The report, proposed by the EIB determines the general agenda of the bank in the field of environmental protection, with regard to the current Community policy and the future objectives. The changing conditions and the need to support projects and initiatives for the fight against climate change at EU and national level have also been recognized. On the other hand, the integration of adaptation mechanisms in the new global environmental policy framework has also been defended.

The main aspects of the environmental policy have been mentioned in the statement of the EIB, as well as in the background. The general overview of the document encompasses nearly all elements, related to the environmental protection, in which the EIB is interested.

I would like to draw the attention to the following points:

1. It is very important to shift the focus towards the PRESERVATION OF THE FORESTS, THE TIMBER RESOURCES AND VARIETY. At the same time, the fight against deforestation and the implementation of concrete measures, preventing the destruction of timber resources have to be extended with the realization of target-oriented projects in the field. My arguments concern the alarming climate changes, directly connected with the air purification and rain regulation functions of the trees.

2. The problem with the WASTE DISPOSAL deserves special attention, as its expansion concerns the whole EU. The support of result-oriented projects in this field, the development of new technologies for the safe treatment of wastes and the production of renewable energy sources from waste can be transformed into a winning policy. The implementation of projects, which lead to the production and use of fast-decomposing packing materials, as well as the application of nature-friendly cycle to the industrial products from the moment of their manufacture to the moment of their disposal, is another important aspect of the whole process of waste management.
3. The problem with DROUGHT CONTROL as part of the climate change needs also special attention. For its solution, a consistent and single-minded national policy, synchronized with the regional climate peculiarities is required. The EIB can support financially such a policy framework, in order to ensure its effectiveness. The granting of credits for the construction of irrigation systems and the potential participation of the private sector in this process would be a successful step towards the realization of the EIB’s main principles.

4. I strongly support the EIB’s policy of stabilization of coastal regions and I would recommend more purposeful initiatives for the crediting of projects, related to the stabilization and development of Black Sea coastal regions. In this way the EIB will become a factor in the Black Sea cooperation process – a priority field in the Community policy.

5. I support the idea, underlying the European Parliament resolution of 22 April 2008 on the European Investment Bank’s annual report for 2006 – for the opening of offices of EIB in the Member States. Especially in the new Member States, this will be a positive stimulus for the policy of economic and regional cohesion.