## Basic information

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|---|---|
| **1997/2104(COS)**<br><br>COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic) | Procedure completed |
| Climate change: energy dimension, preparation of the Kyoto Conference, December 1997<br><br>**Subject**<br><br>3.70.03 Climate policy, climate change, ozone layer<br>3.70.18 International and regional environment protection measures and agreements | |

## Key players

**European Parliament**

| Committee responsible | Rapporteur | Appointed |
|---|---|---|
| ENER Research, Technological Development and Energy | LINKOHR Rolf (PSE) | 19/06/1997 |

| Committee for opinion | Rapporteur for opinion | Appointed |
|---|---|---|
| ENVI Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection | PIMENTA Carlos (PPE) | 22/07/1997 |

**Council of the European Union**

| Council configuration | Meetings | Date |
|---|---|---|
| Environment | 2017 | 1997-06-19 |
| Energy | 2009 | 1997-05-27 |

## Key events

| Date | Event | Reference | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|
| 14/05/1997 | Non-legislative basic document published | COM(1997)0196 | Summary |
| 27/05/1997 | Debate in Council | | |
| 29/05/1997 | Committee referral announced in Parliament | | |
| 19/06/1997 | Resolution/conclusions adopted by Council | | |
| 29/10/1997 | Vote in committee | | Summary |
| 29/10/1997 | Committee report tabled for plenary | A4-0343/1997 | |
| 17/11/1997 | Debate in Parliament | | |
| 19/11/1997 | End of procedure in Parliament | | |
| 08/12/1997 | Final act published in Official Journal | | |

| Technical information | |
|---|---|
| **Procedure reference** | 1997/2104(COS) |
| **Procedure type** | COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic) |
| **Procedure subtype** | Commission strategy paper |
| **Legal basis** | Rules of Procedure EP 148 |
| **Stage reached in procedure** | Procedure completed |
| **Committee dossier** | ENER/4/08945 |

Documentation gateway

**European Parliament**

| Document type | Committee | Reference | Date | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading | | A4-0343/1997<br>OJ C 371 08.12.1997, p. 0002 | 29/10/1997 | |
| Text adopted by Parliament, single reading | | T4-0559/1997<br>OJ C 371 08.12.1997, p. 0047-0077 | 19/11/1997 | Summary |

**European Commission**

| Document type | Reference | Date | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|
| Non-legislative basic document | COM(1997)0196 | 14/05/1997 | Summary |

**Other institutions and bodies**

| Institution/body | Document type | Reference | Date | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| CofR | Committee of the Regions: opinion | CDR0104/1997<br>OJ C 379 15.12.1997, p. 0011 | 17/09/1997 | |
| EESC | Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report | CES1193/1997 | 29/10/1997 | Summary |

# Climate change: energy dimension, preparation of the Kyoto Conference, December 1997

1997/2104(COS) - 14/05/1997 - Non-legislative basic document

OBJECTIVE: This communication on the energy dimension of climate change is intended to accelerate the negotiations at the UN Conference which is due to open in Kyoto in December 1997; it stresses the energy implications with a view to the preparation of another communication of general import which will examine all aspects of CO2 emissions and climate change. SUBSTANCE: The Council's conclusions of 3 March 1997 on climate change showed the Community's determination to act: agreement was reached that the Community will propose that the OECD member states and the transition states should commit themselves to a 15% reduction in their emissions of the main greenhouse gases (CO2 , CH4 and N2O) by 2010 (as compared to the reference year of 1990). Should the Union carry on at the existing rate, CO2 emissions will be approximately 8% higher in 2010 than in 1990 - a divergence of twenty points from the negotiating position the Council has set itself. To bridge the gap, ambitious policies and measures are required, especially for energy. The objectives of this communication are to draw attention to the challenge facing the political decision-makers, to

identify areas for political intervention and to examine the actions required, with a view to achieving the goal of reducing emissions in a cost-effective manner. With a view to launching the debate and adopting political decisions, the Commission suggests a number of possible approaches: - improved energy efficiency and energy saving (it is essential to establish how to go beyond the energy-saving achievements of recent years); - greater cooperation with economic operators and new actions in the field of environmental agreements; - acceleration of the penetration of renewable energy sources: the Commission suggests, as a possible ambitious but realistic objective, doubling the share of these energy sources (from 6% to 12%) by 2010; - better energy management at island, local and regional level; - promoting combined heat and electricity production initiatives; - development of the electricity generation sector, as being crucial for overall CO2 emission trends (the sector is responsible for nearly one-third of all CO2 emissions, but it is possible to limit emissions despite rising demand); - in the context of technological innovation, efficient and sustainable energy services should be developed via the use of different energy technologies; - limitation of other greenhouse gas emissions (coalmines are an important source of methane emissions, and the production and distribution of natural gas inevitably entail gas leakages); - as regards fiscal instruments and financial resources, measures such as 'green loans' (as in the Netherlands), 'green electricity' (as in Germany) or biofuels pilot projects (as in France) should be examined and made use of. The Commission stresses that the reorientation of energy policy will call for the mobilization of new financial resources, and that the Member States should be aware of this extra burden.

# Climate change: energy dimension, preparation of the Kyoto Conference, December 1997

1997/2104(COS) - 19/11/1997 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

In adopting the report by Mr Rolf LINKOHR (PSE, D), the European Parliament calls for a reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases and a binding strategy with clear goals and a precise timetable. The European Union must make every effort at the Kyoto conference on climate change to advocate binding goals for the period beyond 2000, together with procedures to monitor the obligations entered into. Parliament also calls for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions to be given priority over other energy policy goals. It urges the Commission to prepare specific proposals on controlling climate change and to make use of all the possibilities available to it to introduce a Community energy tax. Parallel to the above, Parliament has adopted a resolution on the Kyoto conference, prepared by its Committee on the Environment, approving the minimum goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 7.5% by 2005 and 15% by 2010. This goal should be the subject of a more binding commitment on the part of the Union, a commitment which will have to be guaranteed by the Commission and the governments of the Member States in the course of the Kyoto negotiations and implemented in the Union afterwards.

# Climate change: energy dimension, preparation of the Kyoto Conference, December 1997

1997/2104(COS) - 29/10/1997 - Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report

The ESC has repeatedly looked at strategies to reduce CO2 emissions and other "greenhouse gases". The Committee underlines that climate policy is a global policy. It feels the EU should enter into negotiations with the USA and Japan before the Kyoto Conference. The Economic and Social Committee believes that the scientific basis for the forecasts used by the Commission to draw up its climate policy objectives is narrow and should be extended, particularly in regard of the relationship between economic growth and energy consumption, the impact of technological innovations and the objectives for climate relevant gases other than CO2. The ESC points out that climate policy cannot be implemented unless its objectives are integrated into other policy areas. As such more emphasis should be placed on transport policy. Taking into account the SAVE programme and the Altener programme the ESC believes that the action plan could be expanded to include arrangements of the kind already introduced by regulatory means in some Member States, such as the non-fossil fuel obligation, or the obligation to buy electricity generated by renewables. The ESC therefore believes that, if there is to be any significant reduction in CO2 emissions, nuclear energy together with renewables will have to play key roles. However, the continued, or even expanded, use of nuclear energy requires solving problems of operating safety and waste disposal. The Economic and Social Committee would like to collaborate in drawing up the action plan to implement climate policy in the EU.