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Press Speaking points**

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**European Council Press Conference**

I fully share the views of Prime Minister Reinfeldt. I am really pleased to have achieved so much at this Council. This is a great tribute to the work of the Swedish Presidency team and the Prime Minister in particular.

In fact, regarding climate change, this was an important breakthrough, which brings new momentum.

We can look the rest of the world in their eyes and say we, Europeans, we have done our job. We are ready for Copenhagen.

We have agreed a negotiating mandate and we have a clear endorsement of some of the Commission's proposals, namely on financing.

It was essential that the EU kept its leadership role and our credibility – we have done that. We have a clear, ambitious, and unified EU message on climate finance. We can take this message to Washington, New Delhi, Beijing and elsewhere. Next Tuesday, Prime Minister Reinfeldt and myself are meeting the President of the United States and we will say "we are ready to engage, let's make Copenhagen a success".

That does not mean being naïve –our offer is not a blank check: we are ready to act, if our partners deliver.

If we want developing countries to come to the table with serious commitments then we need developed countries to put money on the table for adaptation to climate change and to help finance developing countries mitigation efforts. We need to put our money where our mouth is.

Today, the European Council has fully endorsed the figures put forward some weeks ago by the Commission that by 2020, developing countries will need around 100 billion euros a year to tackle climate change. The EU accepts to pay its fair share of this. International public support will need to be in the range of 22-50 billion euros a year by 2020.

We also have agreed an internal burden sharing mechanism taking into account the ability to pay of less prosperous member states.

We also have agreed that this matter has to be decided finally after the successful outcome of Copenhagen is reached. I think we can say now that we are in a position to drive the momentum towards Copenhagen. Honestly I think we are now at a very critical moment; there are many people who believe that the Copenhagen Summit is at risk. We think that we can indeed make it a success. The European Union is taking this leadership role very seriously.

Finally, on the Economy, we have agreed that we must continue with the implementation of our stimulus measures and maintain a strong focus on jobs.

We must maintain efforts until the moment when we will finally overcome the crisis. At that time, we will need to implement exit strategies in a coordinated way.

I was particularly happy for one of the parts of the conclusion; our commitment to the G20 process, at the same time we have agreed that the European Union has to be in the G20 in a coordinated, structured and coherent manner. That the G20 and the international financial institutions have to respect European specificity and the specificity of the euro area.

We also have discussed very broadly the need to come to a post-2010 Lisbon Strategy, we have to move towards a strong greener and inclusive economy. This "EU 2020" strategy has to be developed. And yesterday we had the first exchange of views about this, the Commission will come with a proposal for the March European Council already, during the Spanish Presidency.

In addition to our agreement on the economy, climate financing and the Lisbon Treaty we also have agreed on immigration and also the Baltic Sea Strategy. I really wanted to say this was a very successful Summit. Once again congratulations to you Fredrik and your team: I think the results were much better than expected seven days ago.

Thank you