BRIEFING



INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE NEGOTIATION AFTER COPENHAGEN

KEY MESSAGES

- Climate change can only be successfully tackled if the EU's major economic partners get involved.
- 2 BUSINESSEUROPE supports EU minus -20% targets, but in the absence of international progress, the EU should not unilaterally increase it.
- **3** European industry submitted to the EU Emission Trading Scheme is as vulnerable to carbon leakage as it was before the Copenhagen conference.

BACKGROUND

With only 6.5% of global emissions and falling, European industry alone cannot solve the climate change challenge. All developed countries and advanced developing countries should go for binding emission targets to tackle climate change in a fair manner and create a level-playing field for industry. At In the current situation, the competitiveness of European industry and the risk of carbon leakage are a source of strong concern.

European business was disappointed by the limited outcome of the Copenhagen conference in December 2009. Although the association of over 100 countries with the Copenhagen Accord, representing a large majority of global emissions, is a significant step in international climate negotiations, the Accord is not strong enough for the EU to increase its 20% emission reduction target.

Europe is moving forward to a low-carbon economy and has already obtained significant results through tools like the Emission Trading Scheme (ETS) which should encourage the development of a global carbon market. Indeed, many European companies are market leaders in carbon-efficient products and solutions. Further low-carbon investments of the private sector need a predictable policy framework and support from public authorities. The international climate negotiation should emphasise more the role of the private sector to tacklein tackling climate change and extend offsetting possibilities associated to with flexibility mechanisms.

WHAT DOES BUSINESSEUROPE AIM FOR?

- Establish a shared vision for long-term global action to combat climate change.
- Create a level-playing field worldwide for internationally traded goods.
- Achieve the transition to a low-carbon, cost-efficient and secure energy system through a predictable and competitiveness-friendly policy framework.



MEMBERS ARE 40 LEADING NATIONAL BUSINESS FEDERATIONS IN 34 EUROPEAN COUNTRIES





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