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CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS*

Austria's GDP increased by 27% between 1990 and 2001. The *Austrian economy*, which is very open and highly dependent on foreign exchange, experienced an economic upswing in the late 1990s and a slowdown in 2001-02. Federal and provincial governments have long had ambitious environmental policies to respond to pressures on the environment from sectors such as industry, transport, agriculture and energy, as well as the reliance on the environment of the tourism and leisure industry, which generates about 18% of GDP.

Austria's *decoupling of environmental pressures from economic growth* was very strong during the review period. Overall, the energy, material and pollution intensity of the economy have continued to decrease. However, progress has been elusive for municipal waste generation, certain air emissions and biodiversity conservation. As a landlocked country, Austria partly depends for its environmental quality on progress by its neighbours. Within the context of its membership of the European Union since 1995 and of its expanding relations with Central and Eastern European countries, Austria faces both further pressures on its environment and opportunities to co-operate with its close partners. Today, *priority environmental issues* include climate protection, nature and biodiversity conservation, waste management, and water and soil management.

To meet these challenges, Austria will need to: i) implement more efficient environmental policies; ii) further integrate environmental concerns into economic and sectoral policies; and iii) further strengthen its international environmental co-operation. This report evaluates Austria's performance in meeting its *domestic objectives and international commitments* concerning environmental management, especially since the 1995 OECD Environmental Performance Review. It also reviews the country's progress in implementing the objectives of the *OECD*

* Conclusions and Recommendations reviewed and approved by the Working Party on Environmental Performance at its meeting in July 2003.

Environmental Strategy.* Some 44 recommendations are made with the aim of helping to further strengthen Austria's environmental performance in the context of sustainable development.

1. Environmental Management

Implementing more efficient environmental policies

Austria's environmental policies have been quite effective in meeting a number of *demanding environmental objectives* (e.g. strict air quality standards; quality of receiving waters; sewerage connection rate reaching 85% of households; reintroduction of Danube salmon to designated river reaches; high rates of material recycling for several waste streams). This success results from a convergence of public demands, federal and provincial administrative efforts and industry's commitment to environmental progress. Expenditure on pollution abatement and control (PAC) has exceeded 2.1% of GDP since 1990, placing the country *among the top PAC spenders in the OECD*. The emphasis of this expenditure has gradually moved from air and water management towards waste management. Austrian policies rely on detailed environmental regulation, targeted investment support, use of best available technology and solid federal and provincial environmental administrations. Austria has been a member of the European Union since 1995, and its environmental regulation is increasingly shaped by EU regulation. For instance, steps have been taken to streamline environmental permitting procedures by implementing the EU directive on integrated pollution prevention and control, although differences remain concerning inspection frequency and reporting requirements. *Federal funds to support environmental investment* have effectively stimulated priority environmental investments (e.g. in wastewater treatment facilities, for energy conservation). Since 2001, water-related investment support has been slightly restructured to give utilities incentives to improve the cost-effectiveness of their services. Austria has recently increased its use of *economic instruments* and voluntary approaches. Waste recycling and energy recovery have been promoted effectively through a mix of taxes, charges and voluntary initiatives. A 1989 *landfill levy* has served as a strong disincentive for landfilling of waste, especially in substandard facilities; it has also generated funds to clean up orphaned contaminated sites.

* Objectives of the "2001 OECD Environmental Strategy for the First Decade of the 21st century" covered in these Conclusions and Recommendations include maintaining the integrity of ecosystems (Section 1), decoupling of environmental pressures from economic growth (Sections 2.1 and 2.3), the social and environmental interface (Section 2.2) and global environmental interdependence (Section 3).

Although Austrian environmental policies have been quite effective and have generated significant economic benefits (e.g. exports of environmental technology and positive conditions for the tourism industry), there is scope for improved cost-effectiveness. Meeting several *challenging environmental objectives* (e.g. for climate, NO_x and NMVOCs, water and soil protection, waste, nature and biodiversity conservation) *at least cost* will require use of the most efficient policy instrument packages possible, including economic instruments. *Environmental legislation* remains complex and dispersed in numerous federal and provincial laws and ordinances, although the recent elevation to the federal level of legislative powers concerning waste management, air quality management and environmental impact assessment has helped in constructing a nationally harmonised approach in these areas. Despite progress in adhering to the *user pays and polluter pays principles* with respect to provision of environmental services, full cost recovery is not yet being achieved. Overall, there is *insufficient economic analysis* in the setting of environmental objectives and in the choice of instruments to reach them. In addition, the sharing of costs and responsibilities among provinces concerning a number of commitments (e.g. climate protection, nature conservation) needs to be more clearly addressed. *Spatial plans* set at the provincial level are often not fully co-ordinated with detailed planning and zoning decisions taken at the municipal level, particularly as regards nature conservation, flood protection and transport. Although the 1995 National Environment Plan was a significant first step in national-level *environmental planning*, and was catalytic in solidifying socio-political consensus on environmental objectives, its implementation and monitoring were not pursued.

It is *recommended* to:

- extend the use of economic instruments for environmental management, seeking to more fully apply the *polluter pays and user pays principles*;
- improve the *efficiency and transparency* of water and waste management services provided at municipal level;
- increase *economic analysis* of environmental policy measures with the aim of achieving environmental objectives more cost-effectively;
- further integrate environmental concerns into *spatial plans* at provincial level and into planning and zoning decisions at municipal level;
- improve *co-ordination among the provincial and federal governments* with regard to meeting national and international environmental commitments (e.g. on climate protection, nature conservation).

Air

Over the last ten years, the country has made continuous progress in reducing emissions of a range of air pollutants, including hazardous substances, from most major sources. Emissions of a number of pollutants have been successfully *decoupled from economic growth*; SO_x, NO_x and CO_2 emissions, both per capita and per unit of GDP, are among the lowest in the OECD. Austria's *air management policies* have been driven by the precautionary principle, with limit values and targets often stronger than those of EU and international law. Ambient air quality has generally improved (e.g. as concerns SO_2 and CO). Sustained investment in pollution control, often using best available technology, has led to significant decreases in emissions from power generation, heating systems and industry. Austria's *energy policies* have prioritised energy efficiency improvements and the development of renewable energy sources. Energy intensity per unit of GDP is among the lowest in the OECD, and renewables (mostly hydropower and biomass) represent 24% of the energy supply. *Transport* policies have also contributed to meeting air management objectives through early introduction of cleaner vehicles and fuels, and effective inspection and control. Steps have been taken to promote environment-friendly transport, domestically and internationally, and public transport is well developed. An "eco-point" system to regulate transit road freight traffic has helped improve the average emission performance of transit freight vehicles.

However, Austria has not met, nor is it on the way to meeting, its national emission reduction targets for *NO_x and NMVOCs*. Related *air quality*, in urban areas and along major Alpine transport corridors, raises concern. Integration of air management issues into transport policies and provincial spatial plans is insufficient, as are measures to influence the use of private cars and strengthen competitive alternatives to road freight transport. Transport and energy taxes and charges are not fully in accordance with the *polluter pays and user pays principles*; distorted incentives in the energy sector favour large consumers and some carbon-intensive fuels. Austria faces challenging targets for NO_x and NMVOCs under the Gothenburg Protocol and the EU directive on national emission ceilings. Given Austria's already low emission levels and energy intensity, its continued traffic growth and an expected slowdown in emission reductions by industry, further progress may prove more costly than expected and will require: i) more strategic planning; ii) greater attention to implementation and cost-effectiveness, extending the range of instruments to economic and social ones; and iii) more effective co-ordination among all relevant government administrations and levels.

It is *recommended* to:

- develop and implement a *national emission reduction strategy* to meet the objectives of the EU directive on national emission ceilings, giving priority to cost-effectiveness and to achieving synergy with the National Climate Strategy;
- further extend the use of *market-based instruments in the energy and transport sectors* (including road pricing and emission trading programmes) to help achieve national objectives regarding NO_x, NMVOC and CO_2 emissions;
- further reduce *ambient levels of ozone and small particulates* through measures related to mobility, energy, climate and spatial planning;
- assure *effective co-ordination* among federal ministries and federal, provincial and local governments with respect to: i) implementation and monitoring of measures to achieve federal emission targets; and ii) integration of air quality concerns into sectoral policies;
- develop and implement a *sustainable transport strategy*, including measures to reduce vehicle emissions, to strengthen alternatives to road transport for long-distance freight shipping and to promote integrated services for freight and passenger transport.

Water

The quality of Austria's *surface waters* continued to improve during the review period. About 87% of the total length of rivers and streams satisfies the standards for water quality Class I or II ("very good" or "good"), up from 72% in 1995. Previously identified hot spots of industrial pollution have disappeared, thanks to the introduction of cleaner production methods and the closure of some old plants. Concerning *groundwater*, some early signs indicate that measures to reduce nitrate pollution are having effect: while average concentrations remained broadly stable at around 30 mg per litre, exceedances of the nitrate standards decreased. Concentrations of pesticides in groundwater also fell. The quality of Austria's groundwater as a source of *drinking water* is a matter of national pride. Concerning *wastewater treatment*, Austria met the targets and deadlines of the EU Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive well ahead of schedule through concerted investment. The sewerage connection rate had increased to 86% by 2001, meeting a domestic target originally set for 2010. Tertiary treatment has become the rule in municipal treatment stations, and discharges of nitrogen and phosphorus to the environment have been decoupled from population size.

These successes notwithstanding, much remains to be done. Efforts to restore *heavily modified river channels* to a more natural state have fallen short of targets. Recent *floods* have shown that many areas previously considered safe are vulnerable to flooding, and that special provisions for designated natural hazard zones have not been sufficiently enforced. Mean *nitrate levels in groundwater* have only recently begun to show a tentative decline; continued efforts will be required to consolidate this trend. It is difficult to evaluate the performance of industry in meeting objectives related to water conservation and control of certain pollutants, because comprehensive national statistics are lacking. Implementation of the *EU Water Framework Directive* will require some significant changes in Austria's approach to water management, such as greater emphasis on cost recovery for water services and on the cost-effectiveness of measures, as well as a move to a river basin approach. At present, water tariffs only partly reflect the user pays and polluter pays principles. Recent scrutiny of water utility operating costs has suggested that cost reductions could be achieved through economies of scale and efficiency improvements.

It is *recommended* to:

- continue programmes to *restore designated river channels* to their near-natural state as a means of enhancing flood protection and nature conservation;
- ensure that *land use planning* in upper catchments takes full account of potential downstream effects on flood prevention and control, and take measures to enhance enforcement of *construction and land use restrictions* in designated hazard zones;
- continue efforts to improve the *cost-effectiveness of water management*, seeking economies of scale where possible and enhancing best-practice sharing among utilities;
- move towards greater transparency in *water pricing* and fuller application of the user pays and polluter pays principles;
- continue programmes to reduce the environmental impacts of *agriculture*, reinforcing efforts to control nitrate run-off in particularly sensitive areas;
- improve statistics on water use and wastewater discharges by *industry*, including consolidation at federal level.

Nature and biodiversity

Important economic activities in Austria (e.g. tourism, forestry) depend on nature and landscapes. The Constitution delegates almost exclusive authority for nature conservation to the nine provinces (Länder). Since 1990, they have considerably extended their *legislation on nature conservation* and their knowledge base (expertise, cartography, institutions) on nature, biodiversity and land use planning. However, the federal government also plays a role in nature conservation: co-ordinating compliance with EU directives and international agreements, funding programmes it conducts jointly with the provinces (e.g. national parks) and drawing up national strategies and plans (e.g. concerning sustainable development, biodiversity, sustainable forest management). *Transboundary co-operation* concerning nature conservation has also been expanded and strengthened (e.g. Neusiedlersee National Park with Hungary; Alpine Convention with other European countries and the European Union). Six *national parks* have been designated, and a seventh is planned. In all, almost 30% of Austria's national territory is listed as either a protected landscape or another form of conservation area, although the degree of protection varies greatly. A special effort has been made in recent years to *restore riverine habitats*; progress has been notable, but has fallen short of targets.

Nevertheless, the state of *biodiversity is still declining*. All native amphibian and most reptile species are threatened. Austria's mosaic of protected areas (national parks, nature reserves, the Natura 2000 network, biogenetic reserves) does not yet form a coherent *network of protected areas*, with migration corridors. Some of Austria's national parks do not meet IUCN management standards, and conservation measures need strengthening in protected areas in general. Austria continues to authorise the *hunting* of certain species, and the use of certain hunting methods, disallowed by EU legislation. The country has not ratified the 1979 Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals. Alleviation of environmental pressures from *agriculture and tourism* is heavily dependent on subsidies granted for participation in agri-environmental programmes. Opportunities for co-financing of agri-environmental measures by the tourism sector, which benefits from the positive environmental externalities offered by the agriculture sector, should be further developed. In recent years, *land conversion* has amounted to a loss of 25 hectares of natural habitat per day. Nature conservation objectives expressed in spatial plans are often not reflected in municipal land use zoning decisions. In short, efforts to protect nature, biodiversity and landscape do not compensate for the pressures exerted by economic activities. Existing measures should be stepped up considerably to assure the development of sustainable agriculture, forestry and tourism.

It is *recommended* to:

- set up a national *co-ordinating body* to help establish a coherent *national network of protected areas*, with wildlife migration or dispersal corridors that take into account the needs of endangered or threatened species;
- ensure that nature conservation objectives are more systematically incorporated into *spatial planning* at provincial level, and *planning and zoning* at municipal level;
- adjust *hunting regulations* to fully implement EU legislation concerning the protection of birds, and ratify the Bonn Convention;
- maintain programmes to *rehabilitate and restore* riverine habitats and wetlands, and further extend cross-border co-operation to this end;
- pursue nature conservation objectives in *agri-environmental* programmes and explore possibilities for co-financing from the tourism sector.

2. Towards Sustainable Development

Integrating environmental concerns into economic decisions

Austria's overall progress in *decoupling environmental pressures* from economic growth was remarkable in the review period. While GDP increased by 27% between 1990 and 2001, further decoupling was achieved concerning materials and energy use, emissions of SO_x, NO_x and NMVOCs, and use of nitrogenous fertilisers and pesticides. Improvements in material efficiency and energy efficiency stemmed from a shift towards less input-intensive production processes, as well as sharp increases in waste recovery and recycling rates. Austria's economic growth has also become less pollution intensive in recent years, reflecting the introduction of cleaner production processes and the strengthening of technological pollution controls. Integration of environmental concerns in *energy policies* has led to high energy efficiency and a high share of renewables in the energy supply. The introduction of an energy consumption tax on electricity and natural gas has created energy conservation incentives for some end-users despite its limited tax base and its lack of differentiation in proportion to fuels' environmental externalities. The incentive structure created by *feed-in tariffs* for electricity produced from "new renewable" energy sources (wind, biomass, biogas, geothermal), while a step in the right direction, was

overly complex but has recently been harmonised at the national level. Greater differentiation of fiscal instruments in the *transport sector* has helped contain the trend towards more powerful and more fuel-consuming private cars, although there is a bias in favour of diesel vehicles that is difficult to justify on environmental grounds, and tax rates on motor vehicle fuels remain lower than those in several neighbouring countries. A 1998 report from the tax reform commission outlined comprehensive and detailed proposals for a planned *ecological tax reform*. A recently adopted green tax reform, to enter into force in January 2004, will recalibrate and increase levies on natural gas, fuel oil, diesel and gasoline, and introduce a new tax on coal, though with many exemptions. *Agri-environmental measures* have been effectively and widely used to moderate environmental pressures from agriculture, for instance, Austria had the lowest average nitrogen balance in the EU in 2001. The *2002 National Strategy for Sustainable Development* attaches priority to integrating environmental concerns into sectoral policies. To be translated into action, objectives of the strategy will require priority setting and negotiation to allocate responsibilities among the provinces. Ex post evaluation of the benefits and costs of the "first step" measures already undertaken should be used to inform this process.

It is *recommended* to:

- identify the most cost-effective measures to meet the objectives of the *National Strategy for Sustainable Development*, and incorporate them into relevant sectoral plans and programmes;
- implement and further develop the agreed *ecological tax reform*, adjusting tax levels and tax bases so as to better internalise environmental externalities and remove distortionary exemptions;
- continue to review potentially *environmentally harmful subsidies*, and take action to reduce their distortionary impacts;
- assure that *road pricing* provisions allow full internalisation of environmental costs;
- introduce cost-effective *demand management measures* to decouple municipal waste generation and road traffic growth from economic growth, in line with Objective 2 of the OECD Environmental Strategy;
- harmonise *eco-labelling* standards for organic foodstuffs at the national level, and support related international efforts.

Austria's decoupling progress has been less than satisfactory with regard to *municipal waste* (whose growth tracked that of GDP) and the impact of *road traffic* (which grew faster than GDP from 1990 to 2001), signalling a need to reinforce demand management measures to influence consumer choices. Considerable room remains for adjustment of energy and transport taxation to internalise environmental externalities and to remove environmentally harmful price and fiscal distortions. In implementing a recently adopted system of distance-based electronic road pricing for lorries, Austria should work to ensure that the system allows the internalisation of external environmental costs. The complexity of *eco-labels* for organic food undermines their effectiveness in shaping consumer choice; their simplification and standardisation at national and international level should be pursued.

Integrating environmental and social concerns

Austria's *environmental employment* policy has generated an environmental manufacturing and service sector contributing 2.3% of employment and 3% of GDP. Some 60% of the revenue of Austria's eco-industry originates from exports. *Consultation of social partners* during the formulation of laws and policies is traditionally strong in Austria, involving not only industry federations and labour unions (with voluntary membership), but also Chambers of Commerce and Chambers of Labour (with compulsory membership). This process contributes to high compliance with environmental laws and regulations. Provision of and access to *environmental information* is good. Environmental education and training are systematically provided, with curricula reflecting major environmental policy objectives, reinforcing the high public awareness of environmental issues. Consumers express support for eco-labelled products, with a majority saying they are willing to pay up to 20% more than market price for environmentally friendly goods. Environment-related public health issues are very limited, although the number of premature deaths related to air pollution from transport remains significant.

However, ratification of the Aarhus Convention and implementation of the recent EU directive on public access to environmental information are still pending and will require broadening of opportunities for *public participation* and possibly *access to courts*. Although the right to appeal government decisions affecting environmental outcomes is assured for affected citizens within the framework of EIA and permitting processes, the general public does not have the right to appeal. Nor do NGOs have a general right to stand in court to represent the public interest on environmental cases. The *distributive effects* of environmental policies and of

natural resource pricing are not commonly analysed and thus not usually taken into account in decision making. The implementation of the 1997 *National Environmental Health Plan* has not been assessed. Meeting ambitious national objectives regarding sorting of household waste, as well as promotion of sustainable consumption patterns more generally, will require expanded environmental education on these topics.

It is *recommended* to:

- continue the active and effective *environmental employment* policy, with its positive effects on the environmental manufacturing sector and associated exports;
- improve *access to justice* for environmental stakeholders and broaden the scope for legal representation by non-governmental organisations in environmental cases;
- strengthen *public participation* in the early stages of permitting, licensing and environmental impact assessment procedures;
- broaden *environmental education* to promote more sustainable consumption patterns and to encourage households to help reach the ambitious waste separation targets;
- introduce a *pollutant release and transfer register*, and assure public access to the data thus generated;
- assure access to *environment-related economic and social data* and continuity in their production.

Sustainable forest management

The forestry sector, counting both domestic and imported wood resources, is second only to tourism as a *source of foreign exchange*. Forests cover 47% of the Austrian territory, and the *wooded area* has increased by an average of 7 700 hectares per year since 1990, mostly through abandonment of agricultural land and mountain pastures as part of agricultural policy reform. The growing stock has been increasing for decades, as less than 70% of the total increase in wood volume is harvested. This has helped reduce Austria's CO_2 output via sequestration. Energy production from biomass has increased significantly and now accounts for 11% of primary energy production. *Regulatory measures*, which have long contributed to preservation of the forest area, were reinforced

by a 2002 amendment to the Forest Act. Specific provisions apply to forests in Alpine areas to enhance the protection they provide against avalanches and flooding. "*Close-to-nature*" *silviculture* is increasingly applied; the share of forests with indigenous broadleaf species and with mixed conifer and broadleaf trees increased in the 1990s, and more than 50% of total forest area is now under natural regeneration. The extent of defoliation declined in the 1990s (it now affects 10% of the forest cover), partly through reductions in acid deposition. Sustainable forest management was recently made an explicit goal of forest legislation. Since recognition of the country's *forest eco-certification* programme by the Pan European Forest Certification (PEFC) Council in 2000, all of Austria's regions and many of its timber companies have been PEFC certified, though there is no evidence yet that certification has had any impact on forest management.

Despite this overall positive picture, with the broad objective of preserving the forest area more than fulfilled, forest management in Austria presents several weaknesses. Although *protection forests* are essential to stabilise hillsides against landslide and avalanche, more than half (400 000 hectares or 10% of Austrian forests) are in poor condition and have insufficient regeneration. This state results from a lack of *forest management practices*, for economic reasons, that has led to old even-aged monoculture stands susceptible to wind and insect damage. It also results from pressure on the forest ecosystem from *cattle grazing and game browsing*: nearly 65% of regeneration areas are browsed by game, including artificially high deer populations. Nor has *forest biological diversity* been given full attention in the past: natural forest reserves cover only 8 300 hectares, and forest biodiversity in nature protection areas has not been monitored until recently. *Policy integration* is made difficult by the fact that forest management is a matter of federal jurisdiction while responsibility for spatial planning, hunting, nature conservation and grazing rights lies with the provinces. In particular, long-term, adaptive forest land use planning is difficult because spatial planning takes place at provincial level, with only advisory input from the federal level. Detailed forest management plans are not explicitly required by law and often do not exist for small forest estates. In addition, *much of the sector is economically fragile*; as forest property is highly fragmented, with 56% of owners (who are mostly farmers) holding lots of less than five hectares, owners tend to be dependent on government support and unlikely to make necessary investments. *Support* has been provided to maintain wood production and employment opportunities, though it is at levels much lower than those for agricultural production. Little effort has been made to tie support to provision of environmental services rather than to timber production.

It is *recommended* to:

- establish quantified *environmental goals for the forestry sector* and monitor their achievement, possibly as part of the forthcoming National Forest Programme;
- improve *policy and planning integration* between the federal and provincial levels concerning forestry as it relates to hunting, nature conservation, spatial planning and agriculture;
- in the context of agricultural policy reform, which will reduce support to agricultural production, compensate forest owners for environmentally beneficial services at levels sufficient to improve the *economic returns from small-scale forestry*;
- assess the environmental benefits of the *forest subsidy programme*, and make support to forest owners conditional on fulfilling ecological criteria; explore the use of *economic incentives* to forest owners;
- develop *voluntary initiatives* aimed at forest quality enhancement (e.g. contracts between hunters and forest owners to protect the natural regeneration of forests; agreements between tourism operators and managers of natural forest reserves to improve and extend the reserve network).

3. International Environmental Co-operation

As Austria has a very open economy and shares borders with eight countries, its environmental diplomacy priorities have long been shaped by *strong regional interdependencies*, both environmental and economic. The country has also played a proactive role in promoting international co-operation on global issues such as ozone layer protection, backed by strong public support. Concerning *climate change*, Austria has adopted a comprehensive national strategy, ratified the Kyoto Protocol and agreed to a challenging target of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions under the EU burden-sharing agreement. The energy intensity of the Austrian economy (TPES/GDP) is among the lowest for OECD countries. CO_2 emissions per unit of GDP have decreased by 13% since 1990. Concerning *transboundary air pollution*, the country has met almost all its commitments to reduce SO_x, NO_x and NMVOC emissions under the Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution, and recently ratified the Aarhus Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants. A relatively minor contributor to the pollutant loading of the Danube River, Austria has been proactive in strengthening international efforts to protect the Danube basin, although progress

on funding mechanisms has been slow. The country's implementation of international agreements *concerning trade and environment* is generally good, with strong inspection and enforcement at borders, although enforcement of reporting obligations need to be strengthened. Environmental impact assessment procedures have been applied systematically to bilateral aid projects since 1997. Concerning *export credits and credit guarantees*, Austria has introduced procedures for environmental screening and evaluation of proposed projects that are consistent with those called for in the draft OECD recommendation on environment and officially supported export credits; however, further steps will be necessary to meet relevant benchmarking objectives.

To build on these accomplishments, and to further improve its record on international co-operation on environmental issues, Austria should prioritise action in several areas. With regard to *climate protection*, additional concerted

It is *recommended* to:

- identify and carry out cost-effective measures to achieve the objectives of the *National Climate Strategy*; in particular, implement them with full participation of, and clear division of responsibilities among, all relevant sectors and various levels of government;
- continue to support international efforts to inventory, and set reduction targets for, *pollutant discharges to the Danube River* and to strengthen regional institutions (e.g. the DABLAS Task Force) in the interest of facilitating needed investments in downstream countries;
- improve enforcement of reporting obligations regarding *trade and environment* issues (e.g. hazardous waste and chemicals, tropical timber, endangered species), and clarify reporting requirements at provincial level;
- ensure that environmental evaluations of projects supported by *export credits and credit guarantees* reflect good practice, using international standards or equivalent host country standards as benchmarks;
- increase ODA levels, and give greater emphasis to environmental projects that support the priorities set out in the *2002 Development Co-operation Act* (e.g. management of water resources, development of renewable energy sources);
- improve coherence between objectives of Austria's *environmental diplomacy* in Central and Eastern Europe and official aid priorities (e.g. improving wastewater treatment in the Danube basin, implementing climate protection measures through Kyoto mechanisms).

and efficient effort will be necessary if Austria is to meet the Kyoto target of cutting its total GHG emissions by 13% between 1990-95 and 2008-12; total emissions have in fact increased by nearly 3% since 1990. The development of climate protection measures has thus far included little consideration of cost-effectiveness or distributive concerns, and no burden-sharing agreement exists among provinces. Environmental tax reform is recognised as a priority in the 2002 National Climate Strategy; the recently approved green tax reform should be implemented as soon as possible and further developed so as to support future GHG reductions. Although the commitment period for the Gothenburg Protocol is half over, progress towards the *NO_x and NMVOC reduction targets* has been limited, and measures under way appear insufficient. Austria's *official development assistance* (ODA), which totalled 0.29% of GNI in 2001, is still far from meeting the 0.7% UN target to which Austria subscribes; the country made a commitment, at the 2002 Barcelona EU Council meeting, to reach 0.33% by 2006. In general, there is relatively little translation of the country's environmental diplomacy objectives into ODA programmes and into financial assistance to Central and Eastern European countries.

REFERENCES

I.A Selected environmental data

I.B Selected economic data

I.C Selected social data

II.A Selected multilateral agreements (worldwide)

II.B Selected multilateral agreements (regional)

III. Abbreviations

IV. Physical context

V. Selected environmental events (1995-2002)

VI. Selected environmental Web sites

I.A: SELECTED ENVIRONMENTAL DATA (1)

		CAN	MEX	USA	JPN	KOR	AUS	NZL	**AUT**	BEL	CZE	DNK	FIN
LAND													
Total area (1000 km^2)		9971	1958	9364	378	99	7713	270	**84**	31	79	43	338
Major protected areas (% of total area)	*2*	9.6	8.2	21.2	6.8	6.9	7.7	23.5	**29.2**	2.8	16.2	32.0	8.4
Nitrogenous fertiliser use (t/km^2 of arable land)		3.8	4.9	5.7	11.3	21.9	1.9	59.0	**7.9**	17.0	7.1	10.3	7.1
Pesticide use (t/km^2 of arable land)		0.07	0.13	0.20	1.50	1.29	0.06	0.82	**0.24**	1.15	0.13	0.12	0.05
FOREST													
Forest area (% of land area)		45.3	33.4	32.6	66.8	65.2	19.4	29.5	**47.6**	22.2	34.1	10.5	75.5
Use of forest resources (harvest/growth)		0.4	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.1	0.6	0.6	**0.7**	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.8
Tropical wood imports (USD/cap.)	*3*	1.6	0.2	2.2	10.7	6.1	4.0	3.4	**0.4**	24.2	0.3	3.8	1.4
THREATENED SPECIES													
Mammals (% of species known)		32.6	33.2	10.5	24.0	17.0	23.2	15.2	**26.2**	31.6	33.3	22.0	11.9
Birds (% of species known)		13.1	16.9	7.2	12.9	14.1	12.1	25.3	**26.0**	27.5	55.9	13.2	13.3
Fish (% of species known)		7.5	5.7	2.4	24.0	1.3	0.7	0.8	**41.7**	54.3	29.2	15.8	11.8
WATER													
Water withdrawal (% of gross annual availability)		1.6	15.3	19.0	20.5	33.9	6.2	0.6	**4.2**	45.1	11.5	12.3	2.1
Public waste water treatment (% of population served)		72	24	71	64	70	..	80	**86**	38	64	89	81
Fish catches (% of world catches)		1.0	1.4	5.0	5.3	1.9	0.2	0.6	**-**	-	-	1.6	0.2
AIR													
Emissions of sulphur oxides (kg/cap.)		82.3	12.2	62.7	6.9	24.8	96.0	11.6	**5.0**	20.1	25.8	5.2	14.6
(kg/1000 USD GDP)	*4*	3.1	1.6	2.0	0.3	2.1	4.1	0.7	**0.2**	0.9	2.0	0.2	0.6
% change (1990-late 1990s)		-22	..	-20	-3	-29	-4	20	**-55**	-37	-86	-85	-71
Emissions of nitrogen oxides (kg/cap.)		66.8	12.0	84.4	13.1	23.4	135.4	53.4	**22.6**	35.7	38.6	38.9	45.6
(kg/1000 USD GDP)	*4*	2.5	1.6	2.7	0.5	2.0	5.7	3.1	**0.9**	1.5	3.0	1.5	1.9
% change (1990-late 1990s)		-2	18	5	-	17	17	18	**-9**	16	-47	-25	-21
Emissions of carbon dioxide (t./cap.)	*5*	16.7	3.8	20.8	9.3	9.5	17.2	8.4	**7.7**	11.8	11.9	9.4	10.8
(t./1000 USD GDP)	*4*	0.62	0.45	0.63	0.38	0.68	0.71	0.45	**0.32**	0.48	0.91	0.37	0.45
% change (1990-2000)		22	24	18	13	88	26	38	**9**	14	-19	2	5
WASTE GENERATED													
Industrial waste (kg/1000 USD GDP)	*4, 6*	..	50	..	40	60	110	30	**80**	60	70	20	150
Municipal waste (kg/cap.)	*7*	350	320	760	410	360	690	380	**560**	550	330	660	460
Nuclear waste (t./Mtoe of TPES)	*8*	4.7	0.1	0.9	1.7	3.5	-	-	**-**	2.2	1.0	-	2.2
PAC EXPENDITURE (% of GDP)	*9*	1.1	0.7	1.6	1.4	1.5	0.8	..	**2.4**	1.5	1.7	..	0.8

.. not available. - nil or negligible. x data included under Belgium.

1) Data refer to the latest available year. They include provisional figures and Secretariat estimates. Partial totals are underlined. Varying definitions can limit comparability across countries.

2) Data refer to IUCN categories I to VI; AUS, HUN, ITA, LUX, NOR, POL, TUR: national data.

3) Total imports of cork and wood from non-OECD tropical countries.

4) GDP at 1995 prices and purchasing power parities.

Source: OECD Environmental Data Compendium.

OECD EPR / SECOND CYCLE

FRA	DEU	GRC	HUN	ISL	IRL	ITA	LUX	NLD	NOR	POL	PRT	SLO	ESP	SWE	CHE	TUR	UKD*	OECD*
549	357	132	93	103	70	301	3	42	324	313	92	49	506	450	41	779	245	34777
10.1	26.9	2.6	9.1	9.5	0.9	9.1	6.5	11.6	7.6	9.7	6.6	21.6	8.4	8.1	18.0	3.8	20.4	12.4
12.4	15.3	7.3	6.4	9.8	43.1	7.6	x	30.5	11.4	6.0	3.9	4.5	5.8	6.9	11.8	5.1	16.0	6.2
0.51	0.26	0.29	0.10	-	0.25	0.44	0.63	0.98	0.04	0.06	0.50	0.21	0.18	0.06	0.33	0.13	*0.52*	*0.21*
31.4	30.1	22.8	18.9	1.3	8.8	23.3	34.4	9.2	39.2	29.7	37.9	42.2	32.3	73.5	31.7	26.9	10.5	33.9
0.7	0.4	0.6	0.6	-	0.6	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.5
6.8	1.8	2.8	0.1	2.8	11.2	7.1	-	15.6	3.6	0.3	17.9	0.1	6.2	2.2	0.6	0.5	2.7	4.0
19.7	36.7	37.9	71.1	-	6.5	40.7	51.6	15.6	3.4	14.6	17.3	22.2	21.2	23.1	34.2	22.2	*21.9*	..
14.3	29.2	13.0	18.8	34.7	21.8	18.4	50.0	27.1	7.7	14.7	13.7	14.4	14.1	19.2	42.6	6.7	*6.4*	..
7.5	68.2	24.3	32.1	-	33.3	31.8	27.9	82.1	-	9.6	18.6	23.8	29.4	7.9	44.7	9.9	*11.1*	..
16.9	22.3	12.1	4.7	0.1	2.3	32.1	3.7	5.2	0.7	16.9	15.1	1.4	28.6	1.5	4.8	17.0	*20.7*	*11.4*
77	91	56	32	33	73	63	95	98	73	55	46	49	48	86	96	17	*95*	*64*
0.6	0.2	0.1	-	2.1	0.3	0.3	-	0.5	2.9	0.2	0.2	-	1.0	0.4	-	0.5	0.8	27.4
14.3	10.1	51.4	58.5	33.4	42.2	16.0	7.1	5.7	6.4	39.1	37.6	33.2	40.3	8.0	3.9	33.0	19.9	32.7
0.7	0.4	3.7	5.7	1.3	1.7	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.2	4.3	2.4	3.3	2.4	0.4	0.1	5.3	1.0	1.5
-34	-84	7	-41	14	-14	-46	-79	-55	-46	-53	4	-67	-25	-48	-35	..	-68	-33
28.3	19.9	36.3	22.0	91.7	32.2	25.8	38.8	26.6	53.7	21.7	37.1	24.1	32.9	30.2	14.8	14.1	26.9	40.3
1.3	0.9	2.6	2.1	3.5	1.4	1.2	0.9	1.1	2.1	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.0	1.4	0.6	2.3	1.3	1.9
-12	-40	17	-7	-2	3	-24	-27	-27	6	-35	17	-43	6	-23	-32	48	-42	-4
6.0	10.0	8.0	5.5	7.7	11.0	7.4	18.4	10.9	7.7	7.7	6.0	6.6	7.2	5.3	5.6	3.1	9.2	11.2
0.26	0.43	0.54	0.49	0.29	0.40	0.34	0.43	0.44	0.29	0.85	0.36	0.63	0.40	0.23	0.20	0.49	0.44	0.51
-3	-15	23	-18	8	29	8	-23	11	21	-16	49	-36	35	-2	-5	49	-3	13
80	30	50	20	1	60	20	140	30	30	160	80	80	40	110	10	30	40	70
510	540	430	450	700	560	500	640	610	620	290	450	320	660	450	650	390	560	540
4.4	1.2	-	1.8	-	-	-	-	0.2	-	-	-	2.5	1.4	4.6	2.4	-	3.4	1.5
1.6	1.6	1.0	1.5	..	0.6	0.9	..	2.0	..	2.0	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.6	1.1	0.7	..

UKD: pesticides and threatened species: Great Britain; water withdrawal and public waste water treatment plants: England and Wales.

5) CO_2 from energy use only; international marine and aviation bunkers are excluded.

6) Waste from manufacturing industries.

7) CAN, NZL: household waste only.

8) Waste from spent fuel arising in nuclear power plants, in tonnes of heavy metal, per million tonnes of oil equivalent of total primary energy supply.

9) Household expenditure excluded.

I.B: SELECTED ECONOMIC DATA (1)

		CAN	MEX	USA	JPN	KOR	AUS	NZL	**AUT**	BEL	CZE	DNK
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT												
GDP, 2001 (billion USD at 1995 prices and PPPs)		842	812	9156	3131	674	474	72	**198**	258	139	138
% change (1990-2001)		33.4	40.7	39.1	14.6	87.1	44.0	32.6	**27.0**	24.6	3.8	26.9
per capita, 2001 (1000 USD/cap.)		27.1	8.2	32.1	24.6	14.2	24.5	18.7	**24.4**	25.1	13.6	25.8
Exports, 2001 (% of GDP)		43.3	27.5	10.3	10.4	42.9	22.4	36.6	**52.2**	86.8	71.4	45.3
INDUSTRY	*2*											
Value added in industry (% of GDP)		31	28	25	32	44	26	27	**33**	28	41	27
Industrial production: % change (1990-2001)		36.0	42.6	41.6	-5.3	135.8	28.2	19.1	**45.4**	15.2	-18.6	41.9
AGRICULTURE												
Value added in agriculture (% of GDP)	*3*	3	4	2	1	5	4	8	**2**	1	4	3
Agricultural production: % change (1990-2001)		13.9	33.4	20.3	-9.2	26.2	28.0	29.0	**4.3**	17.2	..	2.3
Livestock population, 2001 (million head of sheep eq.)		103	276	786	55	27	295	102	**18**	30	14	25
ENERGY												
Total supply, 2000 (Mtoe)		251	154	2300	525	194	110	19	**29**	59	40	19
% change (1990-2000)		20.0	23.8	19.3	19.6	109.1	25.9	32.9	**13.3**	22.3	-14.8	7.7
Energy intensity, 2000 (toe/1000 USD GDP)		0.30	0.19	0.25	0.17	0.30	0.24	0.26	**0.15**	0.23	0.30	0.14
% change (1990-2000)		-8.7	-12.2	-13.2	3.9	15.1	-10.5	2.1	**-9.8**	-0.8	-15.0	-14.4
Structure of energy supply, 2000 (%)	*4*											
Solid fuels		12.0	4.6	23.6	17.9	21.7	43.1	5.4	**12.5**	14.2	52.2	20.7
Oil		34.7	61.8	38.7	50.5	53.6	33.2	33.9	**41.1**	40.4	19.1	45.0
Gas		29.4	21.7	23.7	12.3	8.8	17.5	27.1	**22.7**	22.7	18.2	22.9
Nuclear		7.5	1.4	9.1	16.0	14.7	..	..	**..**	21.3	8.6	..
Hydro, etc.		16.5	10.4	5.0	3.3	1.3	6.3	33.5	**23.7**	1.3	1.9	11.3
ROAD TRANSPORT	*5*											
Road traffic volumes per capita, 1999 (1000 veh.-km/cap.)		9.4	0.6	15.8	6.0	1.8	9.3	8.0	**7.8**	8.7	3.1	8.4
Road vehicle stock, 1999 (10 000 vehicles)		1784	1459	21533	7003	1116	1199	231	**485**	512	373	223
% change (1990-1999)		7.8	47.7	14.1	24.0	228.9	22.7	25.2	**31.3**	20.2	43.7	17.9
per capita (veh./100 inh.)		58	15	79	55	24	63	61	**60**	50	36	42

.. not available. - nil or negligible. x data included under Belgium.

1) Data may include provisional figures and Secretariat estimates. Partial totals are underlined.

2) Value added: includes mining and quarrying, manufacturing, gas, electricity and water and construction; production: excludes construction.

Source: OECD Environmental Data Compendium.

OECD EPR / SECOND CYCLE

FIN	FRA	DEU	GRC	HUN	ISL	IRL	ITA	LUX	NLD	NOR	POL	PRT	SLO	ESP	SWE	CHE	TUR	UKD	OECD
124	1393	1921	165	117	8	112	1288	20	398	120	352	167	58	739	206	200	391	1293	24965
24.6	22.0	19.0	31.2	12.2	31.8	115.0	19.0	86.5	34.4	41.9	44.6	33.7	14.9	33.5	20.6	10.3	31.6	28.3	30.6
23.9	23.5	23.3	15.5	11.5	26.8	29.1	22.2	44.5	24.9	26.5	9.1	16.6	10.8	18.4	23.2	27.7	5.7	21.6	22.0
40.4	28.2	35.0	24.5	60.6	39.8	94.5	28.3	153.6	65.8	46.2	29.8	31.5	75.9	29.9	46.5	43.8	35.0	27.1	21.6
34	25	30	21	34	29	41	29	21	27	43	35	31	35	30	28	30	30	28	28
63.2	19.0	14.0	14.1	54.0	..	256.6	14.2	28.9	20.7	41.1	64.3	24.7	0.2	21.7	40.0	26.1	38.2	10.0	23.6
4	3	1	8	4	11	4	3	1	3	2	4	4	5	4	2	2	15	1	2
-13.7	2.0	-2.9	16.9	-13.0	9.1	10.3	7.2	x	-0.6	-15.2	-16.2	0.5	..	12.8	-9.3	-7.0	7.8	-11.2	..
9	164	124	21	13	1	54	71	x	46	9	57	19	7	96	13	12	117	117	2682
33	257	340	28	25	3	15	172	4	76	26	90	25	17	125	47	27	77	233	5317
15.0	13.8	-4.5	27.9	-12.9	63.5	39.8	13.1	3.1	14.0	19.4	-9.9	43.4	-19.5	37.9	1.7	6.1	46.4	9.5	17.8
0.27	0.19	0.18	0.18	0.22	0.46	0.14	0.14	0.20	0.19	0.22	0.26	0.15	0.31	0.17	0.23	0.13	0.18	0.18	0.22
-7.0	-4.8	-19.3	1.5	-19.4	27.8	-30.7	-3.2	-41.9	-14.2	-14.6	-37.0	9.3	-27.6	6.2	-14.6	-2.5	3.0	-12.7	-8.9
15.7	5.7	23.7	32.5	16.2	2.9	18.2	7.5	3.9	10.8	3.9	62.2	15.5	24.1	16.8	5.5	0.9	30.5	15.5	20.4
30.4	33.2	38.8	56.1	28.0	24.5	56.5	52.6	73.3	38.5	33.1	22.1	63.4	16.2	52.1	28.6	46.8	40.5	35.9	40.8
10.6	13.4	21.2	6.1	39.3	..	23.5	34.5	21.0	46.8	13.3	11.0	8.3	32.6	12.2	1.5	8.9	16.4	37.8	21.6
18.2	41.1	13.0	..	14.9	..	..	..	..	1.4	..	..	..	24.3	13.0	32.0	25.4	..	9.6	11.0
24.9	6.6	3.3	5.3	1.6	72.6	1.8	5.4	1.8	2.6	49.6	4.7	12.8	2.7	5.9	32.4	17.9	12.6	1.2	6.2
8.9	8.4	7.4	7.3	3.5	6.5	8.3	8.0	8.9	7.0	7.2	4.5	5.8	2.2	4.2	8.4	7.2	0.8	7.8	8.0
240	3309	4503	389	271	17	148	3545	31	675	225	1104	461	141	2048	424	376	548	2909	57281
7.6	16.3	20.7	54.1	12.7	27.3	55.8	15.9	40.2	17.7	16.0	72.6	109.5	..	41.8	7.9	13.9	132.1	15.4	21.7
46	56	55	37	27	62	39	61	71	43	51	29	46	26	52	48	53	8	49	51

3) Agriculture, forestry, hunting, fishery, etc.

4) Breakdown excludes electricity trade.

5) Refers to motor vehicles with four or more wheels, except for Italy, which include three-wheeled goods vehicles.

I.C: SELECTED SOCIAL DATA (1)

		CAN	MEX	USA	JPN	KOR	AUS	NZL	**AUT**	BEL	CZE	DNK
POPULATION												
Total population, 2001 (100 000 inh.)		311	991	2850	1273	473	194	39	**81**	103	102	54
% change (1990-2001)		12.3	22.0	14.0	3.0	10.4	13.6	14.5	**5.3**	3.2	-1.3	4.2
Population density, 2001 (inh./km^2)		3.1	50.6	30.4	336.9	476.7	2.5	14.3	**96.9**	336.9	129.6	124.4
Ageing index, 2001 (over 64/under 15)		67.1	17.0	58.4	125.1	36.3	61.0	52.4	**92.5**	94.5	84.4	79.3
HEALTH												
Women life expectancy at birth, 2000 (years)		81.7	77.9	79.4	84.6	79.2	82.0	80.8	**81.2**	80.8	78.5	79.0
Infant mortality, 2000 (deaths /1 000 live births)		5.3	24.9	7.1	3.2	7.7	5.2	5.4	**4.8**	5.2	4.0	5.3
Expenditure, 2000 (% of GDP)		9.3	5.4	13.0	7.8	5.9	8.3	8.2	**8.0**	8.7	7.2	8.4
INCOME AND POVERTY												
GDP per capita, 2001 (1000 USD/cap.)		27.1	8.2	32.1	24.6	14.2	24.5	18.7	**24.4**	25.1	13.6	25.8
Poverty (% pop. < 50% median income)		10.3	21.9	17.0	8.1	..	9.3	..	**7.4**	7.8	..	5.0
Inequality (Gini levels)	*2*	28.5	52.6	34.4	26.0	..	30.5	25.6	**26.1**	27.2	..	21.7
Minimum to median wages, 2000	*3*	42.5	21.1	36.4	32.9	23.8	57.9	46.3	**x**	49.2	30.4	x
EMPLOYMENT												
Unemployment rate, 2001 (% of total labour force)		7.2	2.5	4.8	5.0	3.7	6.8	5.3	**4.9**	6.6	8.2	4.3
Labour force participation rate, 2001 (% 15-64 year-olds)		77.5	55.7	66.9	78.2	65.3	75.4	66.0	**76.9**	64.0	71.5	80.1
Employment in agriculture, 2001 (%)	*4*	2.9	17.6	2.4	4.9	10.3	4.9	9.1	**5.7**	2.2	4.8	3.3
EDUCATION												
Education, 2001 (% 25-64 year-olds)	*5*	81.9	21.6	87.7	83.1	68.0	58.9	75.7	**75.7**	58.5	86.2	80.2
Expenditure, 1999 (% of GDP)	*6*	6.6	5.2	6.5	4.7	6.8	5.8	..	**6.3**	5.5	4.7	6.7
OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE	*7*											
ODA, 2001 (% of GNI)		0.22	..	0.11	0.23	..	0.25	0.25	**0.29**	0.37	..	1.03
ODA, 2001 (USD/cap.)		49	..	40	77	..	45	29	**66**	85	..	305

.. not available. - nil or negligible. x not applicable.

1) Data may include provisional figures and Secretariat estimates. Partial totals are underlined.

2) Ranging from 0 (equal) to 100 (inequal) income distribution; figures relate to total disposable income (including all incomes, taxes and benefits) for the entire population.

3) Minimum wage as a percentage of median earnings including overtime pay and bonuses.

Source: OECD.

OECD EPR / SECOND CYCLE

FIN	FRA	DEU	GRC	HUN	ISL	IRL	ITA	LUX	NLD	NOR	POL	PRT	SLO	ESP	SWE	CHE	TUR	UKD	OECD
52	592	823	106	102	3	38	579	4	160	45	386	101	54	403	89	72	686	600	11367
4.2	4.4	3.7	5.3	-1.7	11.9	9.6	2.1	14.8	7.0	6.4	1.4	1.9	1.5	3.6	3.9	7.7	22.1	4.2	9.1
15.4	107.8	230.6	80.5	109.5	2.8	54.6	192.3	170.6	385.0	13.9	123.6	109.4	109.7	79.6	19.8	175.1	88.0	245.0	32.7
84.4	86.2	116.3	111.9	92.4	50.0	52.2	124.9	74.6	73.0	75.0	67.0	90.7	60.2	116.3	100.1	95.6	18.4	82.3	65.9
81.0	82.5	80.7	80.6	75.6	81.4	79.1	81.6	81.2	80.6	81.4	78.0	79.1	77.2	82.4	82.1	82.5	71.0	79.8	..
3.8	4.5	4.4	6.1	9.2	3.0	5.9	5.1	5.1	5.1	3.8	8.1	5.5	8.6	4.6	3.4	4.9	38.7	5.6	..
6.6	9.5	10.6	8.3	6.8	8.9	6.7	8.1	6.0	8.1	7.5	6.2	8.2	5.9	7.7	7.9	10.7	4.8	7.3	..
23.9	23.5	23.3	15.5	11.5	26.8	29.1	22.2	44.5	24.9	26.5	9.1	16.6	10.8	18.4	23.2	27.7	5.7	21.6	22.0
4.9	7.5	9.4	13.8	7.3	..	11.0	14.2	..	6.3	10.0	..	..	..	..	6.4	6.2	16.2	10.9	..
22.8	27.8	28.2	33.6	28.3	..	32.4	34.5	..	25.5	25.6	..	..	..	..	23.0	26.9	49.1	32.4	..
x	60.8	x	51.3	35.6	x	x	x	48.9	46.7	x	35.5	38.2	..	31.8	x	x	..	x	..
9.1	8.7	7.4	10.4	5.7	1.5	3.9	9.6	2.6	2.2	3.6	18.2	4.1	19.3	10.5	4.0	1.9	8.4	5.1	6.4
74.8	69.7	75.1	63.0	58.0	76.8	70.4	60.8	65.3	67.0	80.7	65.1	75.7	69.5	69.3	77.0	81.8	51.5	75.9	68.5
5.7	3.7	2.6	16.0	6.3	7.8	7.0	5.3	1.4	2.9	3.9	19.1	12.7	6.1	6.4	2.3	4.2	32.6	1.4	6.6
73.8	63.9	82.6	51.4	70.2	56.9	57.6	43.3	52.7	65.0	85.2	45.9	19.9	85.1	40.0	80.6	87.4	24.3	63.0	64.2
5.8	6.2	5.6	3.9	5.2	..	4.6	4.8	..	4.7	6.6	5.3	5.7	4.4	5.3	6.7	5.9	3.9	5.2	5.5
0.32	0.32	0.27	0.17	..	..	0.33	0.15	0.82	0.82	0.80	..	0.25	..	0.30	0.77	0.34	..	0.32	0.22
75	71	61	19	..	..	75	28	318	198	298	..	26	..	43	187	126	..	76	61

4) Civil employment in agriculture, forestry and fishing.

5) Upper secondary or higher education; OECD: average of rates.

6) Public and private expenditure on educational institutions; OECD: average of rates.

7) Official Development Assistance by Member countries of the OECD Development Assistance Committee.

II.A: SELECTED MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS (WORLDWIDE)

Y = in force S = signed R = ratified D = denounced

			CAN	MEX	USA	JPN
1946 Washington	Conv. - Regulation of whaling	Y	D	R	R	R
1956 Washington	Protocol	Y	R	R	R	R
1949 Geneva	Conv. - Road traffic	Y	R		R	R
1954 London	Conv. - Prevention of pollution of the sea by oil	Y	R	R	R	R
1971 London	Amendments to convention (protection of the Great Barrier Reef)		R			
1957 Brussels	Conv. - Limitation of the liability of owners of sea-going ships	Y	S			D
1979 Brussels	Protocol	Y				
1958 Geneva	Conv. - Fishing and conservation of the living resources of the high seas	Y	S	R	R	
1960 Geneva	Conv. - Protection of workers against ionising radiations (ILO 115)	Y		R		R
1962 Brussels	Conv. - Liability of operators of nuclear ships					
1963 Vienna	Conv. - Civil liability for nuclear damage	Y		R		
1988 Vienna	Joint protocol relating to the application of the Vienna Convention and the Paris Convention	Y				
1997 Vienna	Protocol to amend the Vienna convention					
1963 Moscow	Treaty - Banning nuclear weapon tests in the atmosphere, in outer space and under water	Y	R	R	R	R
1964 Copenhagen	Conv. - International council for the exploration of the sea	Y	R		R	
1970 Copenhagen	Protocol	Y	R		R	
1969 Brussels	Conv. - Intervention on the high seas in cases of oil pollution casualties (INTERVENTION)	Y		R	R	R
1973 London	Protocol (pollution by substances other than oil)	Y		R	R	
1969 Brussels	Conv. - Civil liability for oil pollution damage (CLC)	Y	R	D	S	D
1976 London	Protocol	Y	R	R		R
1992 London	Protocol	Y	R	R		R
1970 Bern	Conv. - Transport of goods by rail (CIM)	Y				
1971 Brussels	Conv. - International fund for compensation for oil pollution damage (FUND)	Y	D	D	S	D
1976 London	Protocol	Y	R	R		R
1992 London	Protocol	Y	R	R		R
1971 Brussels	Conv. - Civil liability in maritime carriage of nuclear material	Y				
1971 London, Moscow, Washington	Conv. - Prohib. emplacement of nuclear and mass destruct. weapons on sea-bed, ocean floor and subsoil	Y	R	R	R	R
1971 Ramsar	Conv. - Wetlands of international importance especially as waterfowl habitat	Y	R	R	R	R
1982 Paris	Protocol	Y	R	R	R	R
1987 Regina	Regina amendment	Y	R	R		R
1971 Geneva	Conv. - Protection against hazards of poisoning arising from benzene (ILO 136)	Y				
1972 London, Mexico, Moscow, Washington	Conv. - Prevention of marine pollution by dumping of wastes and other matter (LC)	Y	R	R	R	R
1996 London	Protocol to the Conv. - Prevention of marine poll. by dumping of wastes and other matter		R		S	
1972 Geneva	Conv. - Protection of new varieties of plants (revised)	Y	R	R	R	R
1978 Geneva	Amendments	Y	R	R	R	R
1991 Geneva	Amendments	Y			R	R
1972 Geneva	Conv. - Safe container (CSC)	Y	R	R	R	R
1972 London, Moscow, Washington	Conv. - International liability for damage caused by space objects	Y	R	R	R	R
1972 Paris	Conv. - Protection of the world cultural and natural heritage	Y	R	R	R	R
1973 Washington	Conv. - International trade in endangered species of wild fauna and flora (CITES)	Y	R	R	R	R
1974 Geneva	Conv. - Prev. and control of occup. hazards caused by carcinog. subst. and agents (ILO 139)	Y				R
1976 London	Conv. - Limitation of liability for maritime claims (LLMC)	Y		R		R
1996 London	Amendment to convention		S			
1977 Geneva	Conv. - Protection of workers against occupational hazards in the working environment due to air pollution, noise and vibration (ILO 148)	Y				
1978 London	Protocol - Prevention of pollution from ships (MARPOL PROT)	Y	R	R	R	R
1978 London	Annex III	Y			R	R
1978 London	Annex IV					R

OECD EPR / SECOND CYCLE

Y = in force S = signed R = ratified D = denounced

KOR	AUS	NZL	**AUT**	BEL	CZE	DNK	FIN	FRA	DEU	GRC	HUN	ISL	IRL	ITA	LUX	NLD	NOR	POL	PRT	SLO	ESP	SWE	CHE	TUR	UKD	EU
R	R	R	**R**			R	R	R	R			D	R	R		R	R				R	R	R		R	
R	R	R				R		R	R			R	R	R		R	R				R	R	R		R	
R	R	R	**R**	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	S	R	R	
R	R	R	**R**	R		R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R		R	R	R	R		R	R	R		R	
	R	R				R	R	R	R	R				R			R					R	R		R	
	D			D		D	D	D	D			R		S	R	D	D	R	R		R	D	R		D	
	R			R			S		S						R			R	R		R		R		D	
	R	S		R		R	R	R				S	S			R			R		R		R		R	
				R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R			R		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	
				S					S				S			R			R							
					R						R							R		R	S				S	
				S	R	R	R	S	S	S	R			R		R	R	R	S	R	S	R	S	S	S	
					S						S			S				S								
R	R	R	**R**	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	S	R	R	R	R	R	R	
				R		R	R	R	R			R	R			R	R	R	R		R	R			R	
				R		R	R	R	R			R	R			R	R	R	R		R	R			R	
S	R	R		R		R	R	R	R	S		R	R	R		R	R	R	R		R	R	R		R	
	R	S		R		R	R	R	R				R	R		R	R	R	R		R	R	R		R	
D	D	D		D		D	D	D	D	D		D	D	D	R	D	D	D	R		D	D	D		D	
R	R			R		R	R	R	R	R		R	D	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R		D	
R	R	R		R		R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R		R	R	R	R		R	R	R		R	
			R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	
D	D	D		D		D	D	D	D	D		D	D	D		D	D	D	R		D	D	D		D	
	R			R		R	R	R	R	R		R	D	R		R	R	R	R		R	R			D	
R	R	R		R		R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R		R	R	R	R		R	R			R	
				R		R	R	R	R					R		R	R		S		R	R			S	
R	R	R	**R**	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	
R	R	R	**R**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	
R	R	R	**R**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	
R	R	R	**R**	R		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R				R	R		R	
					R		R	R	R	R	R			R						R	R		R			
R	R	R		R		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R		R	
	R	R		S		R	S		R			S	R			S	R				R	S	R		R	
R	R	R	**R**	R	R	R	R	R			R		R	R		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	
R	R	R	**R**		R	R	R	R	R		R		R	R		R	R	R	R	R		R	R		R	
R	R					R	R		R							R						R			R	
R	R	R	**R**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	S	S	R	
R	R	R	**R**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	S	R	R	R	R	S	R		R	R	R	R		R	
R	R	R	**R**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	
R	R	R	**R**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	S	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	
				R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R			R	R		R	R		R	R		R	
	R	R		R		R	R	R	R	R			R			R	R	R			R	R	R	R	R	
						S	R	S	R							S	N					S			R	
				R	R	R	R	R	R		R			R			R		R	R	R	R			R	
R	R	R	**R**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	
R	R	R	**R**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	
			R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R			R	R			R	R	R	R	R	R		R	

II.A: SELECTED MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS (WORLDWIDE) (cont.)

Y = in force S = signed R = ratified D = denounced

		CAN	MEX	USA	JPN
1978 London	Annex V	Y	R	R	R
1997 London	Annex VI				
1979 Bonn	Conv. - Conservation of migratory species of wild animals	Y			
1991 London	Agreem. - Conservation of bats in Europe	Y			
1992 New York	Agreem. - Conservation of small cetaceans of the Baltic and the North Seas (ASCOBANS)	Y			
1996 Monaco	Agreem. - Conservation of cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area	Y			
1996 The Hague	Agreem. - Conservation of African-Eurasian migratory waterbirds	Y			
1982 Montego Bay	Conv. - Law of the sea	Y S	R		R
1994 New York	Agreem. - relating to the implementation of part XI of the convention	Y S		S	R
1995 New York	Agreem. - Implementation of the provisions of the convention relating to the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks	Y R		R	S
1983 Geneva	Agreem. - Tropical timber	Y R		R	R
1994 New York	Revised agreem. - Tropical timber	Y R		R	R
1985 Vienna	Conv. - Protection of the ozone layer	Y R	R	R	R
1987 Montreal	Protocol (substances that deplete the ozone layer)	Y R	R	R	R
1990 London	Amendment to protocol	Y R	R	R	R
1992 Copenhagen	Amendment to protocol	Y R	R	R	R
1997 Montreal	Amendment to protocol	Y R			
1999 Beijing	Amendment to protocol	R			
1986 Vienna	Conv. - Early notification of a nuclear accident	Y R	R	R	R
1986 Vienna	Conv. - Assistance in the case of a nuclear accident or radiological emergency	Y S	R	R	R
1989 Basel	Conv. - Control of transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and their disposal	Y R	R	S	R
1995 Geneva	Amendment				
1999 Basel	Prot. - Liability and compensation for damage				
1989 London	Conv. - Salvage	Y R	R	R	
1990 Geneva	Conv. - Safety in the use of chemicals at work (ILO 170)	Y	R		
1990 London	Conv. - Oil pollution preparedness, response and co-operation (OPRC)	Y R	R	R	R
1992 Rio de Janeiro	Conv. - Biological diversity	Y R	R	S	R
2000 Montreal	Prot. - Biosafety	S	S		
1992 New York	Conv. - Framework convention on climate change	Y R	R	R	R
1997 Kyoto	Protocol	S	R	S	R
1993 Paris	Conv. - Prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons and their destruction	Y R	R	S	R
1993 Geneva	Conv. - Prevention of major industrial accidents (ILO 174)	Y			
1993	Agreem. - Promote compliance with international conservation and management measures by fishing vessels on the high seas	R	R	R	R
1994 Vienna	Conv. - Nuclear safety	Y R	R	R	R
1994 Paris	Conv. - Combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa	Y R	R	R	R
1995 Rome	Code of conduct on responsible fishing				
1996 London	Conv. - Liability and compensation for damage in connection with the carriage of hazardous and noxious substances by sea	S			
1997 Vienna	Conv. - Supplementary compensation for nuclear damage			S	
1997 Vienna	Conv. - Joint convention on the safety of spent fuel management and on the safety of radioactive waste management	Y R		S	
1997 New York	Conv. - Law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses				
1998 Rotterdam	Conv. - Prior informed consent procedure for hazardous chemicals and pesticides (PIC)			S	S
2001 London	Conv. - Civil liability for bunker oil pollution damage				
2001 Stockholm	Conv. - Persistent organic pollutants	R	S	S	

Source: IUCN; OECD.

OECD EPR / SECOND CYCLE

Y = in force S = signed R = ratified D = denounced

KOR	AUS	NZL	**AUT**	BEL	CZE	DNK	FIN	FRA	DEU	GRC	HUN	ISL	IRL	ITA	LUX	NLD	NOR	POL	PRT	SLO	ESP	SWE	CHE	TUR	UKD	EU
R	R	R	**R**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	
																	S					S				
	R			R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R
				S	R	R	R	R	R		R		R		R	R	R	R	R	R		R			R	
				R		R	R		R							R		R				R			R	S
								S		S				S					S		R			S		S
				S		R	R	S	R	S			S		S	R				R	R	R	R		R	S
R	R	R	**R**	R	R	S	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	S		R	R
R	R	R	**R**	R	R	S	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	S		R	R
S	R	R	**S**	S		S	S	S	S	S		R	S	S	S	S	R		S		S	S			R	S
R	R	R	**R**	R		R	R	R	R	R			R	R	R	R	R		R		R	R	R		R	R
R	R	R	**R**	R		R	R	R	R	R			R	R	R	R	R		R		R	R	R		R	R
R	R	R	**R**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
R	R	R	**R**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
R	R	R	**R**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
R	R	R	**R**	S	R	R	R		R		R	R		R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R			R	R
		R			R		R								R		R								R	
R	R	R	**R**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	
R	R	R	**R**	R	R	S	R	R	R	R	R	S	R	R	R	R	S	R	S	R	R	R	R	R	R	
R	R	R	**R**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
			R		R	R	R								R	R	R		R	R	R	R			R	R
						S	S	S			S				S							S	S		S	
	R					R	S	R	R	R			R	R		R	R	S			S	R	R		R	
																	R					R				
R	R	R				R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R		R	R	S			R	R	R		R	
R	R	R	**R**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
S		S	**S**	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	R	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
R	R	R	**R**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R
S	S	S	**R**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R	R	R	S	R	R	R	R	S		R	R
S	R	R	**R**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	S	R	R	S	R	R	R	R	S	R	R	R	S	S	
				S												R						R				
																	R					R				R
R	R		**R**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	S	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	
R	R	R	**R**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
						S	S		S							S	S					S			S	
	S				S									S												
S	S		**R**	S	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	S	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R	R		R	
							R		S		R				S	R	R		S			R				
S	S	S	**S**	S	R	S	S	S	R	S	R			S	S	R	R	S	S		S	S	R	S	S	S
S	S	S	**S**	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	R	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S

II.B: SELECTED MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS (REGIONAL)

Y = in force S = signed R = ratified D = denounced

			CAN	MEX	USA	JPN
1957 Geneva	Agreem. - International carriage of dangerous goods by road (ADR)	Y				
1975 New York	Protocol	Y				
1958 Geneva	Agreem. - Adoption of uniform conditions of approval and reciprocal recognition of approval for motor vehicle equipments and parts	Y				
1959 Washington	Treaty - Antarctic	Y	R		R	R
1991 Madrid	Protocol to the Antarctic treaty (environmental protection)	Y	S		R	R
1960 Paris	Conv. - Third party liability in the field of nuclear energy	Y				
1963 Brussels	Supplementary convention	Y				
1964 Paris	Additional protocol to the convention	Y				
1964 Paris	Additional protocol to the supplementary convention	Y				
1982 Brussels	Protocol amending the convention	Y				
1982 Brussels	Protocol amending the supplementary convention	Y				
1988 Vienna	Joint protocol relating to the application of the Vienna Convention and the Paris Convention	Y				
1960 Steckborn	Agreem. - Protection of Lake Constance against pollution	Y				
1966 Bern	Regulation (water withdrawal)	Y				
1968 Paris	Conv. - Protection of animals during international transport	Y				
1979 Strasbourg	Protocol	Y				
1969 London	Conv. - Protection of the archaeological heritage	Y				
1979 Bern	Conv. - Conservation of European wildlife and natural habitats	Y				
1979 Geneva	Conv. - Long-range transboundary air pollution	Y	R		R	
1984 Geneva	Protocol (financing of EMEP)	Y	R		R	
1985 Helsinki	Protocol (reduction of sulphur emissions or their transboundary fluxes by at least 30%)	Y	R			
1988 Sofia	Protocol (control of emissions of nitrogen oxides or their transboundary fluxes)	Y	R		R	
1991 Geneva	Protocol (control of emissions of volatile organic compounds or their transboundary fluxes)	Y	S		S	
1994 Oslo	Protocol (further reduction of sulphur emissions)	Y	R			
1998 Aarhus	Protocol (heavy metals)		R		R	
1998 Aarhus	Protocol (persistent organic pollutants)		R		S	
1999 Gothenburg	Protocol (abate acidification, eutrophication and ground-level ozone)		S		S	
1980 Madrid	Conv. - Transfrontier co-operation between territorial communities or authorities	Y				
1995 Strasbourg	Additional protocol	Y				
1998 Strasbourg	Second protocol	Y				
1991 Espoo	Conv. - Environmental impact assessment in a transboundary context	Y	R		S	
1991 Salzburg	Conv. - Protection of Alps	Y				
1994 Chambery	Prot. - Nature protection and landscape conservation	Y				
1994 Chambery	Prot. - Town and Country Planning and Sustainable Development	Y				
1994 Chambery	Prot. - Mountain agriculture	Y				
1996 Brdo	Prot. - Mountain forests	Y				
1996 Brdo	Prot. - Tourism	Y				
1998 Bled	Prot. - Energy	Y				
1998 Bled	Prot. - Land conservation	Y				
2000 Lucerne	Prot. - Transport	Y				
2000 Lucerne	Prot. - Dispute settlement	Y				

OECD EPR / SECOND CYCLE

Y = in force S = signed R = ratified D = denounced

KOR	AUS	NZL	**AUT**	BEL	CZE	DNK	FIN	FRA	DEU	GRC	HUN	ISL	IRL	ITA	LUX	NLD	NOR	POL	PRT	SLO	ESP	SWE	CHE	TUR	UKD	EU
			R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R			R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	
			R	R		R	R	R	R		R			R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R		R	
			R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R			R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	
R	R	R	**R**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R			R		R	R	R		R	R	R	R	R	R	
R	R	R	**S**	R	S	S	R	R	R	R	S			R		R	R	R		S	R	R	S		R	
			S	R		R	R	R	R	R				R	S	R	R		R		R	R	S	R	R	
			S	R		R	R	R	R					R	S	R	R				R	R	S		R	
			S	R		R	R	R	R	R				R	S	R	R		R		R	R	S	R	R	
			S	R		R	R	R	R					R	S	R	R				R	R	S		R	
			S	R		R	R	R	R	R				R	S	R	R		R		R	R	S	R	R	
			S	R		R	R	R	R					R	S	R	R				R	R	S		R	
				S	R	R	R	S	S	S	R			R		R	R	R	S	R	S	R	S	S	S	
			R						R														R			
			R						R														R			
			R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R	R	R		R		R	R	R	R	R	
			R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R	R	R		R		R	D	D		D	
			R	R		R		D	R	R		R		R	R				D		R	D	D		D	
			R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
			R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
			R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
			R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R			R	R	R	R			R		R	R			
			R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R	R	S		R	R	R	R		R	R
			R	R	R	R	R	R	S	R				R	R	R	R		S	R	R	R	R		R	S
			R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R	R	S		R	R	R	R		R	R
			S	S	R	R	R	R	S	S	S	S	S	S	R	R	R	S	S	S	S	R	R		S	R
			R	S	R	R	R	S	R	S	S	S	S	S	R	R	R	S	S	S	S	R	R		S	S
			S	S	S	R	S	S	S	S	S		S	S	R	S	R	S	S	S	S	R	S		S	
			R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	S	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R			
			S	S				R	R			S		S	R	R			S	R		R	R			
								S	R			S			R	R			S	R		R	S			
			R	R	R	R	R	R	S	R	R	S	S	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R
			R					R	R					R									R			R
			R					S	R					S									S			S
			R					S	R					S									S			S
			R					R	R					S									S			S
			R					S	R					S									S			
			R					S	R					S									S			
			R					S	R					S									S			
			R					S	R					S									S			
			R					S	R					S									S			

II.B: SELECTED MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS (REGIONAL) (cont.)

Y = in force S = signed R = ratified D = denounced

		CAN	MEX	USA	JPN
1992 Helsinki	Conv. - Transboundary effects of industrial accidents	S		S	
1992 Helsinki	Conv. - Protection and use of transboundary water courses and international lakes	Y			
1999 London	Prot. - Water and health				
1992 Vienna	Agreem. - Forecast, prevention and mitigation of natural and technological disasters				
1993 Lugano	Conv. - Civil liability for damage resulting from activities dangerous to the environment				
1994 Lisbon	Treaty - Energy Charter	Y			S
1994 Lisbon	Protocol (energy efficiency and related environmental aspects)	Y			S
1994 Sofia	Conv. - Co-operation for the protection and sust. use of the Danube river				
1998 Aarhus	Conv. - Access to env. information and public participation in env. decision-making	Y			
1998 Strasbourg	Conv. - Protection of the environment through criminal law				
2000 Geneva	Agreem. - linternational carriage of dangerous goods by inland waterways (AND)				

Source: IUCN; OECD.

OECD EPR / SECOND CYCLE

Y = in force S = signed R = ratified D = denounced

KOR	AUS	NZL	**AUT**	BEL	CZE	DNK	FIN	FRA	DEU	GRC	HUN	ISL	IRL	ITA	LUX	NLD	NOR	POL	PRT	SLO	ESP	SWE	CHE	TUR	UKD	EU
			R	S	R	R	R	S	R	R	R			R	R	S	R	S	S		R	R	R		S	R
			R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R			R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		S	R
				S	R	S	S	S	S	S	R	S		S	R	S	S	S	S	R	S	S	S		S	
	S										S			R				S								
							S			S		S		S	S	S			S							
	S		**R**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	S	R	R	R	R	S	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
	S		**R**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	S	R	R	R	R	S	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
			S						S		R															
			S	S	S	R	S	R	S	S	R	S	S	R	S	S	S	R	S		S	S	S		S	S
			S	S		S	S	S	S	S		S		S	S							S				
					S			S	S					S	S	S				S						

Reference III
ABBREVIATIONS

AAMA	American Automobile Manufacturers Association
AOX	Adsorbable organically bound halogens
BAT	Best available technology
BMLFUW	Federal Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management
BOD	Biochemical oxygen demand
CFC	Chlorofluorocarbon
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
COD	Chemical oxygen demand
CSA	Committee for Sustainable Austria
DAC	Development Assistance Committee of the OECD
ECMT	European Conference of Ministers of Transport
EIA	Environmental impact assessment
EMAS	Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (of the EU)
EMEP	Co-operative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GDP	Gross domestic product
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GHG	Greenhouse gas
GNI	Gross national income
HCB	Hexachlorobenzene
HCFC	Hydrochlorofluorocarbon
HFC	Hydrofluorocarbon
IEA	International Energy Agency
IMO	International Maritime Organization
IPPC	Integrated pollution prevention and control
IRF	International Road Federation
ISO	International Organization for Standardisation
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature (The World Conservation Union)

LA21	Local Agenda 21
LPG	Liquefied petroleum gas
MtC	Million tonnes of CO_2 equivalent
MWh	Megawatt hours
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
(NM)VOC	(Non-methane) volatile organic compound
NSSD	National Strategy for Sustainable Development
ODA	Official development assistance
ODS	Ozone-depleting substance
ÖPUL	Programme for Environmentally Friendly Agriculture
PAC	Pollution abatement and control
PCBs	Polychlorinated biphenyls
PFCs	Perfluorocarbons
PIC	Prior informed consent
POP	Persistent organic pollutant
TPES	Total primary energy supply
TSP	Total suspended particulates
TWh	Terawatt hour
UBA	Federal Environment Agency
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UN-ECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
VAT	Value-added tax
WCMC	World Conservation Monitoring Centre
WTO	World Trade Organization
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature/World Wildlife Fund

Reference IV

PHYSICAL CONTEXT

Austria is a relatively small country (83 900 km^2) that is *land-locked in central Europe* and shares borders with Germany, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Slovenia, Italy, Switzerland and Liechtenstein. About 23% of the national territory is used as permanent grassland, 18% is arable and permanent crop land and 47% is covered with woodlands (see Map of Austria).

Five main types of landscape can be distinguished: the eastern Alps (63% of total area), the Alpine and Carpathian foothills (11%), the low-lying eastern Pannonic plains (11%), the Vienna basin (4%) and the granite-gneiss Bohemian highlands north of the Danube (10%). About 40% of the national territory lies more than 1 000 metres above sea level. The Großglockner, at 3 797 metres, is Austria's highest mountain.

Austria has *three types of climate*. The continental climate, in the east, has average summer temperatures of around 19 °C and annual rainfall that is usually under 700 mm. The mountain areas' Alpine climate features high rainfall, short summers and long winters. The rest of the country has a transition climate influenced by the predominant westerly and north-westerly winds from the Atlantic, with precipitation of 700 to 2 500 mm, depending on altitude.

The variety of landscape, altitude and climate engenders a *diversity of vegetation*. At lower altitudes, the Austrian forests are dominated by oak and beech; from 500 and 1 200 metres, mixed beech and spruce dominate; above that, there is a gradual change to larch and pine. In the mountains, forests help prevent debris flows, avalanches and flooding. There is also great diversity of vegetation in the grassland and Alpine pastures. Austria's *fauna* includes brown bear, fox, wild boar, roe deer, red deer, hare, pheasant, badger and squirrel.

Most of the country lies in the *basin of the Danube River*, which crosses northern Austria for 350 kilometres on its way from the Black Forest to the Black Sea. The country's largest lakes are also transboundary: Lake Constance (Bodensee) on the border with Germany and Switzerland, and Lake Neusiedl on the Hungarian border. The numerous smaller Alpine lakes are popular summer tourist attractions. In the west, part of Austria lies in the basin of the upper Rhine River, which forms the border with Switzerland. A small part of the country lies in the catchment area of the Elbe River.

Austria's *natural resources* include extensive forests and hydropower, and modest mineral deposits. The country is a large exporter of timber (the second largest component of GDP). Austria's iron ore reserves cover about 35% of its needs. Deposits of lignite, oil and natural gas make up meet about 33% of the primary energy supply. Other mineral resources include lead, zinc, gypsum and clay. The country exploits its extensive hydropower generation capacity to meet some 80% of its electricity demand.

Austria's *location* in the middle of Europe gives rise to specific environmental issues such as environmental pressures (e.g. air emissions, habitat disruption) from intensive freight transit traffic on north-south and, increasingly, east-west routes, which has raised much public concern. Transboundary exchange of acidifying air pollutants and tropospheric ozone precursors is another long-standing issue, especially because of damage to forests and soil.

Reference V
SELECTED ENVIRONMENTAL EVENTS (1995-2002)

1995

- Austria accedes to the European Union.
- Ordinance on separate collection of biodegradable waste takes effect.
- Ordinance on take-back of refrigeration equipment is amended.
- A fifth set of ordinances dealing with wastewater discharges from specific industrial sectors is published.
- The interim secretariat of the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River is established in Vienna. Use of atrazine as a herbicide is banned. ÖPUL 1995 is initiated.
- The Austrian Council on Climate Change, a scientific advisory board to the federal government, is founded.
- The federation and the nine provinces (Länder) agreed to undertake measures to improve energy efficiency standards of buildings.
- Austria nominates the 58 hectare Rotmoos im Fuschertal site, near Salzburg, as a Ramsar site.

1996

- The Convention for the Protection and Sustainable Use of the Danube River (Danube River Protection Convention) is ratified.
- Parliament adopts the National Environment Plan.
- Austria transposes the EU Framework Directive on Review and Monitoring of Air Quality into national law.
- The national phase-out of CFC use in textile cleaning is completed.
- A new packaging ordinance and a landfill ordinance are issued.
- The EU project "Soft Mobility in Tourism Destinations and Regions", which will later lead to creation of the Austria-based Network for Soft Mobility in European Tourism (NETS), begins.

- The annual water protection report is published, along with a sixth set of ordinances dealing with wastewater discharges from industrial sectors. New guidelines on subsidies for industrial wastewater treatment systems become effective.
- A standardised environmental impact assessment (EIA) procedure, as recommended by the OECD, is developed and has since been systematically applied for all bilateral aid (except the budget line for co-financing).
- Austria nominates the 173 hectare Hoerfeld-Moor site, in Carinthia and Styria, as a Ramsar site.

1997

- The federal government and the provincial governments of Vienna and Lower Austria reach agreement on the foundation and maintenance of the Danube Floodplain National Park. A similar agreement is reached with Upper Austria on the Kalkalpen National Park.
- Austria submits its second National Climate Change Report under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
- The second national report on ground-level ozone is submitted to the Parliament.
- The Parliament approves the Ambient Air Quality Protection Act, to take effect in 1998.
- Redefinition of the classification system for hazardous waste is approved.
- The packaging ordinance and packaging target ordinance are amended.
- Austria launches its tourism ecolabel programme, which will include annual events recognising designated tourism enterprises.
- A seventh set of ordinances dealing with wastewater discharges from industrial sectors is published, as are technical guidelines in the field of sanitary engineering works.
- Floods took place in Upper Austria, Lower Austria and Burgenland, and a major flood in the Morava River basin also affected Austria.

1998

- The federal government and the provincial government of Lower Austria reach agreement on the foundation and maintenance of Thayatal National Park.
- The Clean Air Act for Steam Boilers and its ordinances are introduced along with a revision of the industrial code and its ordinances.

- The determination ordinance on hazardous waste is amended.
- "Integrated Quality Management in Tourism", a European tourism forum under Austria's EU Presidency, is held in Mayrhofen.
- Austria signs the Aarhus Protocol on Heavy Metals, the Aarhus Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters, and the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade.
- Austria ratifies the Convention to Combat Desertification.
- A constitutional law on a nuclear-free Austria is passed.
- The campaign "Lebende Flüsse – Living Rivers" is launched. The Danube River Protection Convention enters into force.
- Flooding affects all parts of Austria; in Carinthia, the Drau River sees its biggest flood since 1966.
- The Federal Waste Management Plan is published.
- The use of methyl bromide is banned, except for registered pesticides.

1999

- The agreement between the federal government and the provincial government of Burgenland on the maintenance and further development of the Neusiedler See-Seewinkel National Park is amended.
- Austria signs the Gothenburg Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone.
- Austria ratifies the Helsinki Convention on Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents.
- An interprovince committee to co-ordinate climate change protection measures in the provinces is established.
- Development of a National Climate Change Strategy begins.
- Ordinances on incineration of hazardous waste in industrial plants and on incineration of hazardous waste are approved.
- The battery ordinance is amended.
- The annual water protection report and an eighth set of ordinances dealing with wastewater discharges from industrial sectors are published.
- Flooding affects many parts of Austria. The water level of Lake Constance reaches its highest since 1890.

- The Austrian Electricity Act enters into force, introducing preferential treatment for renewable energy sources.
- Austria nominates a 13 000 hectare site, composed of Waldviertel ponds, peatbogs and flood plains, as a Ramsar site.
- Austria's third national report on ground-level ozone is submitted to the Parliament.

2000

- Austria signs the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.
- The Environmental Impact Assessment Act is passed (amendment of Federal Act No. 697/1993).
- The packaging target ordinance, the determination ordinance on hazardous waste and the battery ordinance are amended.
- The Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Labour commissions a study on "Sustainable Development within Austrian Tourism: Basics and Analyses".
- The federal government publishes its programme for further sustainable development in Austrian water policy. A ninth set of ordinances dealing with wastewater discharges from specific industrial sectors is published.
- The International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River becomes the "co-ordination platform" for implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive in the Danube Basin District.
- Austria ratifies the Tourism Protocol of the Alpine Convention.
- Austria completes its phase-out of the use of HCFCs as solvents and as foam blowing and insulating material.
- Refilling of halons in equipment is completely phased out.

2001

- Austria signs the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants.
- An ordinance on quality requirements for compost made from waste is approved.
- As part of its implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive, Austria participates in the Common Implementation Strategy at Community Level (contributing expertise on groundwater issues and heavily modified water bodies).
- Austria submits implementation status reports on the EU nitrate and urban wastewater directives. Studies on benchmarking and private sector participation are made public and discussed. The system of financial incentives for municipal

water supply and wastewater treatment infrastructure is revised to improve cost-effectiveness in the design of water utilities.

- An Austrian Greenbook on Sustainable development is prepared and presented to the public.
- The Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Labour commissions studies on the potential of ecotourism, on national parks and tourism and on an evaluation system for sustainability in tourist regions.
- "Ecotourism in Mountain Areas – A Challenge to Sustainable Development", a preparatory conference for the International Year of Ecotourism and International Year of Mountains (2002), is held in Salzburg.
- Austria participates in the joint European initiative called Voluntary Initiatives for Sustainability in Tourism (VISIT).
- The federal government launches a programme on third party financing (contracting) in energy savings investments for federal buildings.
- The Federal Waste Management Plan 2001 is published.
- Austria's third national climate change report is submitted to the UNFCCC.

2002

- Federal acts on the Gesäuse National Park are initiated.
- The Waste Management Act is approved.
- Ordinances on end-of-life vehicles, waste incineration and mobile waste treatment plants are approved.
- Areas north of the Alps and in the Bohemian massif are hit by disastrous floods. Damage to property is estimated by November at EUR 2.9 billion.
- The Council of Ministers agrees on implementation of the Alpine Convention tourism protocol.
- Austria ratifies protocols to the Alpine Convention on tourism, mountain agriculture, spatial planning and sustainable development, mountain forest, traffic, soil protection, nature conservation and landscape.
- Both chambers of the Austrian Parliament ratify the Kyoto Protocol.
- The federal government adopts the National Climate Strategy.
- The Council of Ministers adopts the National Strategy for Sustainable Development.
- Austria nominates the 2 180 hectare Lafnitztal site, along the border between the provinces of Burgenland and Styria, as a Ramsar site.

- Phase-out of HCFCs in cooling systems of new installations is completed.
- Austria ratifies the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Rotterdam Convention on PIC.
- The Parliament adopts a new Development Co-operation Act that explicitly defines the contribution to environmental protection and natural resource use as one of the overall goals of Austria's development policy.

Reference VI
SELECTED ENVIRONMENTAL WEB SITES

Web site	Federal Ministries
www.lebensministerium.at	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management
www.ubavie.gv.at	Federal Environment Agency
www.bmwa.gv.at	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Labour
www.bmaa.gv.at	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
www.bmsg.gv.at	Ministry of Health and Social Affairs
www.bmvit.gv.at	Ministry of Traffic and Transport, Innovation and Technology
	Labour/Industry Chambers
www.arbeiterkammer.at	Chamber of Labour
www.voei.at	Federation of Austrian Industry
www.wko.at	Chamber of Economy
www.oekoland.at	Organic farming industry
www.agrar-net.at	Chambers of Agriculture
www.bergbauern.at	Mountain farmers
	Sites about Nature
www.nationalparks.or.at	Ministerial site on national parks
www.nationalpark.co.at and *www.nationalparks.at*	Additional sites on national parks
www.birdlife.at	Birdlife Austria

Sites about Forestry

www.pefc.at	Pan-European Forest Certification
http://fbva.forvie.ac.at	Federal Forest Agency and Research Center (BFW)
www.walddialog.at	Austrian National Forest Programme
www.boku.ac.at/sfh/	Institute of Forest Sector Policy and Economics

Research Institutes

www.boku.ac.at	University for Agricultural Sciences
www.wifo.at	Austrian Institute of Economic Research
www.eva.wsr.ac.at	Energy Research and Policy Institution

Environmental NGOs

www.oekobuero.at	Federation of Environmental NGOs
www.klimabuendnis.at	Climate Alliance
www.accc.gv.at	Austrian Council on Climate Change
www.gfse.at	Global Forum on Sustainable Energy
www.nachhaltigkeit.at	Sustainable Development in Austria

Web Sites of Provincial Governments

www.bgld.gv.at	Burgenland
www.ktn.gv.at	Carinthia (Kärnten)
www.noel.gv.at	Lower Austria (Niederösterreich)
www.salzburg.gv.at	Salzburg
www.verwaltung.steiermark.at	Styria (Steiermark)
www.tirol.gv.at	Tyrol (Tirol)
www.ooe.gv.at	Upper Austria (Oberösterreich)
www.wien.gv.at	Vienna (Wien)
www.vorarlberg.at	Vorarlberg

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Part III

INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS

REFERENCES

LIST OF FIGURES, TABLES AND BOXES

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Boxes

Signs

The following signs are used in Figures and Tables:
. .: not available
– : nil or negligible
. : decimal point

Country Aggregates

OECD Europe: All European member countries of the OECD, i.e. countries of the European Union plus the Czech Republic, Hungary, Iceland, Norway, Poland, the Slovak Republic, Switzerland and Turkey.

OECD: The countries of OECD Europe plus Australia, Canada, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, New Zealand and the United States.

Country aggregates may include Secretariat estimates.
The sign * indicates that not all countries are included.

Currency

Monetary unit: Euro (EUR)
In 2002, EUR 1.063 = USD 1.

Cut-off Date

This report is based on data available up to March 2003.

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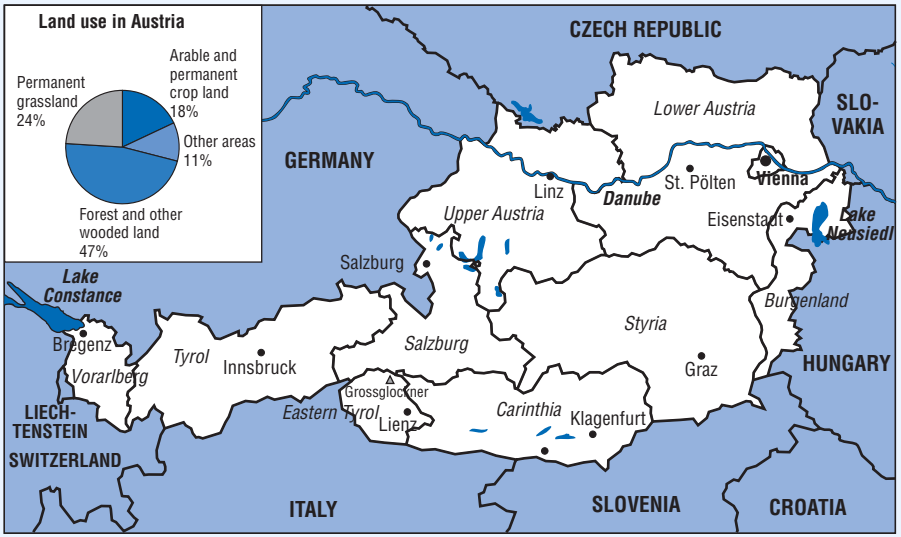
Map of Austria



Source: OECD.