



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



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## **EU associates itself with Copenhagen Accord and submits emissions reduction target**

In a joint letter, the EU and its member states today confirmed their willingness to be associated with the Copenhagen Accord negotiated during the UN climate change conference in December 2009. At the same time, the EU reiterated that it remains fully committed to negotiating a legally binding agreement on climate protection for the period beyond 2012 which limits the increase in global average temperature to below 2°C above pre-industrial levels.<sup>1</sup>

As required by the Copenhagen Accord, the letter also notifies the EU's greenhouse gas emissions reduction target for 2020: through the so-called "energy-climate package", the EU already has legislation in place providing for a 20% cut in climate-harming gases compared to 1990 levels. As a contribution to a global and comprehensive agreement, the EU maintains its conditional offer of a 30% reduction, if other developed countries commit to comparable emissions reductions and developing countries contribute adequately according to their responsibilities and capabilities.

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<sup>1</sup> The letter to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change was agreed in a written procedure concluded today.

# **P R E S S**