Resolution on the Union's strategy for the New Delhi Conference on Climate change COP-8, October-November 2002

2002/2595(RSP) - 24/10/2002 - Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects

In its resolution on the New Delhi Conference on Climate change, the European Parliament urged the EU to maintain its leading role in the negotiations. COP-8 constitutes not only a good opportunity to build on the decisions taken at Bonn and Marrakech on implementing the Kyoto Protocol, but also to start a debate on the main issues for the second commitment period. Parliament stressed the importance of the adoption of clear rules on the eligibility of CDM projects, including a fast-track procedure for small-scale projects. It reiterated its view that carbon sinks are scientifically questionable and should be used in conjunction with monitoring and to a limited extent only. Parliament calls upon all parties present at the COP-8 Conference, and especially the host country, India, to focus their attention on the problems of the developing countries by: - continuing the work done on adaptation to climate change, including finance mechanisms, - agreeing on criteria for the distribution of the existing climate change funds under the Marrakesh agreements. In the long term the principle of equal rights per world citizen must be applied. Parliament went on to call for the improvement of instruments to measure greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and the emissions of each signatory state so that states and international organisations have as much reliable scientific information as possible. It insisted that the reduction of CO2 implies developing renewable energy sources. Emissions from international flights and shipping must be incorporated into the emission reduction targets of the second commitment period from 2012, as there is more and more evidence that the aviation sector, especially, is playing an increasing role in global warming. Parliament welcomed the Russian Government's political willingness to ratify the Protocol and called on the US Government to reconsider its decision not to participate. The Kyoto Protocol will be a completed process and become operational only once the issue of sanction arrangements and the dispute settlement procedure is resolved.