



**COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  
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**ENERGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

**Enhancing energy efficiency to address air pollution and atmospheric problems, combat climate change, and promote industrial development**

- Energy efficiency - together with the increased use of renewable energy sources – should be a key component of energy policy. Energy efficiency meets all three goals of energy policy: security of supply, competitiveness and protection of the environment.
- Following the oil price shocks of the 1970s, many countries introduced mandatory energy efficiency standards for new buildings to supplement older standards for structural strength and fire safety.
- OECD countries, for instance, generally began by introducing energy-efficiency standards for each building element, including windows, walls, roofs, and systems for space heating, water heating, ventilation and air conditioning.
- The European Commission has recently estimated an EU energy saving potential of 20% by 2020, taking into account measures already implemented by EU member states and proposals for a series of additional measures at national or EU-level. In addition, the EU is considering raising the share of renewable energies to the level of 15% by 2015 and to raise the proportion of biofuels, considering a target of 8%. In order to access this potential the important role of the consumer must be emphasised. Education on the preciousness of energy resources and the responsible use of them should start from an early childhood.
- We encourage the developed and developing world alike to remain focused on continuing increasing energy efficiency, with developed countries taking the lead in changing unsustainable patterns of consumption and production and facilitating technology transfer and technology related capacity building.
- We need to transform the way we use energy. To do this, we can use sustainable consumption and production approaches such as encouraging innovation in energy-using products and using the power of public procurement to pull products through to market. The Marrakech Process and Task Forces, that currently focus on sustainable lifestyles, sustainable product policies, co-operation with Africa, sustainable procurement, sustainable tourism, and sustainable building and construction, will be important in driving forward this work.
- Climate change is likely to have major negative global environmental, economic and social implications, and to avoid irreversible impacts of climate change, the EU holds the view that the global mean surface temperature increase needs to be limited to no more than 2°C above pre-industrial levels.
- Adverse effects are already being noted. Much larger reductions in emissions will be needed if dangerous climate change is to be avoided. We strongly welcome the outcome of the Montreal Climate Change Conference having initiated important processes to strengthen and further develop both the UNFCCC and the Kyoto protocol.

- We encourage nations in developed and developing countries alike to built on their own and other countries' positive lessons in dealing with emerging issues and define ambitious, but realistic goals in further diminishing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions through energy efficiency and increased use of renewable energies in a sustainable manner. In doing so, we acknowledge the specific responsibility by countries in the developed world to promote appropriate technology transfer and the means to help establish renewable energy strategies and interventions.

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