

EUROPEAN RIO+10 COALITION "Europe in the World"

Proposal concerning "Democratising Interdependence, Agenda for the Spanish Presidency of the European Union".

Please find below, on behalf of the European Rio+10 Coalition (*), a proposal for consideration by the Spanish Presidency.

This is based on

- the report "It's Democracy, Stupid" of the New Economics Foundation - by Andrew Simms, Tom Bigg and Nick Robins, September 2000
- the conclusions of the Göteborg European Council .

The objective is to propose to the Spanish Presidency to host a meeting between EU and Member states representatives in International Organisations with EU Institutions and European Civil Society in view of the UN World Summit on Sustainable Development.

1. New economics Foundation Report Excerpts:

"The EU has the potential to be an agent of its own renewal and that of the globe as well. For this to happen, self-renewal to be secured and the identity of Europe be preserved, the EU Governance scheme and the EU political agenda should concentrate on democratising interdependence and address its serious split personality: the EU is today both an agent of corporate globalisation and a hope for a more balanced and accountable management of European interdependence.

2. Göteborg European Council

"Sustainable development requires global solutions. The Union will seek to make sustainable development an objective in bilateral development co-operation and in all international organisations and specialised agencies. In particular, the EU should promote issues of global environmental governance and ensure that trade and environment policies are mutually supportive. The Union's Sustainable Development Strategy forms part of the Union's preparations for the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development. The Union will seek to achieve a "global deal" on sustainable development at the Summit »

Proposal :

The European Rio+10 Coalition invites the EU Presidency to consider the following:

European representatives, EU and/or Member States representatives, in the UN, WB, IMF, WTO, G8, under the chair of the Spanish Presidency and Mr Javier Solana, (Mr PESC) would be called to meet for the first time with representatives of the EU Council, Commission and Parliament as well as Business and European Civil Society.

The meeting which would take place after the Gothenburg Council (June 2001) addressing the EU Sustainable Development Strategy and the Commission Communication on Europe Global Agenda in view of the World Summit on Sustainable Development should be organised before the Barcelona European Council.

The Spanish Presidency might wish to invite the participants in this conference to:

- 1. Discuss the Commission Communications on the World Summit on Sustainable Development related to or having an impact on external policies*
- 2. Address the "Global Deal" in view of the World Summit on Sustainable Development as proposed by the Danish Government*
- 3. Review the mandate of and seek to make sustainable development an issue in all international organisations and specialised agencies, including UN, Bretton Woods Institutions and WTO, as requested by the Göteborg European Council*
- 4. Review the mandate of European and Member states representatives in all international organisations and specialised agencies as a follow up of the Göteborg European Council*
- 5. Review how to use financial means collectively;*
- 6. Agree to reconvene on an annual basis before the Spring European Council.*
- 7. Invite Mr Pesc and the President of the Commission to report to the European Council in Barcelona.*

(*)

Consumers International (CI)

Counterpart Europe (CE)

Eurodad

European Partners for the Environment (EPE)

European Movement (EM)

European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC)

Global Legislators Organisation for the Environment (Globe-Europe)

International Coalition for Development Action (ICDA)

International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI)

Mediterranean Information Office for the Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE)

North-South Centre - European Centre for Global Interdependence and Solidarity of the Council of Europe

Northern Alliance for Sustainability (ANPED)

Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP-DTIE)

Women in Europe for a Common Future

World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)

World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF-European Policy Office)