



Fact sheet:

Proposal referred to the Council on Legislation on a climate policy framework for Sweden

The Government today adopted on a proposal for Sweden's first climate act. The act and new climate goals will give Sweden an ambitious, long-term and stable climate policy.

The climate policy framework consists of a climate act, new climate goals and a climate policy council, and is based on an agreement reached in the Cross-Party Committee on Environmental Objectives.

The climate policy framework is the most important climate reform in Sweden's history. It creates order and stability in climate policy and sets long-term conditions for the business sector and society. For the first time, Sweden will have an act that entails a responsibility for this Government, and for future governments, to pursue a climate policy that is based on the climate goals, and also provide clear reports on how the work is proceeding. For the first time, Sweden will have long-term climate goals beyond 2020 and a council that independently reviews climate policy. The reform is a key component of Sweden's efforts to live up to the Paris Agreement.

The different parts of the climate policy framework

The climate policy framework consists of three parts: a climate act, climate goals and a climate policy council.

Climate act

- The climate act sets down in law that the Government's climate policy is to be based on the climate goals, and specifies how the work is to be carried out.
- The Government is to present a climate report every year in its Budget Bill.
- Every fourth year, the Government is to draw up a climate policy action plan which is to provide information on how the climate goals are to be achieved.
- The new climate act is to enter into force on 1 January 2018.

Goals

- By 2045, Sweden is to have no net emissions of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere and should thereafter achieve negative emissions. By 2045, emissions from activities in Swedish territory are to be at least 85 per cent lower than emissions in 1990. To achieve zero net emissions, supplementary measures may be counted. This can, for example, be increased uptake of carbon dioxide in forests and land, and investments in other countries.
- Emissions in Sweden outside of the EU ETS should, by 2030, be at least 63 per cent lower than emissions in 1990, and by 2040 at least 75 per cent lower. To achieve these goals by 2030 and 2040, no more than 8 and 2 percentage points, respectively, of the emissions reductions may be realised through supplementary measures.
- Emissions from domestic transport in the area of domestic aviation are to be reduced by at least 70 per cent by 2030 compared with 2010. Domestic aviation is not included in the goal since domestic aviation is included in the EU ETS.

Climate policy council

The third pillar of the framework is a climate policy council in accordance with the recommendation of the Cross-Party Committee on Environmental Objectives. The Government proposes establishing a climate policy council tasked with assisting it by providing an independent assessment of how the overall policy presented by the Government is compatible with the climate goals. The function of the council is described in the proposal referred to the Council on Legislation, but its establishment will be carried out in a separate process.

Background

In its 2014 Statement of Government Policy, the Government announced that a climate policy framework would be introduced. On 18 December 2014, the Government tasked the Cross-Party Committee on Environmental Objectives with proposing a climate policy framework and a climate strategy for Sweden. The Committee has presented an agreement between the Social Democratic Party, the Green Party, the Moderate Party, the Centre Party, the Liberal Party and the Christian Democrats (and in some parts the Left Party) containing a large number of proposals to tighten up climate policy in Sweden (SOU 2016:21 and SOU 2016:47). In its Budget Bill for 2017, the Government announced that it would present a bill to the Riksdag in early 2017 containing a proposal on a climate policy

framework, based on the proposal of the Cross-Party Committee on Environmental Objectives.

Next step:

The Council on Legislation is now reviewing the proposal prior to it being presented to the Riksdag in March as a government bill.