

**31 January 2007**

## **Motion**

tabled by the Members of the German Bundestag Thilo Hoppe, Ute Koczy, Jürgen Trittin, Kerstin Müller, Gerhard Schick, Harald Terpe, Christine Scheel, Margareta Wolf, Renate Künast, Fritz Kuhn and the Alliance 90/The Greens parliamentary group in the German Bundestag

### **Reforms for Equitable Globalisation: Using the German G8 Presidency for Climate Protection and Sustainable Development**

#### **I. The German Bundestag notes that:**

The German G8 Presidency comes at a time when more people around the world are advocating global justice, action to overcome the gap between rich and poor and the preservation of the natural foundations of life. The G8 Presidency and the summit of the eight leading industrialised countries in the coming summer at Heiligendamm must be used to drive forward concrete initiatives that enable us to manage globalisation more equitably. This will involve alleviating poverty through support for the United Nations' Millennium Goals, the preservation of the global environment and biological diversity, shared answers to climate change and the creation of a more equitable trading system. The German Bundestag will judge whether the Presidency has been a success or failure by the concrete results achieved in these fields.

#### **Reforms to the G8 itself are indispensable**

More than 30 years ago, six states met in France at Château de Rambouillet for the first world economic summit, an event overshadowed by the first great oil crisis. These informal talks about currency and financial questions developed into permanent cooperation at ministerial and government level. The eight states that now belong to the group are finding themselves increasingly confronted with questions about the legitimacy and scope of their decisions. As an exclusive club of heads of government and various ministerial meetings, largely removed from parliamentary participation and with declining levels of social acceptance, the G8 take decisions with effects that go far beyond these eight states or at least intend to do so.

Yet the G8 represent just one fifth of the world's population. No global problem can be dealt with satisfactorily nowadays without the systematic involvement of the developing countries. The debate about a transformation of the G8 and the reform of the United Nations must be directed towards a new governance structure. We need new political initiatives in order to enhance the status of the United Nations in comparison with the G8.

While the former Canadian prime minister Paul Martin wants to expand the G8 into a G20 by bringing in the most important threshold countries, the report recently presented by the High-Level Panel on UN System-wide Coherence proposes the establishment of a Global Leaders Forum (L27) under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

As a governance forum of heads of state and government composed of 27 of the 54 ECOSOC members, who would rotate on the basis of a formula drawn up by the United Nations to ensure equitable regional representation, it would be intended to take on a coordinating and leadership role, dealing with questions of economics, development and global public goods. This proposal would take us in the right direction because it would more obviously strengthen the UN system and also involve developing countries in global governance structures.

The German Federal Government has failed to make the reform of the G8 itself a priority for its Presidency. The priorities mentioned by the German Federal Government include greater stability on the financial markets, an improved framework for investment, initiatives on climate protection and partnership with Africa. However, it has not as yet given any indication of the concrete plan of work and proposals with which it will go into the Presidency. Questions of global security, such as nuclear disarmament, are being completely ignored. There is evidently no debate taking place about development funding either. We need progress in the efforts to mobilise larger sums of money for development, climate protection and more equitable North-South relations.

### **Climate protection and sustainable energy supplies – the bridge to poverty alleviation**

The climate catastrophe is advancing more rapidly than expected. It is threatening human health, agriculture, major cities and economic development all over the world. Yet the burdens of climate change are very unequally distributed. The main burden of climate change is being borne not by the rich who are causing it, but primarily by the poor of the South. The poorer and weaker people, regions or countries are, the fewer opportunities they have to adjust to climate change, protect themselves, insure themselves and rectify damage that has occurred. In parts of Africa south of the Sahara, it is to be anticipated that harvests will be more than 25 percent down on account of weather patterns attributable to anthropogenic climate change.

The German Bundestag expects the German Presidency to agree on steps that take us “away from oil” and reduce our dependence on fossil raw materials. The recent conflicts between Belarus and Russia about the usage of the gas pipeline that runs across Belarusian territory, the persisting instability in regions with large oil stocks and, above all, the incompatibility of fossil fuels with climate protection underline the significance of this topic at the moment. The problems with fossil fuels have been dramatically highlighted by recent studies, such as the Stern Review commissioned by the British government. Nuclear power offers neither a way out of our climate dilemma nor a solution to our energy problems. It would merely create incalculable new risks. The danger of a maximum credible accident cannot be eliminated. The question of the disposal of radioactive nuclear waste has remained unresolved for more than 50 years. In addition to this, there is the fact that uranium itself is a resource with very limited availability.

All the G8 states, including the USA, must commit themselves to binding CO<sub>2</sub> reductions in order to cushion the impact of climate change. This is also a precondition if the threshold countries are to be persuaded to reduce their emissions in future. At Heiligendamm, the G8 should send out a signal that the Kyoto process will be continued and set out their own reduction targets for the period after 2012.

Germany should use its Presidency to assume a pioneering role in climate policy and enter into a commitment to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions 40 percent by 2020 and at least 80 percent by 2050. Furthermore, it should do everything it can to ensure the EU sets a binding CO<sub>2</sub> reduction target of at least 30 percent for the period from 2012 to 2020. The G8 states should also use their influence and press the World Bank and the regional development banks to promote renewable energies instead of fossil energies. The efforts by some of the G8 to bring nuclear energy into play as an alternative energy or “clean technology” must be resisted unconditionally by the German Federal Government.

The use of renewable energies, improved energy efficiency and energy saving are decisive to these aims. Efficient technologies, vehicles and buildings that consume less and the “green innovation cycle” that is required are inconceivable without sustainable energy use. We should expect the G8 states to launch initiatives that create incentives for consumers and businesses to make their behaviour

more climate-friendly. For example, this could be done by setting limits and product standards (consumption, emission values) for cars and other consumer goods with massively lower energy consumption levels. Given the global nature of modern production chains, this would also have consequences for producers in other parts of the world.

The Presidency should also become the starting point for an institutionalised dialogue with the threshold countries about sustainable energy systems. Their patterns of consumption and production are moving closer to those of the industrialised countries – with all the same negative consequences. Sustainable development is unimaginable without “technological leapfrogging”, particularly in the threshold countries. If current patterns of energy use are continued, they would have consequences on a global scale. Were the development of consumption and production patterns in states such as China and Brazil to merely see them catch up with those in the West, this would neutralise the – in any case insufficient – climate protection activities of the OECD countries. The rising costs of climate change would considerably reduce our chances of successfully alleviating poverty in the countries with the poorest economies. It is in the old industrialised states’ own interest to live up to their historic responsibility for climate change and support the new industrialised nations as they undertake this leap in development.

Some actors have suggested the establishment of a genuinely global energy organisation, to which China, India and other countries would also belong and in which governments, the private sector and civil society would be involved. The idea is that such a global agency should agree on binding principles for the supply of and access to energy. This would also have to be the subject of intensive discussions.

It is developing countries that are affected most by climate change. Today, climate change is already a factor contributing to increased temperatures, droughts, floods and massive variations in the amount of rain in these countries and is worsening the living conditions of the poorest people in particular. As the parties mainly responsible for climate change, the industrialised states have a duty to support the people affected in an appropriate fashion as they seek to adjust to changed conditions.

Sustainable energy policy is not just an urgent matter of ecological concern. It is also decisive for the fight against poverty. The G8 states should undertake to support access to sustainable energy systems in the poorest developing countries by topping up the funding for relevant programmes. There needs to be a follow-up event to the successful conference on renewable energies held at Bonn in 2004. The optimistic mood that could be sensed there requires further support from the G8. The establishment of an International Agency for Renewable Energies must also be expedited more vigorously. The challenge for ecological justice is to find the most climate-compatible possible ways of allowing the consumption of energy to increase at the same time as securing greater efficiency, lower levels of air, soil and water pollution and better access to energy for the poorest people.

### **Protecting tropical forests and biological diversity**

The protection of resources and the preservation of biodiversity have a decisive role in climate protection. The Amazon, the Congo Basin and the tropical forests of South East Asia are of outstanding significance in this connection. The World Bank assumes that between 20 and 25 percent of greenhouse gases are released as a result of the destruction of tropical forests. Great progress can be achieved in climate protection at comparably low cost by taking action to safeguard forests. The protection of tropical forests is relevant, above all, for the developing countries. Compensation payments for the preservation of the rain forests could also make a considerable contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

The question of innovative compensation and funding instruments plays a significant role in this respect. Papua New Guinea, Costa Rica and Brazil were among the countries to put forward proposals for instruments of this kind at the climate conferences in Montreal and Nairobi.

At the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development, the international community set itself the goal of decisively reducing the rate at which biological diversity is being lost by 2010. Despite this, the loss of species is accelerating in an alarming fashion. About 100 species of living organisms die out every day. Germany will hold the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in 2008. The construction of a global network of *terrestrial and maritime* conservation areas must be pushed forward at the international level in the run up to this event.

The protection of primeval forests is a particularly sensitive issue. They are among the most species-rich and diverse habitats on Earth. Although their significance is well known, the destruction of these forests is continuing almost unhindered. It is necessary to prevent deforestation from wrecking the progress made in climate policy. Illegal logging, from which a good half of the wood used all over the world originates, is a decisive factor in the destruction of primeval forests. As important purchasers, the G8 states must agree to adopt a ban on trading in wood and wood products that originate from illegal logging.

It is indispensable that biodiversity be preserved and access to it guaranteed if the Millennium Goal of halving the number of hungry and extremely poor people by 2015 is to be achieved. This is why it is necessary to ensure that the Convention on Biological Diversity is not undermined by the TRIPS Agreement. We would not regard an extension of intellectual property rights that restricts any of the exceptions from patentability, e.g. for animals, plants or genes, as acceptable. Patent protection must not result in the free exchange of seed – on which the livings of many small farmers depend – being banned. The G8 states are called upon to help restore and secure the rights and sovereignty of indigenous peoples and local communities over their biological resources by putting fair and effective arrangements in place.

It is also necessary to ensure that no biological resources may be collected and taken out of a country without the original owners being informed and their agreement obtained. The agreements used by the International Plant Exchange Network (IPEN), which were drawn up by the German botanic gardens, provide a positive model for possible contractual foundations for the work of taxonomic collections that would permit plant and animal species to be catalogued. However, collections of this kind should only be set up in countries that have signed the Convention on Biological Diversity, so that the protective provisions set out in the Convention – such as the duties of the parties to the Convention to recognise the rights of the original owners of biological resources – can unfold their effect.

### **Social and ecological guidelines for globalisation**

The G8 states have made numerous declarations that emphasised the significance of the developing countries becoming better integrated into world trade. At the same time, they have not significantly improved market access for products from the developing countries – with the exception of the poorest developing countries. The double morality of the governments of the industrialised countries is particularly obvious when it comes to agriculture. It will not be possible to conclude the world trade round if they make no fundamental changes to their policies on farm subsidies. Subsidised Western agricultural products continue to be dumped on the market, destroying the foundations on which farmers and their families in developing countries depend to make a living. The German Presidency's agenda in the field of world trade is one-sided. As long as there is no improved offer from the industrialised countries on the opening of markets in the agricultural sector and no concessions have been made over the exaggerated demands for disproportionate liberalisation in relation to industrial goods, there can be no progress in the world trade round. The G8 are called upon to adopt an agenda that is more compatible with development policy and, while doing so, to also allow the developing countries corresponding protective mechanisms.

Gaining acceptance for environmental and social standards in world trade is a central field of policymaking on the way to equitable globalisation. Standards in the commodities sector are particularly important. As the main purchasers of commodities, the G8 states are interested in reliable supplies. They also have a responsibility to ensure that their demand for commodities does not exacerbate conflicts or bring about environmental destruction. With China, and India as well, new

actors are appearing in Africa, Central Asia and Latin America as purchasers of commodities. This is creating new constellations and conflicts of interest, to which human rights or environmental protection could rapidly fall victim if no binding standards were in place.

Good governance and transparency are preconditions if the revenues from the extraction of raw materials are genuinely to benefit the people in developing countries. The German Bundestag welcomes the fact that the German Federal Government is working to increase the transparency of revenues from commodities. However, it is not raising the decisive step that should come next, the introduction of binding standards. The G8 should take initiatives that set binding social and ecological standards in the commodities sector. The sceptical attitude of many developing countries towards binding standards of this kind could be countered by drawing up these standards jointly with the developing countries. Germany could take on a pioneering role in the field of binding standards and make them permanent components of its activities to promote foreign trade, for instance when export credit and investment guarantees are granted.

We need binding social and ecological standards in order to meaningfully reconcile any conflicts between the goals of preserving the natural foundations of life, developing and promoting renewable energies and protecting the global climate. For example, the market for biofuels is growing in all the G8 states. This is a good development, but one that must not result in the cultivation of plants for biofuels contributing to the clearance of rain forests, the expulsion of indigenous populations or threats to food security. There is therefore an urgent need to set and secure compliance with standards for the ecological and social sustainability of bioenergy.

### **Contributing to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals – securing development funding**

In September 2000, the international community agreed on eight Millennium Development Goals. They include the alleviation of poverty and hunger, access to education, gender equality and combating HIV/AIDS. It is true that the G8 have supported these goals in the past, but little has actually been done. The alleviation of hunger, in particular, has been dreadfully neglected. The number of dangerously and chronically undernourished people has even grown in recent years – particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa.

In its programme for the Presidency, the German Federal Government is relying one-sidedly on the improvement of governance and private foreign direct investment in the developing countries. Although the significance of these approaches is indisputable, this should not result in funding issues that relate to the implementation of the Development Goals being disregarded.

There is no conflict between moves to find more money for development and the domestic reforms that are required in the developing countries themselves. It is necessary to set about the one without neglecting the other. The G8 still have a responsibility to increase funding for development cooperation to 0.7 percent of gross national product. The German Federal Government and the other G8 states are called upon to secure sufficient financial backing for the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals.

Additional funds could be mobilised for the implementation of the Millennium Goals by means of innovative funding instruments, such as a currency transaction tax, air ticket tax or kerosene tax. Programmes to alleviate poverty and protect the environment and natural resources in the countries of the South could be financed in this way. France and Belgium have introduced an air ticket tax intended to finance development work. Germany should not stand aside from such moves, but should join this initiative.

### **Expanding cooperation with Africa**

It is high time that the public and politicians ceased to view Africa predominantly in the light of negative headlines. There are strong forces in politics and civil society that are working for

democracy, good governance and ecological and social standards in almost all African countries. An open dialogue about the continent's political and economic future should be set in train with our African partners and other countries that are increasingly playing an active role on the continent, such as India, China and Brazil. This dialogue would have to address the central issues of the promotion of sustainable investment, the transparency of revenues from resources and the anchoring of ecological and social standards.

The German Bundestag welcomes the decision to continue dialogue and cooperation with the states of Africa at the forthcoming G8 summit. Since 1999, the G8 have exerted a positive influence by granting debt relief to the poorest developing countries and making commitments to provide higher levels of development aid. So far, however, not all the promises have been fulfilled. Many initiatives, above all those announced at the G8 summit in Gleneagles, are still waiting to be implemented.

Reform measures taken in Africa to improve economic conditions, combat corruption and maintain the rule of law should continue to be supported. Such measures should also involve the observance of human rights and action to promote non-violent conflict prevention and the non-violent resolution of conflicts, in particular through support for the construction and consolidation of an African security and peace architecture. The German Bundestag welcomes the reform efforts of the African states within the framework established by the New Partnership for Africa (NEPAD) initiative and the G8 Africa Action Plan (GAA). The efforts being made by the African states to reform within the framework of NEPAD offer a good starting point for further cooperation. For their part, the NEPAD states are called upon to continue to clearly demonstrate their determination to carry out reforms and to extend and deepen the participation of parliamentary institutions and civil society.

On account of the rising number of hungry people, questions of food security and the alleviation of hunger must be given significantly greater weight by the African states themselves and the G8. As a way of overcoming hunger, the improvement of economic and agricultural conditions, particularly in the spirit of sustainable development, is a central task for the coming years.

New offers to revive the world trade round, improved market access and the dismantling of agricultural subsidies in the industrialised countries would also be of particular significance for the African States.

### **Fighting HIV/AIDS and strengthening health systems in developing countries**

Each year, millions of people in developing countries die from the consequences of water-conditioned diseases and infectious diseases, such as malaria, tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS. In Africa, three-quarters of young people newly infected with HIV are women. It is necessary to respond to the feminisation of the HIV/AIDS epidemic by means of targeted measures to fight the disease. Work needs to be done to improve the social position of women. Girls and women's access to sexual education based on scientific knowledge must be improved. The need for funding in the fight against HIV/AIDS is colossal: according to figures released by UNAIDS, there is still a funding shortfall of 10 billion US dollars for 2007. The G8 states must deliver on their financial promises and expand them in future. Germany must use the G8 Presidency to make significantly more money available for the bilateral and multilateral fight against AIDS and, in particular, overcome its reserved attitude towards the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM), especially as the GFATM's 2nd Replenishment Meeting is due to take place in Germany at the end of September. Germany should also give a material signal by increasing its funding.

In 2005, the G8 states concluded agreements intended to facilitate universal access to AIDS treatment and prevention. As the host country, Germany has a particular responsibility to persuade the G8 states to make progress in this field. It is necessary to make fundamental improvements to the production of and trade in generics designed to meet the needs of the developing countries. The bureaucratic hurdles to the import of generics lead to the poorest countries, in particular, being prevented from obtaining supplies of vitally important medicines. Until now the pharmaceuticals industry has not devoted

sufficient attention to research into medicines for HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other diseases. One reason for this is the lack of opportunities to make money as a consequence of the financial weakness of the developing countries.

The industry often has no interest in developing dosage forms of medicines that are suitable for developing countries on account of the lack of sales opportunities.

The G8 states must therefore push ahead with a pilot project that guarantees the state purchasing of vaccines developed by the private sector. Staffing levels in the developing countries' health systems are disastrous. The practice of some G8 states, such as the UK, of poaching medical health personnel abroad exacerbates the lack of specialist staff and must be ended.

The German Federal Government should place a particular emphasis on the implementation of the G8 Water Action Plan, which was adopted at the Evian summit in 2003. 80 percent of diseases in developing countries are water-conditioned and caused by the usually enormous deficiencies in developing countries' water supply and sanitation infrastructure. Efforts to eliminate these deficiencies could do a tremendous amount to relieve the pressure on health systems in developing countries.

### **Driving ahead initiatives on disarmament during the Presidency**

The G8 states are responsible for the world's highest levels of military spending, arsenals of weapons and nuclear and arms exports. The bulk of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons of mass destruction, cluster bombs, anti-personnel mines and small arms are produced, stored or exported by these states. The G8 states will therefore have a decisive role in the decommissioning of armaments capabilities, the non-proliferation of weapons of every kind and an effective political approach to civil crisis prevention.

The activities undertaken hitherto under the G8 Global Partnership have not been enough to effectively counter the dangers of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction – including their spread to non-state actors. The crisis over the nuclear armament of North Korea, the Iranian nuclear programme and the US-Indian nuclear deal make it clear that we are approaching a decisive turning point in world politics. There is the threat of a new arms race, which could ultimately result in a large number of new states armed with nuclear weapons, nuclear terrorism and the collapse of treaty-based arms control. This development can only be stopped by a serious new initiative on disarmament and non-proliferation.

In order to be able to demand credibly of the non-nuclear states that they do without nuclear weapons, the states with nuclear weapons must fulfil their commitments concerning nuclear disarmament. This would include the rapid entry into force of the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty and the verifiable decommissioning of Russia and the USA's tactical weapons capabilities, including the US nuclear weapons stationed in Germany and Europe. In this respect, the German Federal Government must make it clear that it supports the withdrawal of the US nuclear weapons stationed in Germany and Europe and is ready to abandon its active role in nuclear sharing at the earliest possible opportunity. The US-Indian proposal for increased cooperation on nuclear issues and the lifting of the nuclear sanctions imposed for decades by the Nuclear Suppliers Group is not just a reward for India's nuclear build-up. It encourages other states to follow the Indian example and therefore detracts from the efforts to gain acceptance for the Non-Proliferation Treaty. Israel and Pakistan too are now demanding that nuclear restrictions should be lifted. In the Nuclear Suppliers Group, which only decides by consensus, Germany must press for India to enter into more comprehensive commitments on arms control and disarmament. Germany must not say YES to the proposals that have been put forward.

### **Stabilising financial markets – regulating hedge funds**

The risks on the financial markets have increased: Growing imbalances in the balances of payments of the big states and the resulting currency risks, shortages and wide price fluctuations on the

commodities markets, the dangers from international terrorism, the risk of pandemics, the exploding market in credit derivatives and, above all, the growing significance of hedge funds and private equity funds represent major risk factors for the stability of the international financial system. The imbalances in the balances of payments of the threshold countries and the USA's enormous current account deficit may lead to major fluctuations on the foreign currency markets and severe reactions across whole economic areas as a result of assets being shifted between currencies, for example from the dollar to the euro.

It is necessary to search for efficient methods with which limits can be set on the casino economy to the benefit of trade and investment. In no other field of the world economy has globalisation made politicians abdicate their capacity to shape events to such an extent as on the international financial markets. The German Federal Government must use its G8 Presidency to deepen international cooperation on currency issues. Developing countries must be politically supported in restricting short-term capital inflows and outflows that threaten the stability of their domestic financial systems. In addition to this, a tax on foreign currency transactions based on the idea of the Tobin Tax could contribute to the stabilisation of the global financial markets.

As far as improved protection for investments is concerned, it must be borne in mind that it is not just the rights of investors that should be regulated but that, at the same time, they should be obliged to comply with internationally agreed standards, such as the ILO Core Labour Standards and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, and as a result their investments will contribute to people's wellbeing.

Globalisation has helped make it easier for transnational enterprises to avoid their responsibility to finance public services. Systematic steps to close down "tax havens" are required in order to contain legal and illegal tax flight. For tax havens undermine the equitable taxation of incomes and assets all over the world. Tax flight and, indeed, money laundering could be effectively combated by agreeing an internationally coordinated ban on financial transactions with banks and funds registered in offshore centres that refuse to apply international minimum standards for financial supervision, market transparency and cooperation between financial authorities.

Due to the enormous influx of liquidity that hedge funds and the private equity sector have seen of late, they have become a significant factor on the financial markets and one that is difficult to calculate. Furthermore, their activities are financed by credit to an ever greater extent, consequently multiplying the risk of a global financial crisis and, therefore, a crisis in the world economy. The German Federal Government is called upon to work at the G8 summit for improved international cooperation on issues relating to financial markets.

Financial intermediaries that operate across national borders and have not been regulated in the past, such as hedge and private equity funds, must be controlled internationally. A transnational supervisory structure must be created, the actors in which are equipped with sufficient powers to be capable of responding adequately to undesirable developments. Uniform international transparency requirements of the kind the German Federal Government is currently calling for are not enough in this respect. The foundation stone for international fund regulation standards must be laid at the G8 summit. This will involve setting minimum requirements with regard to risk diversification and the limitation of credit risks, so that hedge funds do not invest in high-risk investment products with highly leveraged credit and, by so doing, endanger the stability of the financial markets. During the G8 negotiations, the German Federal Government should urge the USA to abide by the Basel II agreements on banking supervision and incorporate the relevant standards into its national law.

## **II. The Bundestag calls on the German Federal Government:**

1. to use the Presidency to conduct a fundamental discussion about the future role of the G8 and a new governance structure for addressing global problems that will help to strengthen the United Nations;

2. to debate the impact of informal groupings on the reform and strengthening of the United Nations and the necessity for all the UN's member states to participate in these processes;
3. to make combating climate change a key priority for the German G8 Presidency and to call upon all the G8 states to continue the Kyoto process and launch new and ambitious climate initiatives;
4. to move ahead with the protection of the tropical forests as an important element of climate protection and to develop and implement innovative funding instruments which are related to these activities;
5. to work at Heiligendamm to ensure the G8 send out a signal that the Kyoto process will be continued and set out their own reduction targets for the period after 2012; Germany should declare its readiness to commit to reductions of 40 percent by 2020 and 80 percent by 2050;
6. to establish a systematic, continuing dialogue with the threshold and developing countries with the goal of agreeing comprehensive initiatives on climate protection and the construction of sustainable energy systems;
7. to work to ensure that the dependence of the G8 states on fossil raw materials is reduced through the agreement by the G8 of targets for increases in the market share of renewable energies, enhanced energy efficiency and energy saving;
8. to use the G8 Presidency to drive ahead the adoption of binding funding mechanisms and financial compensation mechanisms for the preservation of biological diversity;
9. to work for the creation of a global network of terrestrial and maritime conservation areas;
10. to work within the framework of the international debate on the patenting of plants, animals and genes for a revision of the TRIPS Agreement, for the strengthening of the rights of countries of origin, for the rights of indigenous and local communities and for the equitable offsetting of benefits and damages in connection with the use of biological resources;
11. to take initiatives on the setting of limits and product standards that create incentives for consumers and businesses to make their behaviour more climate-friendly;
12. to deliberate with the other G8 states on a prohibition of trading with wood and wood products that originate from illegal logging, and to implement the G8 dialogue on illegal logging begun in Singapore with forest-rich countries at the earliest possible opportunity;
13. to use the German G8 Presidency to further develop cooperative partnerships with Africa in all fields of policy;
14. to strengthen its efforts to ensure the implementation of the G8 Africa Action Plan as a way of supporting the NEPAD reforms, to make its development policy instruments more flexible so that they are better able to respond to NEPAD, to ensure the presentation of national implementation reports and to work for the greater involvement of parliaments and civil society in the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM);
15. to use its influence to strengthen the "right to food" and raise the profile of rural development in development cooperation – above all with the states of Sub-Saharan Africa;
16. to initiate a dialogue on policy towards Africa with those countries that have started to engage themselves more in Africa, above all China, but also India and Brazil;
17. to rapidly increase the funding for development cooperation in accordance with the EU's two-stage plan to 0.7 percent of gross national income, and – as decided within the EU – to double the funding for development cooperation with Africa by 2010;

18. to introduce innovative funding instruments that contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Goals; in particular, to introduce an air ticket tax in Germany over the short term and to advocate an EU-wide initiative in favour of a kerosene tax and a currency transaction tax;
19. to respond to the special challenge from HIV/AIDS and malaria with greater commitment, as otherwise fundamental successes in the development field will not be possible;
20. to also contribute financially to measures that ensure the pharmaceutical industry does more to push forward research into neglected diseases and, in particular, the development of vaccines against HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis;
21. to work within the framework of the G8 for more financial resources to be made available for the healthcare sector in developing countries than in the past; this will also mean making significantly more money available for bilateral and multilateral action to combat AIDS and malaria and, in particular, require the German Federal Government to overcome its reserved attitude towards the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM);
22. to advocate that the G8 states make commitments that prevent the targeted poaching of medical personnel from developing countries;
23. to give new impetus to the implementation of the G8 Water Action Plan and to urge the Japanese government to adopt water and basic sanitation as a major focus for its G8 Presidency in 2008 as “Evian + 5”, by doing which it would make a visible contribution to the International Year of Sanitation in 2008;
24. to work within the framework of the G8 for a complete prohibition of cluster munitions, a prohibition on the stationing of weapons in outer space and a halt to deliveries of small arms to crisis regions;
25. against the background of the crisis of nuclear disarmament and the danger of the proliferation of nuclear weapons, to launch new initiatives on verifiable nuclear disarmament that include tactical nuclear weapons, while also supporting the discontinuation of Germany’s role in nuclear sharing and the withdrawal of the nuclear weapons stationed in Germany;
26. to ensure that India enters into further commitments on arms control and disarmament policy, e.g. the most comprehensive possible inspection of all nuclear facilities, the ratification of the Test Ban Treaty, a halt to the production of new nuclear weapons and weaponisable fissile material and a commitment to disarmament, before restrictions on the supply of nuclear materials and technology to India are lifted by the Nuclear Suppliers Group;
27. to seek to ensure that the G8 Global Partnership programme for the neutralisation of weapons of mass destruction legacies is expanded, that it is also extended to other countries and that Russia makes a greater financial contribution to the programme in future;
28. to work for the internationally coordinated regulation and control of hedge funds and private equity funds;
29. to take more vigorous action against tax evasion and tax flight with the other G8 states and to increase the pressure on tax havens to comply with international standards;
30. to support developing and threshold countries politically in restricting short-term capital inflows and outflows that threaten the stability of their domestic financial systems.