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Lena Sommestad

ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS AT THE NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS - Comments from a Swedish perspective

Chairman colleagues & friends,
~~Thank you Mr Chair, Mr President, ladies & gentlemen,~~

Making progress to combat climate change is, to a large extent, a matter of choosing adequate policies and measures. This is a cornerstone of European climate ~~change~~ policy.

And in order to succeed in this, ~~it is very important that we~~ we need to build on experience.

Sweden is one of the ~~free~~ industrial countries ~~within the EU~~ in the world that have succeeded in reducing in absolute terms the volume of CO2 emissions.

Although much more needs to be done in Sweden, as in other countries,

~~I will take this opportunity to share some observations made~~
~~several important lessons can be learnt, I think, from the Swedish~~
~~experience, observations that may be useful for economies at~~
~~different stages of economic development.~~ of our experience

First, the Swedish case shows that it is clearly possible to de-couple

economic growth from increasing CO2 emissions. ~~This confirms the message of our~~ ~~Chair Mr Trihn - that climate~~ ~~policies are~~

In the 1990s, CO2 emissions in Sweden dropped by 3 percent, while GDP increased, during the same period, by almost 25 percent.

This confirms the observation made by Mr Trihn - growth & climate policies are compatible.

from growth climate policies compatible

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The lesson is that early action must be taken to design cities that makes it possible to use public transport, ~~to walk and to use bicycles.~~

Investments must be made to secure efficient transportation links for goods by rail or sea, instead of road transport.

~~In short, early action helps us to save substantial economic resources for the future and to develop win-win solutions.~~

~~And this, of course, is in the interest of all actors concerned — governments, industry and citizens.~~

→ **Finally**, I am convinced that ^{the ongoing} (preparation of) national communications ^{is an} important contribution ~~to the work of developing~~ ^{to the work of developing} ~~play an important role for developing~~ adequate policies and measures.

It is encouraging that 110 non-annex 1 countries have already submitted their first national communications. In view of the economic gains that can be reaped from early action, these communications will not only be of great importance for each individual country. They will also substantially add to our co-operation ^{international} on policies ^{to develop a global low-carbon economy.}

~~This will not only be of great importance for each individual country, in order to secure, for future generations, our planet and its ecosystems.~~

~~a growth-oriented policies to develop in the future a global low-carbon economy.~~
Thank you .