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OUTCOME OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

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Environment

Luxembourg, 13 October 2017

President **Siim Kiisler**
Minister for the Environment of Estonia

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OTHER ITEMS APPROVED*none*

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- Where declarations, conclusions or resolutions have been formally adopted by the Council, this is indicated in the heading for the item concerned and the text is placed between quotation marks.
- Documents for which references are given in the text are available on the Council's internet site (<http://www.consilium.europa.eu>).
- Acts adopted with statements for the Council minutes which may be released to the public are indicated by an asterisk; these statements are available on the Council's internet site or may be obtained from the Press Office.

ITEMS DEBATED

Non-ETS sectors: effort sharing and LULUCF

The Council agreed its negotiating positions on the effort sharing regulation and the regulation on land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF). Negotiations with the European Parliament can now start, with the aim of reaching an agreement on the final text.

These regulations will cut greenhouse gas emissions in sectors falling outside the scope of the EU emissions trading system (EU ETS).

This legislation will allow the EU to move closer to achieving its overall goal of reducing emissions by at least 40% by 2030 compared to 1990 levels, and thus to meeting its commitments under the Paris Agreement on climate change. Non-ETS sectors will specifically contribute to that target through a reduction in emissions of 30% by 2030 compared to 2005 levels.

For more information see the press releases on [effort sharing](#) and [LULUCF](#).

Paris Agreement and COP23

The Council adopted conclusions on the Paris Agreement and the preparations for the UNFCCC meetings (Bonn, 6-17 November 2017):

[Read full text of conclusions](#)

EU priorities for the UN Environment Assembly

Council conclusions on the European Union priorities for the third meeting of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-3) held in Nairobi on 4-6 December 2017:

[Read full text of conclusions](#)

Other business

Recent international meetings

The Council took note of the information provided by the presidency and the Commission on several recent international meetings:

- Sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (MOP 6) (Budva, Montenegro, 11-13 September 2017)
- Joint high-level segment under the Meetings of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention and its Protocol on PRTRs (Budva, Montenegro, 14 September 2017)
- Third session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (MOPP 3) (Budva, Montenegro, 15 September 2017)

Information note ([12930/17](#))

- First meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury (COP 1) (Geneva, 24-29 September 2017)

Information note ([12997/17](#))

- 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD COP 13) (Ordos, China, 6-16 September 2017)

Information note ([13000/17](#))

Assessment of chemical substances

The Council took note of the information provided by the French, Luxembourg and Italian delegations during a public session as regards a more transparent, more effective and safer assessment of chemical substances.

Information note ([12893/17](#))

- ***China Europe Water Platform (CEWP) High-Level Conference (Turku, Finland, 21-22 September 2017)***

The Council took note of the information provided by the Commission about the China Europe Water Platform (CEWP) High-Level Conference that took place in Turku, Finland from 21 to 22 September 2017.

Information note ([13047/17](#))

Coordination of and coherence between the integrated national energy and climate plans for 2030 and the long-term emission reduction strategies

The Luxembourg delegation informed the Council during a public session about the importance, for the implementation of the Paris Agreement, of good coordination of and coherence between the integrated national energy and climate plans for 2030 and the long-term emission reduction strategies, as well as of minimum quality, comparability and transparency standards.

Information note ([12914/17](#))

- ***"Science for Peace the World Over" international seminar (Erice, Italy, 18-24 August 2017)***

The Council took note of the information provided by the Polish delegation about the outcome of the 50th session of the international seminar "Science for Peace the World Over", held in Erice (Italy) from 18 to 24 August 2017.

Information note ([12924/17](#))

– *Ratification of the Kigali amendment to the Montreal Protocol*

The UK and Luxembourg informed the Council about the current state of play as regards the ratification of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol by the EU and all member states.

The Kigali Amendment, adopted in 2016, will enter into force in 2019 upon ratification by 20 of the parties to the Montreal Protocol. The Council agreed its position to conclude and ratify the amendment, on behalf of the EU, on 11 May 2017.

Member states are currently following their national ratification procedures to obtain approval from their national parliaments. The aim is to submit the instrument of ratification from the EU and those from the member states simultaneously.

Under this amendment, the EU commits to start cutting its use of hydrofluorocarbons, which are powerful greenhouse gases used as an alternative to ozone-depleting substances, by 2019.

Information note ([12962/17](#))

OTHER ITEMS APPROVED

N/A
