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To: undisclosed-recipients;;  
cc:  
Subject: EU 'needs lifestyle change' to protect jobs

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From Tony Robinson, Spokesman, Party of European Socialists  
Brussels, 26 September 2001: Tel .

European Socialists will next week respond to experts' warnings that Europe needs a change of lifestyle to protect jobs, the economy and the environment.

Swedish Prime Minister G•ran Persson will discussions on sustainable development at a high-level working group set up by the Party of European Socialists.

The working group – involving ministers from as far afield as Norway and Romania – will meet in the Prime Minister's office, Rosenbad 4, Stockholm, from 12h00 to 15h00 on Wednesday 3 October 2001.

Participants in the working group include Dutch environment minister Jan Pronk and his British and Norwegian counterparts Michael Meacher and Siri Bjerke as well as French planning minister Marie-No•lle Lienemann, Belgian social affairs minister Frank Vandenbroucke, Lithuanian culture minister Roma Dovydeniene and Romanian minister for European integration Hildegard Puwak.

The high-level working group is to submit its proposals to PES leaders at the Socialist Summit in Barcelona next March on the eve of the EU Council meeting.

PES President Robin Cook has announced that the proposals will form the basis of a distinctive PES submission to the Rio +10 Conference in South Africa next year.

The proposals will focus on means of integrating social, economic and environment policy to maintain stability and protect jobs.

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For more information please phone Tony Robinson on Belgian mobile

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