Atmospheric pollution, CO_2 and greenhouse gas emissions: monitoring mechanism (amend. Decision 93/389/EEC)

1996/0192(SYN) - 17/09/1997

Mr d'Aboville (UPE, FR), deputising for the rapporteur, said that public opinion needed to be better informed about the greenhouse effect. He noted that, in December 1995, the intergovernmental group on climate change, a panel composed of over 2 000 eminent scientists, had expressed its concern regarding greenhouse gas emissions and the consequences on the greenhouse effect. According to these scientists, if nothing was done, this could raise the temperature of the earth’s surface in the year 2000 by two degrees in relation to 1990. The rapporteur pointed out that this would lead to a rise in sea levels, desertification and harmful consequences for ecosystems, our economy and social conditions. Commissioner Bjerregaard said that the Commission could accept all the amendments, except for Nos 5, 7 and 13. Amendment No 5 placed an additional burden on Member States without giving clear benefits.