



## **EEB's TEN GREEN TESTS FOR THE 2009 SWEDISH PRESIDENCY**

### **1. PROMOTE AND START IMPLEMENTING THE SPRING ALLIANCE MANIFESTO**

- Promote debate on the Manifesto in all Council formations and the European Council;
- Involve Spring Alliance representatives in debates related to the formulation of a new Lisbon Strategy and conclusions on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy.
- Initiate expert working groups to elaborate/discuss specific issues of the manifesto in more details.

### **2. A STRONG AND FAIR INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE AGREEMENT IN COPENHAGEN**

- Challenge EU Member States and other industrialised countries to agree, as a group, to a 40% greenhouse gas reduction target from 1990 to 2020, with domestically made reductions.
- Identify and mobilize financial mechanisms and technological support to developing countries to assist them in taking appropriate mitigation measures according to their national and economic circumstances.
- Agree on an EU contribution of at least 35 billion Euro/year that is predictable and additional to existing ODA commitments to co-fund mitigation and adaptation activities in developing countries and encourage other rich nations to do the same.

### **3. TOWARDS AN ECO-EFFICIENT ECONOMY**

- Promote concrete policy conclusions of the Eco-Efficient Economy initiative for the EU, in particular on making the market work for the environment: environmental tax reform, dynamic standard setting, phasing out environmentally harmful subsidies, targeted support to new technologies. Ensure that the initiative is not narrowed down to energy efficiency only.
- Make the European Council decide to start work on an EU Strategy for environmental fiscal reform: shifting 10% of tax-income for governments away from labour to energy and resource use.
- Ensure that the mandatory EU energy label remains an effective instrument to drive the EU market towards more energy efficient appliances.
- Reject any pressure from business organisations, Member States or from within the Commission to delay environmental policy and lawmaking with the economic crisis as argument.

#### **4. A MEANINGFUL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY EVALUATION**

- Reconfirm the “Objectives and Principles” of the SDS
- Insist the Commission to develop, as was asked in 2006, a long term vision for the EU, steering considerable absolute reductions of energy and resource use, leading to reduction of EU's ecological footprint with 50% in 20 years or sooner..
- Decide on a roadmap that ensures a reinforced SDS serves as the lead motive for the Financial Perspectives 2014-2020, initiates the policies needed to implement the vision and amends the Lisbon Strategy and external policies further.
- Set up institutional infrastructure to boost the implementation of the Strategy, including a high level Council working group, a Task Force of Commissioners and an independent High Level Group to monitor and advise on the implementation and review of the Strategy.
- Insist the Commission finally publishes its roadmap for the elimination of environmentally hazardous subsidies, which was foreseen for 2008.

#### **5. INCREASE ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF BUILDINGS**

- Adoption of a revised Energy Performance of Buildings Directive that improves energy efficiency in buildings and reduces emissions from this sector. Increasing in its ambitions by requiring that, at the latest by 2015, all new buildings are zero- or positive energy and for existing buildings all renovations will trigger energy efficiency requirements.
- Ensure that enough public funding is committed to making investing in energy efficiency more affordable particularly for low-income-groups. Mobilise a large share of EU Structural Funds, EIB and other funds and fiscal incentives for energy efficiency improvements in buildings, including social housing.

#### **6. IMPROVE THE BALTIC SEA REGIONAL STRATEGY**

- Put a healthy marine environment a prerequisite for a prosperous and sustainable development in the Baltic Sea Region.
- Include strong, concrete and well-timed measures in the agriculture and fisheries policies in the strategy,
- Mobilise additional financial resources for activities within the strategy
- Make the strategy a responsibility for Heads of Governments/States,, necessary for enabling a full and rapid implementation.

#### **7. STRENGTHEN PREVENTION AND REUSE IN WASTE POLICIES**

Improve the Commission's proposal for the revision of the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive and in particular:

- Ensure that the principle of Individual Producer Responsibility is maintained and refuse extension of use of visible fees;
- Improve collection targets by adding specific targets for problematic product categories such as lamps and small appliances

- Improve transparency in the management of WEEE and prevent leakage of WEEE from official collection routes by clarifying the roles and obligations (reporting, treatment) of all actors (brokers, municipalities) in the waste chain.
- Promote reuse through a dedicated reuse target.

## **8. SHOW LEADERSHIP ON THE BIODIVERSITY AGENDA**

- Start preparing a post-2010 Ecosystems Rescue Plan, and urge the implementation of the ecosystem approach and proofing in all use of natural resources, in sectoral policies and spatial planning.
- Push for new concrete and measurable biodiversity targets, within EU and on the global level, for the coming ten-year period,
- Strongly support the establishment of an international platform for biodiversity and ecosystem services,
- Push for necessary budgetary increases to implement measures to halt the loss of biodiversity
- Stress the importance of much stronger protection for marine ecosystems, at the global level
- Establish new legislation on soils and Invasive Alien Species

## **9. REDUCE MERCURY USE GLOBALLY**

At the opening of the negotiations on a UNEP treaty on Mercury:

- Secure appropriate priorities to be discussed at the first Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) such as supply and trade.
- Ensure that NGOs can effectively participate at the INC deliberations towards a robust treaty on mercury.

## **10. A COHERENT FRAMEWORK FOR INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL**

Provide space in the negotiations with the European Parliament about the Industry Emissions Directive for improvements in the first position of the Council, in particular to:

*With regards to Large Combustion Plants:*

- Remove or dramatically reduce derogation from compliance with Emission Limit Values or delays to comply with Emission Limit Values based on BAT (BATAEL);
- Tighten compliance assessment requirements for Emission Limit Values;
- Include smaller installations from 20 MW and reject exemption for particular industries;

*And in general:*

- Agree on clear and strict criteria for permitting authorities when industrial installations may derogate from BATAEL (e.g. derogation only to existing installations, time limited and based on clear technical assessment).