

7th International Symposium on the theme of:
The EU and Japan in the World”
20th of September 2008, Kobe, Japan
“Dialogues on the Environmental Protection between
European and Japanese Civil Societies”:
**“THE ROLE OF NPOs IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION IN THE EU”**



Act Today to Save Tomorrow!

The Global Energy & Climate Challenges:

- Growth of world energy demand: 50% by 2030;
- China & India will account for approx 65% of the expected 50% rise in demand for energy (inefficiency);
- Global race for cheap & secure energy sources which are not the most environmental-friendly ones,
- 70% of the world’s energy saving potential is in developing countries



? How can global growth, primarily in emerging countries, be reconciled with climate protection

- Technology transfer to industrialising countries must be encourage for increasing energy efficiency, and tackling global warming



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The Global Energy & Climate Challenges:

How can global growth, primarily in emerging countries, be reconciled with climate protection?

- Mobilise all major economies to reduce emissions a.s.a.p
- Technology transfer to industrialising countries must be encouraged for increasing energy efficiency, and tackling global warming;
- Strengthen global market mechanisms to reduce emissions, linking developed & developing regions.



The EU ´s respond to Climate change: “20-20-20”

- **Binding targets for 2020:**
- Reduce emissions of greenhouse gases by 20% with 1990;
- Increase energy efficiency by 20%;
- Increase the use of renewables to 20% of energy consumption



For achieving the targets (20+20+20):



- National commitment by Member States is needed (credible national strategies);
- Annual timetables which can be monitored;
- Right policy instruments for achieving targets;
- Civil society , including the social partners, need to be actively involved in energy policy development, scientists etc
- Media



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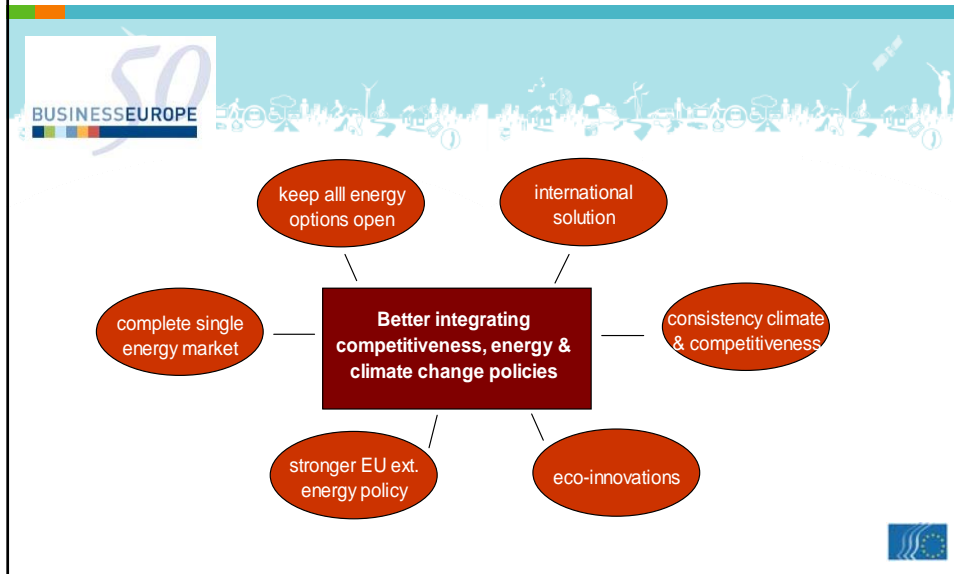


The EU 's challenges in the field of Climate Change, Energy Policy and Environmental Protection:

- Energy policy: the EU imports 50% of its energy – dependancy: to *increase energy efficiency & diversification of energy sources, supply countries & supply channels,*
- Right balance between competitiveness and the tasks of energy & climate policies (binding international agreement on carbon emission reduction targets)
- Carefully planned policies and legal framework (for research, technology & innovation, investments in renewable energies etc) by involving of various stakeholders from industry, CSO, MS governments, scientific community



Better integrating competitiveness, energy & climate change



Interest /lobby groups at the EU level

▪ Increase of number of interests groups operating at the EU level during last 20 years ;

- The EC is open for interest groups (expertise, information→better legitimacy, transparency, understanding, good governance)
- The European Transparency Initiative (2005):
 - Increase the transparency of interest representatives seeking to influence EU decision making, & upholding standards of consultation,
 - Increase of transparency about use of EU funds,
 - Ethical rules & standards for public officials
- On-line register of interest representatives

Environmental NGOs/NPOs in the EU

Differences in the field of:

- Level: Local, regional, national, EU, international level;
- Influencing capacity,
- Membership (Representativeness)

Activity: * **participation in policy forming;**
 * **environmental awareness rising**



Development of environmental groups at the EU level:

- Integration
- Development of environmental legislation (the 1st environmental policy AP in 1972) & increase of regulations (environment policy become common policy of the EES fixed in the Single European Act)
 - Increased need for environmental groups **input** in European **decision making process & increase of importance of them**



Environmental NPOs in the EU

Why is it useful to involve environmental NPOs (better legitimacy, transparency, understanding):

- Development & implementation environmental plans, help for addressing environmental issues;
 - More successful due to their grassroots – bottom-up nature, better position for influencing local social behaviour & consumption behaviour,
 - To drive research
 - Organise public awareness rising work
 - Campaigns (encourage the full implementation of EU environmental laws & policies in the MSs, lobby for new environmental proposals, promote EU environmental leadership in the global political arena etc)
- The European Environmental Bureau (EEB in 1974), Green 10
- International environment protection org. (GreenPeace, established in Brussels in the end of 80 ' s



Representation at the EU

BUSINESSEUROPE - The Confederation of European

Business – *voice of European businesses*

- Representation: 20 million SMEs & large companies;
- Members coming from 39 leading national business federations in 33 European countries, working together to achieve growth & competitiveness in Europe
- EU level social partner organisation



- **Lobbying** (competitiveness aspect should be taken into account while working out energy & climate policies)
- **Different working groups** (Waste task force, water, air, soil pollution, eco-labelling WGs etc)
- **Positions** regarding climate change, energy and environmental policies
- **Spreading information & know-how: publications:** “Four key principles to ensure a successful international agreement on combating climate change”, “Energy Efficiency: reconciling economic growth and climate protection, December 2007” + **Communication with media (PR-s)**
- **Exchange of best practices,**
- **Educational programs (special focus on new MSs & SMEs)**

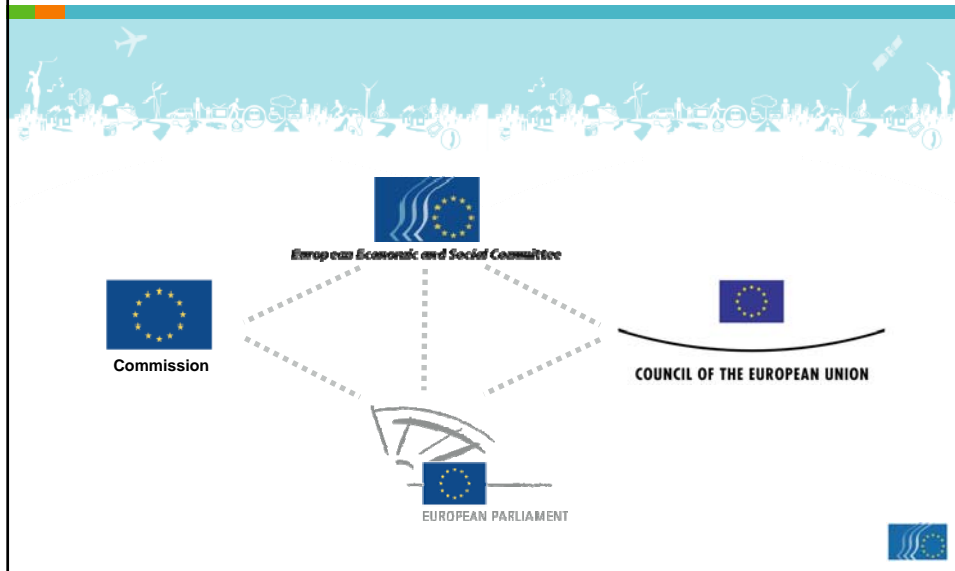


Japan and EU BRT (access to raw materials, climate change & energy, innovation, strengthening IPR)

- **Sustainable Development:**
 - **Cooperate in the field of energy efficiency**
 - **Appropriate policies for diffusion of energy-efficient equipment and facilities, as well as nuclear energy and renewable energy sources such as solar and wind power in order to prevent global warming**
 - **effective mechanism for transferring and expanding the use of environmental and energy-saving technology, while protecting IPR, from Japan and the EU into emerging economies whose GHG emissions are increasing significantly**
 - **Post-Kyoto Protocol:** all carbon-emitting countries must participate, share reasonable and feasible GHG emission reduction targets



European Economic & Social Committee - EESC



What is the structure of the EESC?

- It is an **assembly of 344 members** from the **27 Member States** of the EU.
- Members are appointed for a renewable **four-year term**.
- They are appointed by the **Council of Ministers** on the basis of lists drawn up by national governments.

An Assembly divided into three GROUPS

- **Group I – Employers**
 - Public and private sectors of industry, commerce, finance, etc.
(large companies)
- **Group II – Employees**
 - National trade union confederations
- **Group III – Various Interests**
 - Farmers, consumers, the social economy, craftsmen and SMEs, social and environmental NGOs, the professions...



The EESC's working bodies

- **Six sections...**
 - Single Market, Production and Consumption
 - Transport, Energy, Infrastructure and the Information Society
 - **Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment**
 - Economic and Monetary Union and Economic and Social Cohesion
 - Employment, Social Affairs and Citizenship
 - External Relations



NAT opinions on Environment & Climate Change

- NAT/302 Soil protection
- NAT/348 (SDO) Biennial Progress Report of the EU Sustainable Development Strategy
- NAT/349 Include aviation activities in the scheme for greenhouse gas emission allowance trading within the Community
- NAT/354 Reducing greenhouse gas emissions/Road transport
- NAT/362 (SDO) Climate Change and the Lisbon Strategy
- NAT/368 Green Paper on the adaptation to Climate Change
- NAT/370 Communication on Water Scarcity and Droughts
- NAT/384 The link between climate change and agriculture (Exploratory opinion – French presidency)
- NAT/391 Climate Change International Negotiations
- NAT/399 Review of the Emission Trading System
- NAT/400 Member State effort-sharing/greenhouse gas emission reductions by 2020
- NAT/401 Geological storage of carbon dioxide (CCS)



The EESC's working bodies

- ...and **four more recent bodies**
 - The Consultative Commission on Industrial Change – **CCMI**
 - The Single Market Observatory – **SMO**
 - The Sustainable Development Observatory – **SDO**
 - The Labour Market Observatory - **LMO**
- The members and the various working bodies are assisted by a **secretariat-general**.



The SDO – to strengthen cooperation with the other institutions in the field of climate change & energy

- Share best practices
- Stimulate debate /through organising conferences, hearings, and publishing publications
- Analyse Sustainable Development issues from a civil society point of view (opinions, reports)



Consultative Commission on Industrial Change (CCMI):

- **CCMI/045** **The impact of European environmental rules on industrial change ,**
- **CCMI/029** **Sustainable development and industrial change,**
- **CCMI/024** **Greenhouse gas emissions and industrial change,**
- **CCMI/008** **Road to Sustainable Production – Progress in implementing Council Directive 96/61/EC concerning integrated pollution prevention and control**





- THANK YOU!
- **DOOMO ARIGATO**
- **GOZCIMASU**



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