



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 30 November 2012

16953/12

**Interinstitutional File:
2012/0337 (COD)**

**ENV 905
DEVGEN 325
ECO 146
SAN 314
PECHE 516
AGRI 827
IND 217
CHIMIE 94
ENER 511
RECH 450
TRANS 439
CODEC 2847**

NOTE

from : General Secretariat
to : Coreper/Council

No Cion doc.: 16498/12 - COM(2012) 710 final + ADD 1 + ADD 2 + ADD 3 + ADD 4 +
ADD 5 + ADD 6 + ADD 7 + ADD 8 + ADD 9 + ADD 10 + ADD 11

Subject : Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on a
General Union Environment Action Programme to 2020 "Living well, within the
limits of our planet"
- Orientation debate

1. On 29 November 2012, the Commission adopted a proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on a General Union Environment Action Programme to 2020 "Living well, within the limits of our planet".

2. On 29 November 2012, the Commission presented its proposal to the Working Party on the Environment (WPE). The Presidency has drafted two questions to guide the orientation debate in Council.
 3. The Commission will present this proposal to the Environment Committee of the European Parliament on 18 December 2012.
 4. Coreper is invited to consider the questions prepared by the Presidency and set out in the Annex to this Note, and to submit them to Council with a view to the orientation debate at its meeting on 17 December 2012.
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Questions for Ministers

1. *In your view, does the 7th EAP meet your expectations and address the shortcomings identified in the 6th EAP and adequately covers the current and emerging environmental challenges, as outlined in the Environment Council conclusions of June 2012, October 2011 and December 2010 and the European Parliament's resolution of 20 April 2012?*

 2. *Do you consider that the nine priorities set out in the 7th EAP are adequate and pragmatic in terms of vision, scope and ambition for the overall programme and that the actions proposed are adequate to reach the targets set for 2020?*
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