



The energy crisis an opportunity to make Europe more humane!

The Energie-Cités Board of Director met at Växjö (SE) the 17th of June, just a few days after the Irish referendum's **No** to the Treaty of Lisbon.

At the same time, the barrel of petrol reached almost \$140, three times dearer year on year.

Against the background of the EU institutional crisis and rocketing fuel prices, it is more than ever vital to change the type of relationship European bodies have with society and with European citizens.

Infused with that spirit, Energie-Cités has adopted several resolutions all designed to offer a link between regulatory and technical issues and society's expectations, to make EU policies more comprehensible to citizens, to the point of being wanted, and to motivate policy makers:

- A Declaration entitled "***Increase in energy prices: Old cures won't do!***" that recalls the 3x20 agreement must become the road map at every level of society: only the local expression of those targets will make them more comprehensible to citizens and offer them the opportunity of being involved through their domestic, professional or associative responsibilities. It follows that Energie-Cités wholeheartedly supports the «**Covenant of Mayors**» by which local and regional authorities would make a voluntary engagement with EU targets and even exceed them.
- **Building Directive (EPBD):** the recasting of that directive must clearly show that its aim is to tackle energy precariousness and overall to shelter European citizens from energy vulnerability in an uncertain world and to create jobs unlikely to be relocated through housing rehabilitation projects.
- « **Renewable energies** » **Directive Project:** targets must clearly set out that it involves the stimulation of local economies, job creation and the security of energy supplies not only in the EU but across Europe as a whole.

It is often said that the EU is short on inspiration and projects. Energy and climatic conditions are forcing us to take another look at all our policies and invent a sustainable Europe. That represents a great opportunity to make Europe more humane!

Energie-Cités
Växjö, Sween
17 June 2008

Energie-Cités background:

With over 160 members in 25 countries and representing more than 500 towns and cities, Energie-Cités is the association of European local authorities for the promotion of local sustainable energy policies.

www.energie-cites.eu

Växjö declaration: http://www.energie-cites.eu/IMG/pdf/declaration_vaxjo_june_2008_en.pdf

Energie-Cités' opinions:

- on the use of RES http://www.energie-cites.eu/IMG/pdf/opinion_use_of_res_2008_final.pdf

- on the recasting of EPBD http://www.energie-cites.eu/IMG/pdf/opinion_recasting_epbd_2008_final.pdf