



## EU Environmental Legislation Monitoring

New ▾ Actions ▾

Update	Issue	Brief description	Latest developments	
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### Policy Sector : (1)

April 2010	Biodiversity and Business	The conservation of biodiversity has become a key issue worldwide, impacting all areas of life, in particularly the business sector.	2010 is the International Year of Biodiversity. In this context, the European Commission and Parliament have been active in organising events in this area. The European Commission is developing a Business and Biodiversity Platform, while the European Parliament is expected to publish a report in the coming weeks on Biodiversity.	
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### Policy Sector : 1. Presidency of the EU (1)

April 2010	Spanish Presidency of the EU	<p><b>Spanish Presidency of the EU January- June 2010</b></p> <p>Overarching themes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Climate Change</li> <li>2. Biodiversity</li> <li>3. Environment quality</li> <li>4. Water</li> </ol>	From 1 January to 30 June 2010, Spain will hold the six-month rotating presidency of the European Union. This is the first EU presidency under the new Lisbon treaty. Amongst its priorities, Spain expects to discuss the soil directive and address new biodiversity goals. In January, the Spanish Presidency held a conference on "Post 2010 Biodiversity Vision and Target" and outlined its goals in the context of Biodiversity.	
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### Policy Sector : 4. Water (1)

April 2010	Water scarcity and drought	The growing scarcity of water is causing a tension of the demand for water and leading to a price increase of water. Furthermore, the quality of water has become ever more important with regards to health standards.	The Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) announced the 2010 Stockholm Water Prize Laureate. In addition, they announced that they will organise the annual World Water Week in Stockholm in September. This event will mark the 20th Anniversary of the event.	
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### Policy Sector : 5. Pesticides (1)

October 2009	Regulation on pesticide statistics	The Regulation on pesticide statistics is the final step towards completion of the "Pesticides package" which contains 3 proposals, 2 of which have already been formally adopted in December last year (the Regulation concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market and the Directive relating to the sustainable use of pesticides).	On 24 September, the Council officially adopted the two new pieces of legislation for EU plant protection products. The new legislation will set out the rules for authorisation of plant protection products as well as help leading to a better protection of agricultural production.	
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### Policy Sector : 6. Soil (1)

April	Soil policy	Soil protection is becoming an	Environment Commissioner, Janez	
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increasingly important issue at European level. The Commission adopted a soil thematic strategy and framework directive on soil. In addition, Different EU policies (water, waste, chemicals, industrial pollution prevention, nature protection, pesticides, agriculture) are contributing to soil protection.

Potočník, said that he was prepared to offer concessions to a group of six countries that are blocking a deal on the EU's first-ever law on soil protection. Potočník promised to talk to all the ministers in the countries that are blocking a deal and said that he would address concerns that the EU was overstepping its competence and breaching the principle of subsidiarity where there is legislation at EU level only if member states cannot deal with an issue on their own.