

## WEEK IN BRUSSELS

Week ending Friday 26 August

### EU considering extension to Kyoto Protocol

The European Union is considering an extension to the Kyoto Protocol to secure the future of the Clean Development Mechanism. Currently the mechanism, which allows developed nations to purchase off-sets for emission reduction targets by investing in projects that promote clean development in poorer countries, expires in 2012. According to EU officials, discussions will take place to see whether it would be feasible to extend the Protocol on the condition that it expires in 2018, and then replaced with another agreement that looks to cap all major developed countries' emissions. The proposal is to be discussed ahead of an October Environment Council meeting where ministers are due to agree its position heading into negotiations on global climate change talks in Durban in November. (Source: EurActiv)

<http://www.euractiv.com/en/climate-environment/eu-may-propose-kyoto-protocol-extension-news-507084>

### EU Globalisation Fund payments tripled in 2010

The European Commission has announced that payments made under the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF) increased threefold in 2010 compared to previous years. The EGF funds training and job seeking assistance for workers dismissed under circumstances caused by the economic crisis or structural changes in world trade patterns. The fourth annual report on the activities and results of the EGF shows that €83.5 million was paid out in 2010, assisting 23,688 workers. László Andor, EU Commissioner responsible for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, said: "The Fund has covered training and job search assistance for thousands of European workers and it will continue to play a crucial role in fighting unemployment or preventing it. The EGF reflects the need to focus on the challenges of this decade, while preserving strong investment in

areas like training, innovation and European infrastructure."

(Source: European Commission)

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/11/973&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>



### Week ahead

#### European Commission

No relevant activity.

#### Council of Ministers

No relevant activity.

#### European Parliament (Committees Brussels)

31 August – ECON: First exchange of views on the revision of the Energy Taxation Directive.

31 August – INTA: Adoption of a motion for a resolution on the state of play regarding the Doha Development Agenda; First exchange of views on recommendations on negotiations on the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement.