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Rio +20

Green Priorities for the Earth Summit

The Future we REALLY want

With the planet having entered Anthropocene, an era distinguished by human interference in the Earth's ecosystems, the Rio+20-Summit must be used as the opportunity to break with the business as usual approach and to achieve tangible action and measurable targets on the path to sustainable development.

The Greens call for the EU to take the lead to ensure a legally binding Rio +20 agreement with:

 **Green economy** understood as: the entire economy functioning within the limits of sustainability in respect to biodiversity and planetary boundaries, maintaining ecosystem services, climate protection and use of natural resources;

human development where social conditions are improved, global injustice is reduced and the economy is progressing within the ecosystem boundaries without being dependent on growth to function.

Regarding public finances, a **tax on financial transactions** is established at international level with revenues to be used to support biodiversity and climate protection in developing countries; and the phase out of all environmentally damaging subsidies is agreed.

Water, marine environment and oceans singled out as a priority for urgent improvement with a commitment to international legal instruments for the control of pollution of seas and oceans, sustainable management and assessment of human activities, the introduction of marine protected areas in international waters and the establishment of a high-level coordination mechanism on oceans.

Strengthened **environmental governance**, through:

- empowering citizen and civil society organisations, including expanding rights to access to information, participation and justice;
- reinforcing UN environmental governance by converting UNEP to a fully-fledged UN agency or significantly reinforcing it;
- agreeing that environmental rules take precedence over trade;
- the creation of an international environmental court, or dispute settlement body.

The Greens insist on the precautionary principle, the principle of non-regression in the context of environmental protection and the need to reject the patentability of life-forms.



The Greens | European Free Alliance
in the European Parliament

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Stop climate change.
Play your part.

A delegation of the Greens will be at Rio
in June for the Earth Summit.

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