

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000672/26
to the Commission
César Luena (S&D)
(17 February 2026)**

Subject: Ambition of the future climate resilience law in the light of a report by the European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change

The conclusion of a report by the European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change, *Strengthening resilience to climate change — Recommendations for an effective EU adaptation policy framework*, is that the EU's current adaptation efforts fall short, given the rapid rise in extreme events. Europe is warming at twice the global average and the effects — heatwaves, droughts, fires, floods and coastal erosion — are already causing tens of thousands of premature deaths and economic losses estimated at EUR 45 000 billion annually.

The report calls for the EU regulatory framework to be bolstered and for adaptation to be integrated consistently in every sectoral policy.

1. How will the Commission ensure that, rather than relying exclusively on non-binding strategic guidance, the future climate resilience law incorporates clear obligations and robust implementation mechanisms?
2. How will the Commission integrate the recommendations of the Scientific Council, in particular regarding the need for a coherent, cross-cutting and science-based framework to mitigate escalating climate risks?
3. How will the Commission ensure that nature-based solutions and ecosystem restoration feature centrally in European adaptation and mitigation policy?

Submitted: 17.2.2026

**Answer given by Mr Hoekstra on behalf of the European Commission
(7 April 2026)**

The Commission welcomes the report by the European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change (ESABCC), which underlines the urgency of action to strengthen resilience to climate change both through horizontal and sector measures, reinforcing the messages in the European Climate Risk Assessment.

The Commission is developing an Integrated European Framework for Climate Resilience⁽¹⁾, planned for the end of 2026, and has collected evidence through various channels, including a Call for Evidence and an Open Public Consultation⁽²⁾.

The ESABCC report and its recommendations are an important element for preparing the Integrated Framework, including its messages regarding the need for a coherent, cross-cutting and science-based framework.

As part of the impact assessment that will accompany its proposal, the Commission will carefully assess the balance of approaches and measures, including the use of legislative obligations and implementation mechanisms.

The Commission confirms that nature-based solutions and ecosystems resilience are central for European climate adaptation and mitigation.

The importance of stepping-up nature-based solutions for adaptation is addressed in horizontal adaptation policies⁽³⁾,⁽⁴⁾ and guidance documents⁽⁵⁾,⁽⁶⁾, and the Integrated Framework should also look at incentives for nature-based solutions⁽⁷⁾.

It is also a core part of EU climate mitigation policies, for example the Carbon Removals and Carbon Farming (CRCF) Regulation incentivises nature-based practices and the Commission will set up an EU Buyers' Club to stimulate private investment in nature-based solutions.

⁽¹⁾ https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/adaptation-and-resilience-climate-change/european-climate-resilience-and-risk-management-integrated-framework_en.

⁽²⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/14770-European-climate-resilience-and-risk-management-integrated-framework_en.

⁽³⁾ Communication on the EU adaptation strategy, COM (2021) 82 final.

⁽⁴⁾ Communication Managing climate risks — protecting people and prosperity, COM(2024) 91 final.

⁽⁵⁾ European Environment Agency, 2021, 'Nature-based solutions in Europe: Policy, Knowledge and practice for climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction', EEA report 01/2021, Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union, ISBN 978-92-9480-362-7, ISSN 1977-8449, doi: 10.2800/919315.

⁽⁶⁾ European Investment Bank, 2023, 'Investing in nature-based solutions, State-of-play and way forward for public and private financial measures in Europe', pdf: QH-04-23-551-EN-N ISBN 978-92-861-5572-7 doi: 10.2867/031133. Available at: https://www.eib.org/attachments/lucalli/20230095_investing_in_nature_based_solutions_en.pdf

⁽⁷⁾ The Mission letter of Commissioner Hoekstra of 1 December 2024 states that the European Climate Adaptation Plan '[...] should, for example, cover the impact on infrastructure, energy, water, food and land in cities and rural areas. You should also look at incentives for nature-based solutions'.