁴ European Network of Prosecutors for the Environment. ¹⁵ European Union Forum of Judges for the Environment.	
Amendment 49 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point aa (new)			
	<i>(aa) improving guidance and recommendations, and ensuring effective, dissuasive and proportionate penalties, including fines, to reduce risks of non- compliance with environmental law, including in relation to wildlife trafficking, waste crime and illegal logging, as well as stepping up action in the area of environmental liability and responses to non-compliance and strengthening prosecutorial and judicial cooperation in the area of, and law enforcement against, environmental crime as laid down in relevant Union legislation, such as Directive 2008/99/EC of the European Parliament and of the</i>		

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	<p><i>Council¹⁷, as well as provisions falling under the scope of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption;</i></p> <p>¹⁷ Directive 2008/99/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 on the protection of the environment through criminal law (OJ L 328, 6.12.2008, p. 28).</p>		
<p align="center">Amendment 50 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point ab (new)</p>			
	<p><i>(ab) prioritising enforcement of Union environmental law where implementation is lacking, with swift and systematic follow-up of infringement proceedings, including by ensuring that sufficient financial and human resources are allocated at both Union and Member State level for this purpose;</i></p>		
(b) strengthening the integrated approach to policy development and implementation, in particular by:			

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Amendment 51 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point b - indent 1			
- mainstreaming the priority objectives set out in Article 2 in all relevant strategies, legislative and non-legislative initiatives, programmes, investments and projects at Union, national, regional and local levels <i>so that they</i> and their implementation <i>do no harm to any of</i> the priority objectives set out in Article 2;	- mainstreaming the priority objectives set out in Article 2 <i>as well as the SDGs</i> in all relevant strategies, legislative and non-legislative initiatives, programmes, investments and projects at Union, national, regional and local levels <i>as well as in relevant international agreements concluded by the Union, in order to ensure that these strategies, legislative and non-legislative initiatives, programmes, investments, projects and agreements</i> and their implementation <i>contribute, where relevant, to</i> the priority objectives set out in Article 2(1) and (2), and <i>do no harm, including in line with Article 17 of the Taxonomy Regulation</i> ;		- mainstreaming the priority objectives set out in Article 2 in all relevant strategies, legislative and non-legislative initiatives, programmes, investments and projects at Union, national, regional and local levels as well as in relevant international agreements to be concluded by the Union, in order to ensure that these strategies, legislative and non-legislative initiatives, programmes, investments, projects and international agreements [...] and their implementation contribute to, where appropriate, and do no harm to any of the priority objectives set out in Article 2(1) and (2);
Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point b - indent 2			
- maximising the benefits from implementing the Directives 2014/52/EU ¹³ and 2001/42/EC ¹⁴ of the European Parliament and of the Council;		- maximising the benefits from implementing the Directives [...] ¹⁶ 2011/92/EU ¹⁷ and 2001/42/EC ¹⁸ of the European Parliament and of the Council;	

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<p>¹³ Directive 2014/52/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 amending Directive 2011/92/EU on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment Text with EEA relevance, OJ L 124, 25.4.2014, p. 1–18.</p> <p>¹⁴ Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment, OJ L 197, 21.7.2001 .</p>		<p>¹⁶ [...]</p> <p>¹⁷ Directive 2011/92/EU on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment Text with EEA relevance, OJ L 124, 25.4.2014, p. 1–18, as amended.</p> <p>¹⁸ Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment, OJ L 197, 21.7.2001.</p>	

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Amendment 52 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point b - indent 3			
- <i>paying careful attention to</i> synergies and potential trade-offs between <i>economic</i> , environmental <i>and</i> social objectives so as to ensure that <i>citizens' needs for nutrition</i> , housing and mobility are <i>met</i> in a sustainable way that leaves no-one behind;	- <i>systematically and comprehensively evaluating</i> synergies and potential trade-offs between environmental, social <i>and economic</i> objectives <i>for all initiatives</i> so as to ensure that <i>wellbeing, and, in particular, people's right to, and need for, a healthy environment, and affordable high-quality, accessible water, food, housing, energy, healthcare</i> and mobility are <i>ensured</i> in a sustainable way that leaves no-one behind;	- [...] optimising synergies and potential trade-offs between economic, environmental and social objectives, namely by ensuring a sustainable urban development , so as to ensure that citizens' needs for healthy nutrition, [...], water and air quality, energy, housing and green infrastructures and mobility are met in a sustainable way that leaves no-one behind;	
Amendment 53 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point b - indent 3a (new)			
	- <i>adopting a 'think sustainability first' approach in the Better Regulation guidelines and toolbox, including by integrating and operationalising the principle of 'do no significant harm' as referred to in Article 17 of the Taxonomy Regulation;</i>		- adopting a 'think sustainability first' approach and streamlining the 'do no harm' principle in the Better Regulation guidelines and toolbox;

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<p align="center">Amendment 54 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point b - indent 3b (new)</p>			
	<p>- <i>ensuring the consistency of Union measures and policies, including sectoral legislation, the Union's external action, and the Union budget as well as national or regional plans relating to the implementation of Union legislation submitted by Member States to the Commission, with the priority objectives set out in Article 2(1) and (2);</i></p>		
<p align="center">Amendment 55 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point b - indent 4</p>			
<p>- regularly evaluating existing policies and preparing impact assessments for new initiatives, which are based on wide consultations following procedures that are accountable, inclusive, informed and simple to implement, and which <i>pay due regard to projected</i> impacts on environment and climate;</p>	<p>- regularly evaluating existing policies and preparing <i>comprehensive</i> impact assessments for new initiatives, which are based on wide <i>and transparent</i> consultations following procedures that are accountable, inclusive, informed and simple to implement, and which <i>take into account the full range of immediate and long-term</i> impacts on <i>the</i> environment and climate, <i>including their cumulative effects, as well as the</i></p>	<p>- regularly evaluating existing policies and proposing new legislation where appropriate, based on [...] impact assessments [...] building upon wide consultations following procedures that are accountable, inclusive, informed and simple to implement, and which pay due regard to projected impacts on environment and climate;</p>	

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	<i>costs of action and inaction;</i>		
Amendment 56 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point c			
(c) effectively integrating environmental <i>and climate sustainability</i> in the European Semester of economic governance, including in the National Reform Programmes and National Recovery and Resilience plans;	(c) effectively integrating <i>the SDGs as well as climate, environmental, including biodiversity, and social objectives</i> in the European Semester of economic governance, <i>without prejudice to its original purpose</i> , including in the <i>country-specific recommendations</i> , National Reform Programmes and National Recovery and Resilience plans <i>in order to provide Member States with analysis and additional indicators</i> ;		
Amendment 57 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point ca (new)			
	(ca) <i>establishing an overarching Union framework to measure and establish progress towards a sustainable wellbeing economy that is in line with the SDGs, the Paris Agreement and the UN Convention on Biological Diversity, without prejudice to the European Semester, and that helps</i>		

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	<i>guide the development and coordination of new and existing policies and initiatives, whilst integrating the transition to a sustainable wellbeing economy where growth is regenerative into the Union's political priorities and annual programming as well as in the Better Regulation guidelines and toolbox;</i>		
<p style="text-align: center;">Amendment 58 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point d</p>			
(d) mobilising sustainable investments from public and private sources, including of funds and instruments available under the Union budget, via the European Investment Bank and at national level;	(d) mobilising and ensuring sufficient sustainable investments from public and private sources, including of funds and instruments available under the Union budget, via the European Investment Bank and at national level, consistent with the Union's sustainable finance strategy, including measures laid down in the Taxonomy Regulation and its principle of "do no significant harm", and given the potential of these measures to create jobs, ensure the Union's long-term competitiveness, and increase the	(d) mobilising resources and sustainable investments from public and private sources, including of funds and instruments available under the Union budget, via the European Investment Bank and at national level, consistent with the Union's sustainable finance policy agenda;	(d) mobilising resources and ensuring sufficient sustainable investments from public and private sources, including of funds and instruments available under the Union budget, via the European Investment Bank and at national level, consistent with the Union's sustainable finance[...] strategy;

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	<i>resilience of the Union's economy and society;</i>		
Amendment 59 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point e			
(e) phasing out <i>environmentally harmful</i> subsidies at Union and national level, <i>making the best use of market-based instruments and green budgeting tools, including those required to ensure a socially fair transition, and supporting businesses and other stakeholders in developing standardised natural capital accounting practices;</i>	(e) phasing out <i>all direct and indirect fossil fuel</i> subsidies at Union, national, <i>regional and local</i> level <i>without delay and by 2025 at the latest;</i>	(e) strengthening environmentally positive incentives as well as phasing out environmentally harmful subsidies at Union and national level, making the best use of market-based instruments and green budgeting tools, including those required to ensure a socially fair transition, and supporting businesses and other stakeholders in developing standardised natural capital accounting practices;	(e) strengthening environmentally positive incentives as well as identifying and phasing out environmentally harmful subsidies, in particular fossil fuel subsidies , at Union, national, regional and local level; [...]
Amendment 60 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point ea (new)			
	<i>(ea) phasing out all direct and indirect environmentally harmful subsidies other than fossil fuel subsidies, at Union, national, regional and local level without delay and by 2027 at the latest;</i>		

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<p align="center">Amendment 61 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point eb (new)</p>			
	<i>(eb) making the best use of environmental taxation and market-based instruments, as well as green budgeting and financing tools and environmentally positive incentives, including those required to ensure a socially fair transition, and supporting businesses and other stakeholders in applying standardised natural capital accounting practices provided this does not replace targets and measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions or to protect biodiversity;</i>		<i>(moved from Article 3(1)e)</i> (eb) making the best use of environmental taxation , market-based instruments and green budgeting and financing tools, including those required to ensure a socially fair transition, and supporting businesses and other stakeholders in developing and applying standardised natural capital accounting practices;
<p align="center">Amendment 62 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point ec (new)</p>			
	<i>(ec) investing into biodiversity protection and restoration in line with the minimum annual spending targets agreed through the 2021-2027 MFF (7,5 % in 2024, and 10 % in 2026 and 2027), with the intention to progressively increase these targets under the subsequent MFF, and in line with</i>		(ec) investing into biodiversity conservation and restoration with a view to working towards the ambition of providing funding to biodiversity objectives in accordance with the principles laid down in the Interinstitutional Agreement of 16 December 2020;

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	<i>the funding objectives in the 2030 EU Biodiversity Strategy, tracked by way of a robust, transparent and comprehensive methodology taking into account the Union's taxonomy criteria;</i>		
Amendment 63 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point ed (new)			
	<i>(ed) ensuring effective climate and biodiversity mainstreaming and proofing of Union and national budgets as well as consistency between climate and biodiversity funding;</i>		
Amendment 64 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point ee (new)			
	<i>(ee) ensuring that actions taken to achieve the priority objectives of the 8th EAP are carried out in a socially fair and inclusive way, contributing to the European Pillar of Social Rights and effectively addressing and reducing social inequalities, including gender inequality, potentially resulting from climate and environmental related impacts and policies;</i>		

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Amendment 65 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point ef (new)			
	<i>(ef) mainstreaming gender throughout the 8th EAP, including by carrying out gender impact assessments and gender-responsive actions;</i>		
Amendment 66 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point f			
(f) ensuring that environmental policies and action are based on the best available scientific knowledge and strengthening the environmental knowledge base and its uptake, including by research, innovation, fostering green skills, and further building up environmental and ecosystem accounting;	(f) ensuring that environmental policies and action at Union, national, regional and local level , are based on the best available scientific knowledge and technologies and strengthening the environmental knowledge base, including indigenous and local knowledge , and its uptake, including by research, innovation fostering green skills, training and retraining , and further building up environmental and ecosystem accounting;		

COMMISSION PROPOSAL	EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT POSITION (Plenary vote 7 July 2021)	COUNCIL POSITION (Mandate for negotiations with EP 17 March 2021)	PRESIDENCY COMPROMISE / SUGGESTIONS
Amendment 67 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point fa (new)			
	<i>(fa) building up the scientific knowledge base on the capacity of different ecosystems to act as sinks and stocks for greenhouse gases;</i>		
Amendment 68 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point fb (new)			
	<i>(fb) building up the knowledge base on the requirements for systemic change, including on how to identify, measure and evaluate the effects of, inter alia, tipping points, feedback loops, lock-ins, interdependencies and barriers to fundamental change in environmental and socio-economic systems and how to shift from a silo- and sector-based policy focus to a systemic approach to policy coherence, as well as on how to prevent or alleviate any adverse social, economic and environmental impacts;</i>		

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<p align="center">Amendment 69 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point fc (new)</p>			
	<p><i>(fc) closing gaps in, and optimising, relevant indicator sets relating to, inter alia, systemic change, planetary boundaries, the Union's environmental footprint, including in relation to production and consumption systems, governance, sustainable finance and inequalities, and ensuring that those indicator sets are comparable at all levels of policy making;</i></p>		
<p align="center">Amendment 70 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point fd (new)</p>			
	<p><i>(fd) ensuring the full participation of, and cooperation with, regional and local authorities across all dimensions of environmental policy-making through a collaborative and multi-level approach and ensuring that local and regional communities have adequate resources for implementation on the ground;</i></p>		

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Amendment 71 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point fe (new)			
	<i>(fe) strengthening cooperation between all Union institutions on climate and environment policy, including between the Commission and the Committee of the Regions in the framework of the Technical Platform for Cooperation on the Environment, and exploring how to improve dialogue and information pooling;</i>		
Amendment 72 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point ff (new)			
	<i>(ff) fully respecting, and ensuring application of, the precautionary principle, as well as the principles that preventive action should be taken, that environmental damage should, as a priority, be rectified at source and that the polluter should pay, pursuant to Article 191 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union;</i>		

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Amendment 73 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point fg (new)			
	<i>(fg) addressing land degradation and establishing a Union-wide legal framework for the protection and sustainable use of soil, which includes harmonised indicators and a monitoring and reporting methodology;</i>		
Amendment 74 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point fh (new)			
	<i>(fh) transforming the food system, including via the common agricultural policy, to bring it in line with the 8th EAP's priority objectives, so that it contributes, inter alia, to protecting and restoring biodiversity, in and outside the Union, minimises chemical, antibiotic and fossil-fuel based inputs, and ensures a high level of animal welfare whilst ensuring a just transition for affected stakeholders;</i>		

COMMISSION PROPOSAL	EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT POSITION (Plenary vote 7 July 2021)	COUNCIL POSITION (Mandate for negotiations with EP 17 March 2021)	PRESIDENCY COMPROMISE / SUGGESTIONS
Amendment 75 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point fi (new)			
	<i>(fi) promoting the global phase out of pesticides which are not approved in the Union and committing to ensure that pesticides which are not approved for use in the Union are not exported outside the Union in order to ensure a level playing field and consistency between the Union's internal and external policies;</i>		
Amendment 76 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point fj (new)			
	<i>(fj) rapidly substituting substances of very high concern and other hazardous chemicals, including endocrine disruptors, very persistent chemicals, neurotoxicants and immunotoxicants, as well as tackling the combination effects of chemicals, nano-forms of substances and exposure to hazardous chemicals from products, assessing their impacts on health and the environment , including climate,</i>		

COMMISSION PROPOSAL	EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT POSITION (Plenary vote 7 July 2021)	COUNCIL POSITION (Mandate for negotiations with EP 17 March 2021)	PRESIDENCY COMPROMISE / SUGGESTIONS
	<i>and biodiversity, whilst promoting greater use and affordability of safe alternatives and stepping up and coordinating efforts to promote the development and validation of alternatives to animal testing;</i>		
<p style="text-align: center;">Amendment 77 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point g</p>			
(g) harnessing the potential of digital and data technologies to support environment policy while <i>minimising their</i> environmental footprint;	(g) harnessing the potential of digital and data technologies to support environment policy, <i>including by delivering real-time data and information on the state of ecosystems</i> , while <i>increasing efforts to minimise the</i> environmental footprint <i>of these technologies, and ensuring transparency and public accessibility of the data and information;</i>		

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Amendment 78 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point ga (new)			
	<i>(ga) holistically recognising the interconnections between human health, animal health and the environment through full integration of the ‘One Health’ approach in policy making;</i>		
Amendment 79 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point gb (new)			
	<i>(gb) recognising the right to a healthy environment in the Charter of the Fundamental Rights of the European Union and promoting a similar right internationally;</i>		
Amendment 80 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point h			
(h) making full use of nature based solutions <i>and social innovation;</i>	(h) making full use of <i>ecosystem approaches and green infrastructure, including</i> nature based solutions <i>(NBS), whilst:</i>	(h) making full use of biodiversity-friendly nature based solutions and social innovation;	

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<p align="center">Amendment 81 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point h - indent 1 (new)</p>			
	<p><i>- maximising connectivity between ecosystems and restoration benefits and building on synergies between biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation;</i></p>		
<p align="center">Amendment 82 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point h - indent 2 (new)</p>			
	<p><i>- ensuring that their implementation enhances ecosystem services and functions, does not compromise biodiversity and ecosystem integrity, does not replace or undermine measures taken to protect biodiversity or rapidly reduce greenhouse gas emissions within the Union, respects the precautionary principle, has clear societal co-benefits, and ensures full engagement with, and consent of, affected indigenous people and local communities;</i></p>		

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Amendment 83 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point h - indent 3 (new)			
	<i>- further developing monitoring methods, evaluation tools and measurable indicators for NBS as well as developing a list of excluded activities;</i>		
Amendment 84 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point h - indent 4 (new)			
	<i>- ensuring that where NBS are financed by biodiversity offsetting mechanisms, these mechanisms are appropriately implemented, monitored, evaluated and enforced and take full account of direct, indirect and cumulative impacts, geographically and over time whilst also strictly adhering to a mitigation hierarchy ensuring that, inter alia, biodiversity offsets can only be used as a measure of last resort;</i>		

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Amendment 85 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point h - indent 5 (new)			
	<i>- ensuring that where biodiversity offsetting mechanisms are used to finance NBS, information about these mechanisms is made publicly available online;</i>		
Amendment 86 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point h - indent 6 (new)			
	<i>- making full use of social innovation and community led action to enable individuals, communities and SMEs to take action towards the achievement of the 8th EAP's priority objectives;</i>		
Amendment 87 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point i			
(i) effectively applying high standards for transparency, public participation and access to justice in accordance with the Convention on access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters (Aarhus Convention) ¹⁵ ;	(i) effectively applying high standards for transparency, public participation and access to justice in accordance with the Convention on access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters (Aarhus Convention) ¹⁸ both at Union and Member State level;		

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15 https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/en/pp/documents/cep43e.pdf	18 https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/en/pp/documents/cep43e.pdf		
Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point j			
(j) making the data and evidence linked to the implementation of the 8 th EAP publicly available and easily accessible, without prejudice to provisions on confidentiality in domain specific legislation;		(j) making the data and evidence linked to the implementation of the 8 th EAP publicly available, [...] easily accessible and comprehensible , without prejudice to provisions on confidentiality in domain specific legislation;	
Amendment 88 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point ja (new)			
	<i>(ja) promoting communication activities at Union, national, regional and local level, aimed at raising awareness about the importance of the 8th EAP's priority objectives, and at enabling debate at all levels of governance and society;</i>		
Amendment 89 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point jb (new)			
	<i>(jb) significantly decreasing the Union's material and consumption footprints to bring them into planetary boundaries as soon as</i>		(jb) significantly decreasing the Union's material and consumption footprints to bring them into planetary boundaries

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	<i>possible, including through the introduction of binding Union targets for significantly reducing the Union's material and consumption footprints as well as binding mid-term and long-term targets for the reduction in the use of primary raw materials;</i>		as soon as possible;
(k) supporting the global uptake of the priority objectives laid down in Article 2, ensuring coherence between internal and external approaches and coordinated action, in particular as regards:			
<p style="text-align: center;">Amendment 90 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point k - indent 1</p>			
- engaging with <i>partner</i> countries on climate and environmental action, encouraging and supporting them to adopt and implement rules in these areas that are as ambitious as those of the Union, and ensuring that all products placed on the Union market fully comply with relevant Union requirements in line with the Union's international commitments;	- engaging with <i>third</i> countries on climate and environmental action, encouraging and supporting them to adopt and implement rules in these areas that are <i>at least</i> as ambitious as those of the Union, and ensuring that all products placed on the Union market <i>or exported from the Union</i> fully comply with relevant Union requirements in line with the Union's international commitments;	- engaging with partner countries on climate and environmental action, encouraging and supporting them to adopt and implement rules in these areas that are as ambitious as those of the Union, and ensuring that all products placed on the Union market or exported from the Union fully comply with relevant Union requirements in line with the Union's international commitments,	

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		especially with regard to halting deforestation and land degradation;	
Amendment 91 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point k - indent 1a (new)			
	- <i>promoting sustainable corporate governance and establishing mandatory due diligence requirements at Union level, and taking these requirements into account in the conduct of Union trade policy, including in relation to the ratification of trade and investment agreements;</i>		
Amendment 92 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point k - indent 2			
- enhancing cooperation with governments, businesses and civil society in third countries and international organisations to form partnerships and alliances for environment protection and promoting environmental cooperation <i>in G7 and G20</i> ;	- enhancing cooperation with governments, businesses, <i>social partners</i> and civil society in third countries and international organisations to form partnerships and alliances for environment protection and promoting environmental cooperation;	- enhancing cooperation with governments, businesses and civil society in third countries and international organisations to form partnerships and alliances for environment and climate protection and promoting [...] cooperation on environment and climate change in G7 and G20;	

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Amendment 93 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point k - indent 3			
- <i>strengthening the implementation of</i> the Paris Agreement, the Convention on Biological Diversity and other multilateral environmental agreements <i>by the Union and its partners</i> , including by increasing transparency and accountability as regards progress on the commitments made under those agreements;	- <i>demonstrating leadership in international fora by, inter alia, achievement by the Union of the SDGs as well as the objectives laid down in</i> the Paris Agreement, the Convention on Biological Diversity and other multilateral environmental agreements <i>and supporting third countries to do the same</i> , including by increasing transparency and accountability as regards progress on the commitments made under those agreements;	- strengthening the implementation of the Paris Agreement, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention to Combat Desertification and other multilateral environmental agreements by the Union and its partners, including by increasing transparency and accountability as regards progress on the commitments made under those agreements;	
- strengthening international environmental governance by closing remaining gaps and strengthening respect for and application of recognised international environmental principles;			

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Amendment 94 Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point k - indent 5			
- ensuring that the Union and the Member States' financial assistance to third countries promotes the UN 2030 Agenda.	- ensuring that the Union and the Member States' financial assistance to third countries promotes the UN 2030 Agenda, <i>the Paris Agreement and the post-2020 global framework of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity and is in line with the priority objectives of the 8th EAP.</i>		
Article 3 - paragraph 1 - point l (new)			
		l) strengthening the capacity of citizens to act, through awareness raising, lifelong environmental education and civic involvement.	

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<p align="center">Amendment 95 Article 3 - paragraph 1a (new)</p>			
	<i>1a. In order to achieve the enabling conditions set out in paragraph 1, the Commission shall take the following actions:</i>		
	<i>(a) improve and expand on, by 30 June 2022, and subsequently keep updated, its existing public database on infringement decisions so that steps taken by Member States and by the Commission in relation to all infringement proceedings in the field of environment and climate may be tracked in a clear, understandable and accessible way;</i>		
	<i>(b) regularly assess the consistency of Union measures and policies with the priority objectives set out in Article 2(1) and (2) and carry out such assessments for draft and existing Union measures and policies; where inconsistencies are identified, the draft measure or policy shall be aligned with these</i>		

COMMISSION PROPOSAL	EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT POSITION (Plenary vote 7 July 2021)	COUNCIL POSITION (Mandate for negotiations with EP 17 March 2021)	PRESIDENCY COMPROMISE / SUGGESTIONS
	<i>priority objectives before publication or, in the case of existing Union measures and policies, the necessary remedying measures proposed;</i>		
	<i>(c) develop tools to assess the long-term impacts on the environment and climate, including cumulative effects, of draft and existing measures and policies, as well as their possible impacts on social inequalities, including gender inequality, and the cost of inaction;</i>		
	<i>(d) within eight weeks of closure of a public consultation, systematically present detailed feedback on stakeholder consultation responses, distinguishing between contributions from different types of stakeholders;</i>		
	<i>(e) publish impact assessments immediately upon their completion, including all the information used to inform their conclusion;</i>		

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	<i>(f) develop an indicator to assess the discrepancy between the structure of Member States' budgets and the Paris-aligned scenario for each of their national budgets, thereby enabling recommendations to Member States on the climate investments required in order for them to meet, and stay on, the required trajectory to ensure achievement of the Paris Agreement and related 8th EAP priority objectives;</i>		
	<i>(g) present, by 30 June 2022, a report in which it identifies the interlinkages between the various indicator sets, monitoring frameworks and processes in use at Union level that measure social, economic and environmental progress and which highlights how these can be streamlined; on this basis, the Commission shall, by 30 June 2023, in consultation with the European Parliament and the Council, develop a comprehensive set of 'beyond GDP' indicators to guide and inform future policy</i>		

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	<i>making, without prejudice to the European Semester;</i>		
<p align="center">Amendment 96 Article 3 - paragraph 1b (new)</p>			
	<p><i>1b. In order to achieve the enabling condition set out in point (ea) of paragraph 1, the Commission shall, by December 2022, and on the basis of ongoing work, assess which subsidies are harmful to the environment and produce guidance materials for identifying such subsidies at Union, national, regional and local level as well as possible pathways for their phasing out. Member States shall compile information annually on the existence of subsidies at national, regional and local level, as well as measures they are taking to phase them out. Member States shall transmit that information annually to the Commission. The Commission shall compile the information into a report, broken down by Member State, to be published no later than 6 months</i></p>		

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	<i>after the end of the reference year, with the first reference year being 2023. The Commission shall present the report on an annual basis to the European Parliament.</i>		
Amendment 97 Article 3 - paragraph 2			
2. Reaching the 8th EAP's priority objectives will require mobilising broad support by involving citizens, social partners and other stakeholders, and encouraging cooperation in the development and implementation of strategies, policies or legislation related to the 8 th EAP amongst national, regional and local authorities, in urban and rural areas.	2. Public authorities at all levels shall work with businesses, in particular SMEs, and social partners, civil society, citizens, communities and other stakeholders in implementing the 8th EAP. Achieving the 8th EAP's priority objectives will require mobilising broad support by involving citizens, social partners and other stakeholders, and encouraging cooperation in the development and implementation of strategies, policies or legislation related to the 8 th EAP amongst national, regional and local authorities, in urban and rural areas and outermost regions.		

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Amendment 98 Article 3 - paragraph 2a (new)			
	<i>2a. The relevant Union institutions and the Member States shall be responsible for taking appropriate action, with a view to the delivery of the priority objectives set out in Article 2(1) and (2). Action shall be taken with due account of the principles of conferral, subsidiarity and proportionality, in accordance with Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union.</i>		
<i>Article 4</i> <i>Monitoring framework</i>			
Amendment 99 Article 4 - Title			
<i>Monitoring</i> framework	<i>Indicators, monitoring framework and governance</i>		

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Amendment 100 Article 4 - paragraph 1			
1. The Commission, supported by the European Environment Agency and the European Chemicals Agency, shall assess and report on the progress of the Union and the Member States with regard to achieving the priority objectives laid down in Article 2 on a regular basis, taking into consideration the enabling conditions laid down in Article 3.	1. The Commission, supported by the European Environment Agency and the European Chemicals Agency, <i>without prejudice to their independence,</i> shall <i>monitor,</i> assess and report on the progress of the Union and the Member States with regard to achieving the priority objectives laid down in Article 2 on <i>an annual</i> basis, taking into consideration the enabling conditions <i>and actions</i> laid down in Article 3, <i>and the overall goal of achieving systemic change. The Commission shall ensure that the information resulting from that monitoring, assessment and reporting is publicly available and easily accessible, thereby ensuring effective monitoring of progress made.</i>	1. The Commission, supported by the European Environment Agency and the European Chemicals Agency, shall assess and report on a regular basis on the progress of the Union and the Member States with regard to achieving the priority objectives laid down in Article 2, [...] taking into consideration the enabling conditions laid down in Article 3. The Commission also shall take stock annually of the progress towards the 8th EAP priority objectives laid down in Article 2 and list the actions it has taken and plans to take for each one of those objectives.	1. The Commission, supported by the European Environment Agency and the European Chemicals Agency, <i>without prejudice to their independence,</i> shall <i>monitor,</i> assess and report on a regular basis on the progress of the Union and the Member States with regard to achieving the priority objectives laid down in Article 2, taking into consideration the enabling conditions laid down in Article 3, and the overall goal of achieving systemic change. The Commission also shall take stock annually of the progress towards the 8th EAP priority objectives laid down in Article 2 and list the actions it has taken and plans to take for each one of those objectives.

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Amendment 101 Article 4 - paragraph 1a (new)			
	<i>1a. Following a consultation process with all relevant stakeholders, the Commission shall, by 31 December 2021, present a streamlined framework in the form of a single scoreboard, including headline indicators, to monitor and track progress towards the achievement of the priority objectives in Article 2(1) and (2), building upon existing monitoring frameworks and processes.</i>		
Amendment 102 Article 4 - paragraph 1b (new)			
	<i>1b. The assessment referred to in paragraph 1 shall include information on:</i>		
	<i>- progress made towards systemic change that is needed in order to achieve the priority objectives set out in Article 2(1) and (2), as soon as the monitoring framework allows for this;</i>		

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	- <i>distance to the targets set in place to achieve the priority objectives set out in Article 2(1) and (2);</i>		
	- <i>funding contributing to the achievement of the priority objectives set out in Article 2(1) and (2), tracked by way of a robust, transparency and comprehensive methodology;</i>		
	- <i>the means of implementation that have been applied at Union and Member State level to ensure the achievement of the priority objectives, and whether these are sufficient; and</i>		
	- <i>recommendations and guidelines to address potential inconsistencies.</i>		

COMMISSION PROPOSAL	EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT POSITION (Plenary vote 7 July 2021)	COUNCIL POSITION (Mandate for negotiations with EP 17 March 2021)	PRESIDENCY COMPROMISE / SUGGESTIONS
<p align="center">Amendment 103 Article 4 - paragraph 2</p>			
<p>2. The assessment referred to in paragraph 1 shall reflect the latest developments as regards the availability and relevance of data and indicators, building on data available in the Member States and at the Union level, in particular those operated by the European Environment Agency and the European Statistical System. This assessment shall <i>be</i> without prejudice to existing monitoring, reporting and governance frameworks and exercises covering environment and climate policy.</p>	<p>2. The assessment referred to in paragraph 1 shall reflect the latest developments as regards the availability and relevance of data and indicators, building on data available in the Member States, <i>including at regional and local level</i>, and at the Union level, in particular those operated by the European Environment Agency and the European Statistical System <i>with a view to minimising administrative burden</i>. This assessment shall <i>build on, be coherent with and</i> without prejudice to existing monitoring, reporting and governance frameworks and exercises covering environment and climate policy <i>and shall be based on a robust methodology that enables measurement of progress</i>.</p>	<p>2. The assessment referred to in paragraph 1 shall take into account a systemic approach and aim at facilitating strategic political communication. It shall be based on a limited number of headline indicators, which include, where available, systemic indicators that address environmental-social and environmental-economic nexus, to be identified by the end of 2021 as a result of a consultation process involving Member States and targeted stakeholders, which brings together environment policy experts and indicator experts, and which shall be supported by the European Environment Agency. It shall reflect the latest developments as regards the availability and relevance of data and indicators [...] and build [...] on data available in the Member States and at the Union level, in particular those operated by the European</p>	<p>2. The assessment referred to in paragraph 1 shall take into account a systemic approach and aim at facilitating strategic political communication. It shall be based on a limited number of headline indicators, which include, where available, systemic indicators that address environmental-social and environmental-economic nexus, to be identified by the end of 2021 as a result of a consultation process involving Member States and targeted stakeholders, which brings together environment policy experts and indicator experts, and which shall be supported by the European Environment Agency. It shall reflect the latest developments as regards the availability and relevance of data and indicators and build on data available in the Member States, including, where available, at regional and local level, and at the Union level, in particular those operated by the</p>

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		Environment Agency and the European Statistical System, with a view to minimising administrative burden. [...] The assessment shall be coherent with and without prejudice to [...] other monitoring, reporting and governance frameworks and exercises covering social, economic, environment and climate policy.	European Environment Agency and the European Statistical System, with a view to minimising administrative burden. The assessment shall be coherent with and without prejudice to other monitoring, reporting and governance frameworks and exercises covering social, economic, environment and climate policy, and shall be based on a methodology that enables measurement of progress.
<p style="text-align: center;">Amendment 104 Article 4 - paragraph 2a (new)</p>			
	<i>2a. The European Parliament, the Council and the Commission shall exchange views annually on the assessment referred to in paragraph 1 and shall identify, as part of the Union's annual programming, additional legislative and non-legislative measures and actions when progress towards the achievement of the priority objectives is considered to be insufficient or in order to overcome barriers which</i>		

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	<i>are identified.</i>		
Amendment 105 Article 4 - paragraph 3 - introductory part			
3. The European Environment Agency and the European Chemicals Agency shall support the Commission in improving the availability and relevance of data and knowledge, in particular by carrying out the following:	3. The European Environment Agency and the European Chemicals Agency shall support the Commission in improving the availability and relevance of data, <i>indicators</i> and knowledge, in particular by carrying out the following:		
Amendment 106 Article 4 - paragraph 3 - point a			
(a) gathering, processing and reporting evidence and data with modern digital tools;	(a) gathering, processing and reporting evidence and data with modern digital tools, <i>whilst improving methodologies for data collection and treatment and for developing harmonised indicators;</i>		
Amendment 107 Article 4 - paragraph 3 - point aa (new)			
	<i>(aa) strengthening and providing support to basic research, mapping and monitoring;</i>		

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Amendment 108 Article 4 - paragraph 3 - point b			
(b) working towards closing the relevant monitoring data gaps;	(b) <i>assessing the resources required and</i> working towards closing the relevant monitoring data gaps, <i>including in relation to measuring systemic change</i> ;	(b) working towards closing the relevant monitoring data gaps, together with Member States ;	
Amendment 109 Article 4 - paragraph 3 - point c			
(c) delivering policy-relevant and systemic analyses, and contributing to implementing policy objectives at Union and national level;	(c) delivering policy-relevant and systemic analyses, and contributing to implementing policy objectives at Union and national level, <i>including by proposing recommendations to enhance the progress in achieving the objectives</i> ;		
Amendment 110 Article 4 - paragraph 3 - point ca (new)			
	(ca) <i>compiling tools such as foresight tools, which can also provide information on ‘distance to target’</i> ;		

COMMISSION PROPOSAL	EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT POSITION (Plenary vote 7 July 2021)	COUNCIL POSITION (Mandate for negotiations with EP 17 March 2021)	PRESIDENCY COMPROMISE / SUGGESTIONS
Amendment 111 Article 4 - paragraph 3 - point d			
(d) integrating data on environmental, social and economic impacts, and exploiting fully other available data, such as those delivered by Copernicus;	(d) integrating data on environmental, health , social and economic impacts, and exploiting fully other available data, such as those delivered by Copernicus;	(d) integrating data on environmental, social and economic impacts, and exploiting fully other available data and services , such as those delivered by Copernicus;	
Amendment 112 Article 4 - paragraph 3 - point da (new)			
	<i>(da) closing critical knowledge gaps on ecological tipping points;</i>		
Amendment 113 Article 4 - paragraph 3 - point db (new)			
	<i>(db) developing models to assess and predict the projected impacts of policies related to the environment and climate on future generations;</i>		
Amendment 114 Article 4 - paragraph 3 - point e			
(e) further improving access to data through Union programmes;	(e) further improving availability, interoperability and access to data through Union programmes;		
(f) ensuring transparency and accountability;			

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Amendment 115 Article 4 - paragraph 3 - point g			
(g) helping civil society, public authorities, <i>citizens</i> , social partners and the private sector identify climate and environmental risks and take action to prevent, mitigate and adapt to <i>them</i> , and fostering their engagement in closing knowledge gaps.	(g) helping civil society, public authorities <i>at national, regional and local level, individuals and communities</i> , social partners and the private sector identify climate and environmental risks, <i>assess their impact</i> and take action to prevent, mitigate and adapt to <i>such risks</i> , and fostering their engagement in closing knowledge gaps;		
Amendment 116 Article 4 - paragraph 3 - point ga (new)			
	<i>(ga) encouraging citizen observation and reporting of environmental issues and compliance gaps, including through the use of online mechanisms and mobile phone apps to facilitate reporting.</i>		

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Amendment 117 Article 4 - paragraph 4			
4. The Commission shall regularly examine data and knowledge needs at Union and national level, including the capacity of the European Environment Agency and the European Chemicals Agency to carry out the tasks referred to in paragraph 3.	4. The Commission shall regularly examine data and knowledge needs at Union and national level, including the capacity of the European Environment Agency and the European Chemicals Agency <i>as well as other European bodies and agencies, where relevant</i> , to carry out the tasks referred to in paragraph 3, <i>and report on the results of this review, including proposals to address any human and financial resource needs, or to address any other deficiencies</i> .		
Amendment 118 Article 5 - paragraph -1 (new)			
	<i>Article 5</i> <i>Evaluation</i> -1. By 31 March 2024, the Commission shall carry out a mid-term evaluation of the 8th EAP and submit it to the European Parliament and the Council. The mid-term evaluation shall outline	<i>Article 4a</i> <i>Mid-term Review</i> 1. Before the end of its current term, the Commission shall carry out a mid-term review of the progress achieved in reaching the thematic priority objectives defined in Article 2(2), taking into	<i>Article 4a</i> <i>Mid-term Review</i> 1. Before the end of its current term, the Commission shall carry out a mid-term review of the progress achieved in reaching the thematic priority objectives defined in Article 2(2), taking into

COMMISSION PROPOSAL	EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT POSITION (Plenary vote 7 July 2021)	COUNCIL POSITION (Mandate for negotiations with EP 17 March 2021)	PRESIDENCY COMPROMISE / SUGGESTIONS
	<i>progress achieved towards the thematic priority objectives set out in Article 2(2), including the targets under the European Green Deal, the status of the enabling conditions and actions laid down in Article 3, and progress made in monitoring and assessing systemic change, and shall be based on the most recent assessment referred to in Article 4(1), as well as on the outcome of a public consultation. The mid-term evaluation shall outline recommendations and corrections necessary to achieve the 8th EAP's priority objectives until completion thereof.</i>	consideration the enabling conditions laid down in Article 3, based on the assessments carried under Article 4(1) and any other relevant findings, and shall submit a report to the European Parliament and to the Council.	consideration the status of the enabling conditions laid down in Article 3, and progress made towards monitoring and assessing systemic change. The mid-term review shall be based on the assessments carried under Article 4(1) and any other relevant findings [...]. The Commission shall submit the mid-term review report to the European Parliament and to the Council.
<p align="center">Amendment 119 Article 5 - paragraph -1a (new)</p>			
	-1a. In light of progress outlined in the mid-term evaluation referred to in paragraph -1, of other relevant policy developments and of the EEA's report 'The European environment - state and outlook', the Commission incoming after the 2024 European Parliament elections shall present,	2. In the light of the review referred to in paragraph 1, of other relevant policy developments, and of the European Environment Agency's report "The European environment – state and outlook", the Commission shall present at latest by 31 March	2. In the light of the review referred to in paragraph 1, of other relevant policy developments, and of the European Environment Agency's report "The European environment – state and outlook", the Commission shall present at latest by 31 March 2025 a legislative proposal for adding an

COMMISSION PROPOSAL	EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT POSITION (Plenary vote 7 July 2021)	COUNCIL POSITION (Mandate for negotiations with EP 17 March 2021)	PRESIDENCY COMPROMISE / SUGGESTIONS
	<i>within the first 100 days of its mandate, to the European Parliament and to the Council a list and timeline of legislative and non-legislative actions it plans to take during its mandate in order to ensure the full achievement, by 2030 and 2050 respectively, of the 8th EAP's priority objectives.</i>	2025 a legislative proposal for adding an annex to the present 8th Environment Action Programme, for the period after 2025, containing a list of actions necessary for reaching the thematic priority objectives defined in Article 2(2), as well as the respective timeline of these actions.	annex to the present 8 th Environment Action Programme, for the period after 2025, containing a list of actions necessary for reaching the thematic priority objectives defined in Article 2(2), as well as the respective timeline of these actions.

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Amendment 120 Article 5 - paragraph 1			
By 31 March 2029, the Commission shall carry out an evaluation of the 8 th EAP. The Commission shall submit a report to the European Parliament and to the Council containing the <i>main</i> findings of that evaluation, accompanied, if <i>the Commission deems</i> appropriate, by a legislative proposal for the next environmental action programme.	By 31 March 2029, the Commission shall carry out an evaluation of the 8 th EAP. The Commission shall submit a report to the European Parliament and to the Council containing the findings of that evaluation, accompanied, if appropriate, by a legislative proposal for the next environmental action programme <i>in sufficient time for the 9th EAP to be in place by 1 January 2031, thereby avoiding a gap between the 8th and the 9th EAP.</i>	By 31 March 2029, the Commission shall carry out an evaluation of the 8 th EAP. The Commission shall submit a report to the European Parliament and to the Council containing the main findings of that evaluation, in each of the thematic priority objectives set out in Article 2(2), [...] followed , if [...] appropriate, by a legislative proposal for the next environmental action programme, at the latest, by 31 December 2029.	
<i>Article 6</i> <i>Entry into force</i>			
This Decision shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the <i>Official Journal of the European Union</i> .			