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**Commission says increased climate action will benefit  
Europe's economy and environment**

**[Brussels, January 30, 2012]** - Today the European Commission published a long-awaited paper that outlines the numerous benefits increased climate action would bring Europe. *Analysis of options to move beyond 20% greenhouse gas emission reductions: Member State results* finds that increased EU climate ambition will deliver great financial, health and environmental benefits for all member states. The study, which was completed at the request of EU environment ministers, shows that moving beyond 20% emission reductions by the year 2020 is feasible, beneficial and much cheaper than previously thought. [1]

“This study is important because it offers Member States a way to ensure greater stability and resilience against oil price and supply fluctuations, which in turn will create stronger economies and a healthier environment in all of Europe,” said Julia Michalak, EU Climate Policy officer at CAN Europe.

“The Commission’s findings remove any doubt about the benefits of stronger European-wide climate action,” Michalak continued. “Higher targets will benefit the EU’s citizens and economy as well as poorer countries already experiencing the effects of climate change in other parts of the world.”

CAN Europe urges all 27 EU member states to act on this analysis and support a shift towards a more ambitious target by increasing efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from all sources.

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Editor's Notes:

A 30 percent climate target would mean that, between 2016 and 2020, countries would reduce fossil fuel expenses by €31.3 billion annually, calculated with a very conservative oil price of \$88/barrel in 2020.