



## The European Convention: Green 8 summary briefing



### 1. Restoring the definition of Sustainable Development – see *Green 8 proposal for amendment on Article I-3*

There has been an error in the definition of the Union's objective of sustainable development – it is missing the environmental dimension. This could be rectified by a simple and unproblematic amendment (see attached). We support the Protocol on Sustainable Development and suggest amendments that would clarify its objective.



### 2. Participatory Democracy and Access to Justice – see *Green 8 proposal for amendment on Article I-46 and III-266*

Art. I-46 refers to "broad prior consultations". To achieve this, criteria for public participation must be added (see attached). Also, there is still no guarantee of "access to justice", an essential element of participatory democracy for citizens and public interest groups. We support the amendment of Mr. Duff and Lord MacLennan (CONV 758/03) which would improve access to justice and provide clarity – unlike the Praesidium proposal, which is inaccessible to the layman.



**Friends of the Earth Europe**

### 3. POLICIES/Part III – see *Greening Part III (sent to you by email)*

Many of the policy chapters (Part III) contradict the objectives of the Union as laid out in Part I. We appreciate that some chapters have been improved (external action), but the majority of policies need to be updated and made consistent with the objective of sustainable development. We urge you to request an extension of the Convention to resolve these inconsistencies.

- **Common Agricultural Policy – see *Greening Part III p. 16***

The articles on agriculture and fisheries reflect Community priorities of the 1950s when plentiful and cheap food production was the only objective. There is currently no reference to sustainability or to the environment.

- **Economic, social and territorial cohesion – see *Greening Part III p. 14***

These articles make no reference to the environment although the potential impact of this policy area on the environment is clearly documented. Environmental objectives should be included to bring these articles in line with the Council Regulation governing the use of structural funds, which calls for *harmonious, balanced and sustainable development of economic activities*, and more specifically for the *protection and the improvement of the quality of the environment*.

- **Transport – see *Greening Part III p. 23***

Similarly, transport policy has the potential to harm the environment. It is therefore necessary to include sustainable development in transport policy objectives.

- **New Energy Chapter – see *Greening Part III p. 32***

The new chapter on energy should integrate sustainable development as a primary goal. The article should include clear objectives for ambitious policies on energy efficiency and sustainable renewable energy that would contribute to the minimisation of health risks and prevent climate change.

- **Other policies discussed in *Greening Part III are*:** Internal Market, Economic Policy, Environment, Research and Technological Development, Industry, Common Commercial Policy.

**GREENPEACE**



Europe's voice for sustainable transport



### 4. EURATOM Treaty

The Euratom Treaty lacks political and public support. It was not debated in the Convention and should not be annexed to the future Constitution. We insist that the Convention seek the phase out of the Euratom Treaty by endorsing the proposal by Ms. Nagy, Ms. Wagner and Mr. MacCormick (CONV 563/03).

For more information: Ioli Christopoulou, tel: +32-2-7400920; [IChristopoulou@wwfepo.org](mailto:IChristopoulou@wwfepo.org)  
 Claire Papazoglou, tel: +32 2 280 0830; email: [claire.papazoglou@birdlifeeco.net](mailto:claire.papazoglou@birdlifeeco.net)  
 John Hontelez, tel: +32 2 289 1090; email: [hontelez@eeb.org](mailto:hontelez@eeb.org)  
 Jorgo Iwasaki-Riss, tel: +32 274 1907; email: [Jorgo.Riss@diala.greenpeace.org](mailto:Jorgo.Riss@diala.greenpeace.org)  
 Martin Rocholl, tel: +32 2 542 0180 email: [martin.rocholl@foeeurope.org](mailto:martin.rocholl@foeeurope.org)