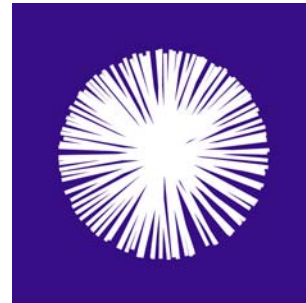


# European Monitoring September 2009



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## 1. General News

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### ***Scottish Government's Action Plan on European Engagement***

The Scottish Government's [Action Plan on European Engagement](#) which sets out how Scotland intends to engage with the EU and Europe, and corresponding appendices are available on the Scottish Government website.

### ***European and External Relations Committee Inquiry in to EU Budget Reform***

Back in December 2008 LINK submitted [written evidence](#) to the European and External Relations Committee's inquiry into EU Budget reform. The committee have since come back to us and asked us to submit further evidence, we were of course happy to oblige. You can read our [additional evidence here](#). We are also expecting to give oral evidence – so if you have anything you would like us to note or highlight please contact Jonny Hughes ([jhughes@swt.org.uk](mailto:jhughes@swt.org.uk)).

### ***Light bulb Ban***

The 1st of September marked the end of the incandescent light bulbs. The ban was decided by the European Union in 2009 under the Ecodesign of Energy-Using Products Directive. (see EEB press release below).

## 2. The European Parliament

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## 3. The European Commission

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### ***European Commission's consultation on policy options to address indirect land use change***

Topical for LINK at the moment as we look at sustainable land use. **This consultation response** mainly focuses on the role that biofuels can and should play in climate change mitigation, and in particular in the debate regarding damaging land use change effects.

### ***Barroso Re-elected as President***

In Mid September (16<sup>th</sup>) Jose Manuel Barroso won backing of the EU Parliament to return as President of the commission. It will be Mr Barroso's second five-year term as Commission President.

During his campaign for re-selection Barroso outlined his manifesto in '**Political guidelines for the next Commission**', There's a useful environmental questioning of this in a **letter the EEB sent to all MEPs** ahead of their vote.

*"we regret a complete lack of attention for the environmental challenges the EU and the world are facing. Mr. Barroso seems to reduce this challenge to the one of climate change. But even this major issue – which is strongly linked to the issue of security - receives little attention.*

The EEB have in the past been highly critical of the environmental performance of the commission led by Barroso. A 'congratulatory' letter to the president highlighting where they believe action is required, and picked up on many of the concerns outline above (in the MEP letter).

## 4. The European Council

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### ***EU Environment Council Meeting, 21 October 2009***

There will be a meeting of the EU environment meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> October.

3 issues of concern on the Agenda include;

1. Council conclusions on the Preparation of the EU Position for COP 15
2. Council Conclusions on an Eco-efficient Economy
3. Policy debates on WEEE and RoHS

The EEB has sent a letter to all ministers addressing these issues (see me if you would like to see).

## 5. European Environmental Bureau (EEB) News

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### *Press Releases*

- [EEB: MEPs must challenge Barroso over lax environmental agenda](#). 08/08/09
- [Green groups celebrate end of energy wasting lightbulbs, but demand clear consumer information](#) 28/08/09

### *In Brief*

#### 09-IB-15

- Energy Efficiency in Buildings
- Coolproducts Conference
- Noise

Back Issues of European Monitoring and supporting documents are available from the parliamentary office