

European Union - Significant Developments in 2001

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1. Legislation adopted

- Directive 2001/42 Environmental impact assessment for plans and programmes
- Directive 2001/18 Placing GMO on the market (replacing 90/220)
- Directive 2001/80 Large combustion plants (replacing 88/609)
- Directive 2001/81 National emission ceilings air pollution
- Regulation 761/2001 Eco-management EMAS (replacing 1836/93)
- Recommendation 2001/331 Environmental inspectors
- (Guidelines for state aids for environmental purposes), OJ 2001, C 37 p.3.

Legislation does not try to reduce the quantities of pollutants that enter the environment; rather, procedures are laid down.

2. Legislation proposed

- Proposal for a directive on emission trading of CO² COM(2001)581
- Proposal for a decision to adhere to the Kyoto Protocole COM (2001)579
- Proposal for a directive on the protection of the environment by criminal law OJ 2001, C 180E, p.238.
- Proposal for a directive on participation in decision-making, OJ 2001, C 154E, p.123
- Proposal for a decision on the 6th action programme, OJ 2001, C 154 E, p.218; Commission communication COM(2001) 31.

3. Other

- Sustainable development strategy COM(2001)264
- Development of environmental indicators
- Internal decision to produce an annual report on the environment

4. Court decisions

C-36/98 Danube water (legal basis)

C-379/98 State aids for renewable energy

C-230/00 Tacit permits are illegal

Opinion 2/01(?) Legal basis for international environmental measures

(End of the Kouroupitos saga)