Outcome of the Climate Change Conference in Cancún

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The 16th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change took place in Cancún, Mexico, from 29 November to 10 December 2010.

The Council **exchanged views on the outcome and follow-up** to the UN climate conference in Cancún, which discussed the global framework for climate protection.

The president drew the following **conclusions** from the debate.

The Cancún Climate Conference had a positive and forward-looking outcome which allows for immediate and concrete actions on the ground and lays the foundation of a global and comprehensive post-2012 outcome. This outcome reconfirms the strength of the multilateral process in order to find global solutions to global problems.

There are a number of very positive steps:

- the establishment of the Cancún Adaptation Framework aimed at enhancing action on adaptation in a coherent manner;
- the agreement on policy approaches and positive incentives to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, conserve and enhance forest carbon stocks and sustainably manage forests;
- the establishment of the Green Climate Fund and of the Technology Mechanism;
- the provisions on transparency;
- the anchoring of the mitigation commitments and actions in the UN framework under both the Kyoto Protocol and the Convention;
- the process to increase the level of ambition of the commitments in order to hold the global temperature increase below 2ºC above pre-industrial levels.

But there is still a lot of work to do. There is an urgent need to reach and outcome in the UN framework by the end of next year; to this end, a clear EU strategy is needed.