

16th EU-Japan Summit
Berlin, 5 June 2007
Joint Press Statement
(Environment Related Part)

1. Dr. Angela Merkel, Federal Chancellor of Germany, in her capacity as President of the European Council, assisted by High Representative Dr. Javier Solana, and Mr. Jose Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission, and Mr. Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan, met in Berlin on 5 June for the 16th Summit between the European Union (EU) and Japan.

2. Summit leaders reaffirmed their desire to further strengthen the longstanding partnership between the EU and Japan. The EU and Japan share fundamental values such as democracy, the rule of law, human rights, and a market-based economy. Summit leaders are united in their commitment to contribute to the resolution of global challenges including global climate change and the question of energy security. In this context, they noted further significant progress in implementing the Action Plan on EU-Japan Cooperation, adopted in 2001, and set priority actions to be taken by the time of the next EU-Japan-summit.

International and global issues

3. On climate change, the EU and Japan reached common understanding that, in order to stabilise the greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system, an urgent and strong action is needed.

In the light of this, the EU and Japan are committed to take strong leadership towards the development of a fair, flexible, effective and comprehensive UN post-2012 framework that ensures the participation of all major emitting countries. The UN climate change conference in Bali at the end of 2007 has crucial importance in this regard. Negotiations for a post-2012 framework should be completed as early as possible to avoid a gap after 2012.

Summit leaders are united in the view that a long-term goal for reducing global GHG emission by half or more by the year 2050 needs to be established. They acknowledge the continuing leadership role that developed economies have to play in tack-

ling climate change.

They recognise, however, that the efforts of developed countries will not be sufficient and that new approaches for fair contributions by other countries are needed.

In order to facilitate the negotiations and completion of a comprehensive agreement, the EU and Japan share the view that the G8 process including the Gleneagles dialogue, and other fora, provide valuable platforms to constructively engage with key energy consuming and greenhouse gas emitting countries with a view to support UN negotiations for a comprehensive framework agreement. In this regard Summit leaders recognise the importance of the development and transfer of technologies to reduce emissions and improve energy efficiency, use of market based instruments such as emissions trading, performance-based regulation and consumer labelling, appropriate adaptation measures to tackle inevitable effects of climate change and addressing the reduction of emissions from deforestation in developing countries. The EU and Japan will step up cooperation on climate change research and related observation activities such as Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) to support effective planning of adaptation measures.

The EU and Japan highlighted their shared interests and acknowledged the commonalities in the new EU Energy Strategy Policy and Japan's New National Energy Strategy, and will strengthen cooperation for energy security in the following key areas: increasing transparency, predictability, and stability of global markets; improving the investment climate in the energy sectors; enhancing energy efficiency and energy saving; diversifying energy mix; ensuring physical security of critical energy infrastructure; reducing energy poverty; addressing climate change and sustainable development; increased use of non fossil fuels and low-carbon technologies including clean coal technology, renewable energy resources (e.g. solar energy, wind power, bio-fuels); the use of nuclear energy for those who decide to use this option. A new international strategy on energy efficiency will be developed in close cooperation with the IEA. The EU and Japan will continue further discussions, and look forward to the success at the forthcoming Heiligendamm G8 Summit meeting, in order to intensify their cooperation in the field of climate change and energy, in the run-up to the UN international climate conference and to Japan's Presidency of the G8.

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