



DECLARATION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health Parma 10-12 March 2010

The European Commission welcomes the renewed commitment to strengthen the links between Environment and Health set out in the Final Declaration of the Ministerial Conference held in Parma on 10-12 March 2010. The document sets out clearly how to implement the environment and health process across Europe, based *inter alia* on the Children's Environment and Health Action Plan for Europe (CEHAPE).

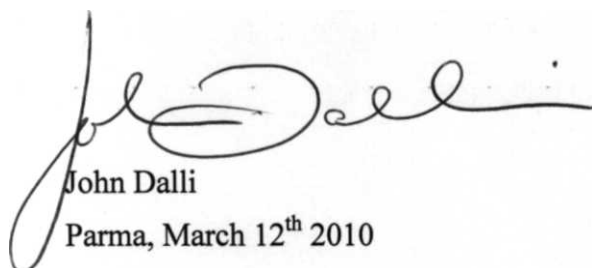
The Commission supports the focus given to key environment and health challenges, such as the impact of climate change on health and the environment, socioeconomic and gender inequalities and the burden of non-communicable diseases linked to environmental conditions and disasters.

Despite the progress achieved so far, addressing major preventable determinants and diseases, such as obesity, respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, remains a major challenge. Renewed efforts are required to properly address the environmental causes of such determinants and diseases. The Parma Ministerial Declaration provides a strong impetus to the implementation of effective actions to further reduce the burdens that arise from such diseases.

The Commission is committed to working with governments, civil society and with international organisations, in particular the World Health Organization, to support as appropriate the achievement of the goals set out in the Parma Declaration.

In implementing its European Environment and Health Strategy³ through the EU Action Plan on Environment and Health⁴, the Commission will ensure that synergies between EU level actions and those arising from the Parma Conference are fully exploited.

Signed on behalf of the European Commission



John Dalli
Parma, March 12th 2010

³ COM (2003) 338 FINAL OF

⁴ 11.6.2003 COM (2004) 416 FINAL