



Belgian Federal Council for Sustainable Development

Summary of the Advice on the 6th Environmental Action Programme of the European Union

- **Requested by Mrs Magda Aelvoet, Minister of Consumers protection, Public health and Environment**
- **Prepared by the *Federal plan* working group**
- **Endorsed by the General Assembly of June 20, 2000**

The Belgian Federal Council for Sustainable Development FRDO-CFDD (the acronym comes from the Dutch *Federale Raad voor Duurzame Ontwikkeling* and the French *Conseil Fédéral du Développement Durable*) hereby expresses its opinion on the issues at stake in the 6th Environmental Action Programme (EAP) of the European Union. The FRDO-CFDD pleads first for a thoroughly worked out and sufficiently detailed programme with clearly fixed objectives. In regard to sustainable development, the FRDO-CFDD moreover stresses the importance of a balanced integration of ecological, economic and social aspects in the policy. As regards priorities for the sixth EAP, the FRDO-CFDD subscribes to the conclusions of the European Union ministers for the environment and refers, among other things, to the problems which, according to the European Environment Agency, are not developing favourably. In the view of the FRDO-CFDD, the necessary means and resources must be allocated and an optimal mix of instruments used for the implementation of the programme. Finally, the FRDO-CFDD points out that a target group policy as well as awareness raising and education are essential components of an EAP.