



Burson • Marsteller

Swedish Presidency of the European Union (July-December 2009)

Last updated in October
2009

Latest Developments

Introduction

On 1 September, the European Parliaments' Environment, Public Health and Food Safety Committee held an exchange of views with Swedish Environment Minister, Andreas Carlgren, on behalf of the EU Presidency to present the main policy priorities until the end of this year.

Mr Carlgren outlined the four environmental priorities of the EU Swedish Presidency are climate change, biodiversity, protection of maritime resources and an overall shift towards an eco-efficient economy. The climate change debate and the EU's Copenhagen strategy were the most prominent issues in the discussion. The Minister gave special emphasis to the link between climate change and economic opportunities.

BIODIVERSITY:

Mr Carlgren stressed how narrowly climate change issues are interconnected with biodiversity. The Swedes will work closely with the 2 upcoming presidencies (Spain, Belgium) on this dossier to prepare ambitious targets and implementation mechanisms to achieve consistency with what the EU has agreed at global level. Mr Carlgren insisted there is also a justice and equality aspect to biodiversity. The Swedes will work for a deal on ABS (Access and benefit Sharing) at global level, and push forward the link between economy, society and biodiversity. Dutch Liberal MEP [Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy](#) suggested that biodiversity needs an Al Gore to be brought to the centre of public and political attention.

Other issues mentioned include water. Austrian Conservative MEP [Richard Seeber](#) stated the need for a worldwide strategy to reduce water leakage. French Liberal, Corrine Lepage and French Green Ms. Sandrine Bélier called for more soil protection. Mr Carlgren said that the Swedes will try and prepare the ground so that Spain can take formal steps to revive the proposal.

CLIMATE CHANGE:

The Minister laid special emphasis on the link between climate change and economic opportunities, with a view to change the EU economy into an eco-efficient economy, create green investments, green jobs and green firms. He also stated that he would like to expect from Copenhagen an answer to the 2 degrees Celsius target.

Background



Burson•Marsteller

Impact for golf management

- Biodiversity

Links

[Link to the Swedish Presidency Website](#)

[Link to the Work programme for the Swedish Presidency of the EU](#)