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EPP hopes for progress at Bonn Climate Change talks

Brussels, 31 May 2010



On the occasion of the UNFCCC Climate Change Talks, taking place in Bonn, Germany from 31 May to 11 June 2010, the President of the European People's Party (EPP) **Wilfried Martens** expressed his hope for concrete steps forward.

"After the difficult negotiations in Copenhagen last December, I hope that the talks in Bonn will give the world a realistic chance for a concrete result in Cancun, Mexico at the end of this year. The EPP remains firmly committed to the EU reduction goals. Although everybody is at the moment focused on the economic and financial crisis, the challenge of climate change has not become less important," the EPP President underlined.

"This April has been the warmest April ever measured – this shows that the warming continues and its speed increases. We need to decarbonize our economies – also for the sake of energy security and in order to create new jobs in innovative technologies. If we will not do this, it will not only endanger the climate but also the future of the European economy," Martens said.

The Chairman of the EPP Working Group on Climate Change, **Karl Heinz Florenz** MEP, added that Copenhagen mainly failed because of a lack of trust between developing countries and the industrialized world:

"The negotiations in the coming months will be crucial to build this trust in order to achieve a good result in Cancun. Climate change is a global problem and not only one of rich countries. If we work together to curb climate change, this will be a win-win situation for everybody."

Note to editors

The EPP is the largest and most influential European-level political party of the centre-right, which currently includes 73 member-parties from 39 countries, the Presidents of the Commission, Council, and Parliament, 14 EU and 5 non-EU heads of state and government, 13 members of the European Commission and the largest Group in the European Parliament.

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