

Seminar of Governmental Experts (16-17 May 2005)
Abstract of a presentation by the European Commission on behalf of the European Community and its member States

EU Policies and Measures to achieve Kyoto targets: The European Climate Change Programme (ECCP)

How to prepare and implement practical policies and measures to achieve Kyoto commitments, while not limiting economic growth? This is the mission of the European Climate Change Programme: to help the EU decision makers identify the most cost-effective measures and to drive forward the implementation of EU policies and measures. ECCP measures focus on issues with an EU dimension and complement Climate Change Programmes that Member States are implementing in their own country.

Since the launch of the European Climate Change Programme, a considerable number of EU measures have been adopted. Most importantly, the EU has implemented an emission trading scheme covering approximately 50% of CO₂ emissions in the EU-25, notably of the energy-intensive sectors, so as to achieve emission reductions in the most cost-effective and flexible way. In addition, the “linking Directive” establishes the provisions and rules for enabling economic operators to use credits from Joint Implementation and Clean Development Mechanisms for compliance within the emission trading scheme. Other key measures, related among others to the energy supply and demand sectors, as well as to other gases, will also be addressed briefly.

The presentation will aim to share the state of play and EU experience in the development of policies and measures, including lessons learnt, good practices and the planned new phase of the ECCP, that will pave the way for further reductions.