

Unclassified

C(99)76/FINAL



Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Economiques
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

OLIS : 24-Aug-1999
Dist. : 24-Aug-1999

PARIS

COUNCIL

C(99)76/FINAL
Unclassified

Council

**RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL CONCERNING THE RENEWAL OF THE
MANDATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT POLICY COMMITTEE**

(adopted by the Council at its 953rd Session on 24 June 1999 [C/M(99)14])

80732

Document complet disponible sur OLIS dans son format d'origine
Complete document available on OLIS in its original format

THE COUNCIL,

Having regard to Articles 1, 2, 5 a) and 12 of the Convention on the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development of 14 December 1960;

Having regard to the Terms of Reference of the Environment Committee [C(85)47/FINAL], as extended by the Resolution of the Council of 23 February 1990 [C/M(90)4/FINAL, Item 48], and as amended and extended by the Resolution of the Council of 12 March 1992 [C(92)25/FINAL], and extended by the Resolution of the Council [C(97)9/FINAL];

Having regard to the Rules of Procedure of the Organisation;

Recognising that the quest of societies for economic well being and improved living standards often places undesirable and sometimes unanticipated pressures on the natural environment and on finite natural resources;

Mindful also of the potential risk to human health and well-being from certain socio-economic activities;

Aware that sustainable development requires that economic, environmental and social policies be pursued by governments in an integrated and reinforcing manner;

Believing that the effective and efficient implementation of environmental policies is dependent on sound economic analysis, technological innovation and diffusion, and strong legal, institutional and administrative arrangements;

Aware also that close co-operation among governments, industry, labour and non-governmental environmental organisations, as well as public participation and access to environmental information, are critical to building and maintaining public support for environmental investments and policies;

Conscious that OECD Member countries have a responsibility to safeguard their own environments, and have expressed a commitment to assist other nations in addressing their environmental challenges at the national level as well as to engage them in co-operative efforts to confront regional and global-scale environmental threats;

Recalling that OECD Environment Ministers, when they met in April 1998, agreed upon the following "Shared Goals":

- Promote strong national policies and effective regulatory structures on the protection of the natural environment and human health
- Promote an integrated policy approach which encourages coherence among economic environmental and social policies
- Strengthen international co-operation in meeting global and regional environmental commitments
- Strongly support participation, transparency, information and accountability in environmental policy-making by public authorities at all levels.

DECIDES:

1. The Environment Policy Committee will have the following responsibilities:

- a) Provide a forum for Member countries to share views and experiences on, and consider policy responses to, major environmental issues and threats.
- b) Encourage co-operation among Member countries in the pursuit of shared environmental objectives, including, *inter alia*, co-ordinated consultation on policies, approaches and major actions taken or proposed; data and information sharing; and joint research and analysis.
- c) Promote, in support of sustainable development, the integration of environmental, economic and social policies, technological innovation and diffusion, and protection of unique environmental values and natural ecosystems.
- d) Assess on a systematic basis the environmental performances of Member countries in relation to their national and international policies and commitments.
- e) Develop and promulgate environmental indicators, and standardised, comparable sets of data and statistics, as a basis for identifying environmental trends, measuring progress and deficiencies in individual Member countries and the OECD as a whole.
- f) Promote the sharing with non-member countries of the environmental management expertise, information and experience which reside in Member countries.
- g) Ensure that the views and expertise of non-government institutions are drawn upon in the conduct of OECD's environmental work, utilising, *inter alia*, the Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD (BIAC), the Trade Union Advisory Committee to the OECD (TUAC) and contacts with relevant environmental non-governmental organisations.

2. In the pursuit of these objectives, the Environment Policy Committee shall maintain close working relationships with other relevant bodies of the Organisation, seeking to ensure that environmental considerations are fully addressed in the overall work of the OECD, in particular the project on sustainable development, in a well co-ordinated and horizontal manner.

3. The Environment Policy Committee shall also maintain, as appropriate, and in conformity with the OECD Convention and Rules of Procedures, relations with other international organisations, seeking to achieve co-ordinated and complementary work programmes in areas of shared interest and mutual benefit, and ensuring that the experience and expertise of other bodies is appropriately incorporated into OECD environmental work.

4. These terms of reference are valid until 30 June 2004.

5. The Resolution of the Council of 27 February 1997 concerning the renewal of the mandate of the Environment Policy Committee [C(97)9/FINAL], is hereby repealed.

6. Paragraph 15 of the Annex of the Rules of Procedure shall be amended to read as follows:

'Environment Policy Committee: its terms of reference are defined in the Resolution of the Council [C(99)76/FINAL].'