

## COP15: "CLIMATE NEGOTIATIONS MUST CONTINUE IN 2010," SAYS EPP PRESIDENT WILFRIED MARTENS

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The President of the European People's Party (EPP), **Wilfried Martens**, made the following statement regarding the results of the Climate Conference in Copenhagen:

*"For the past three years, the EPP has been strongly pushing for a global, legally binding agreement to combat climate change. Thus, the results of the COP 15 negotiations are well below our expectations. We need to continue to fight for a legally binding global agreement that can truly limit global warming to 2 °C, compared to pre-industrial times. The world community needs to prove its ability to deal with this enormous challenge. To acknowledge the 2 °C goal in Copenhagen is at least a step in the right direction but its clearly not sufficient,"* stated the EPP President.

But according to Martens, the negotiations in Copenhagen also showed that *"without the European Union, we would not see any substantial progress in the negotiations. Europe needs to continue to show leadership and the EPP will use all its influence to promote the swift implementation of the reduction goals of the EU that were decided in 2007. Our societies and economies must become less dependent on fossil fuels – there is no other alternative. But in the coming months it has to be made clear that all countries and governments have to make extra efforts, including the new economic powerhouses like China and India. We need to find soon a balanced approach and if we do, the EU will be ready to bring the process forward. Needless to say, without a legally binding agreement, we all lose – developed and developing countries alike,"* Wilfried Martens concluded.

[For more information:](#)

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