



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 27 February 2020
(OR. en)

6425/20

CLIMA 47
ENV 142
FIN 124
ENER 71
TRANS 80

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
On:	27 February 2020
To:	Delegations

No. prev. doc.:	5923/20
-----------------	---------

Subject:	European Court of Auditors' Special Report No 18/2019 entitled 'EU greenhouse gas emissions: Well reported, but better insight needed into future reductions'
	- Council conclusions

Delegations will find in the Annex the Council conclusions on the European Court of Auditors' Special Report No 18/2019 entitled "EU greenhouse gas emissions: Well reported, but better insight needed into future reductions", as adopted by the Council at its 3753rd meeting held on 27 February 2020.

European Court of Auditors' Special Report No 18/2019 entitled 'EU greenhouse gas emissions: Well reported, but better insight needed into future reductions'

- Council conclusions -

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

RECALLING its conclusions on improving the examination of special reports drawn up by the Court of Auditors in the context of the discharge procedure¹.

1. WELCOMES the Special Report No 18/2019 by the European Court of Auditors entitled 'EU greenhouse gas emissions: Well reported, but better insight needed into future reductions';
2. TAKES NOTE of the conclusions and recommendations of the Special Report;
3. RECOGNISES the importance of maintaining high quality EU greenhouse gas inventories;
4. AGREES on the importance of regular and adequate assessment of the effects of Member States and EU policies and measures on greenhouse gas emissions in order to evaluate their effectiveness and with a view to further improving the quality of the greenhouse gas inventories;
5. AGREES that it is important to further improve insights into future greenhouse gas emission reductions; ENCOURAGES continued cooperation between the Commission and Member States to further improve the capacity to project the impact of policies on future emissions;

¹ 7515/00 + COR 1

6. INVITES the Commission to consider how coherence between national projections and those made by the Commission could be further improved, for example on how to assess the impacts on emissions of key EU policies and measures, such as the Emissions Trading System, the regulations on CO₂ emissions from road transport, and other sectors covered by the Effort Sharing Regulation, and, in the case of national projections concerning agricultural emissions, by means of additional guidance and planning assistance; WELCOMES the contribution of the Commission to the development of an EU modelling capacity that can also benefit Member States' assessments;
7. NOTES that the Commission has begun discussions with the European Environmental Agency (EEA) looking at ways to better integrate LULUCF inventory checks into the process of the same checks for other sectors; WELCOMES such efforts towards a more unified and standardised approach, subject to sufficient resources being available under the next multiannual financial framework;
8. RECOGNISES that the land use, land-use change, and forestry (LULUCF) sector can contribute significantly to the achievement of Union and international long-term climate goals; RECALLS that the EU Energy Union governance mechanism² provides a cross-sectoral framework, covering inter alia agriculture and LULUCF, based on national energy and climate plans to ensure the achievement of the EU's 2030 climate objectives as well as Union and Member States' long-term strategies contributing to the fulfilment of commitments under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement;

² 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 (OJ L 328, 21.12.2018, p. 1).

9. SUPPORTS efforts by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) towards the swift implementation of its initial greenhouse gas strategy and will continue to follow progress achieved in the IMO taking into account the Commission's reports on the progress achieved in the IMO in this context; RECALLS that the EU has in place a system for monitoring and assessing CO₂ emissions from ships calling at ports in the European Economic Area;
 10. INVITES the Commission to continue to work in line with the recommendations outlined in the Special Report within the timeframes suggested.
-