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

1996/0192(SYN) - 22/11/2000 - Follow-up document

This report presents the results of the evaluation process under the Decision 99/296/EC and assesses the actual and projected progress of Member States and the Community towards fulfilling their greenhouse gas (GHG) emission commitments under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol. The Commission has seen good progress in Member States' reporting on emission inventories and some progress with regard to national policies/measures and projections. However, a lot remains to be done with regard to the completeness, accuracy and comparison of the data. With regard to the findings, it should be noted that: - the EU's GHG emission fell by 2.5% between 1990 and 1998; - there is a considerable way to go to meet the EU's obligation under the Kyoto Protocol to reduce GHG emissions to 8% below the 1990 level by 2008-2012; - according to the findings, additional policies and measures identified by Member States are projected to yield further reductions close to 7% (below 1990 levels). Nevertheless, in view of the difficulties that the Member States face in meeting their commitments under the burden sharing agreement common and co-ordinated policies and measures at EU level will become an increasingly important element to supplement and reinforce national climate strategies.