




**BRIEFING NOTE: Connie HEDEGAARD**

<b>Name</b>	<p>Connie HEDEGAARD</p> 
<b>First time Commissioner?</b>	Yes.
<b>Date of Hearing</b>	Friday 15 January 9.00-12.00
<b>Country</b>	Denmark
<b>Political Party</b>	Det Konservative Folkeparti (EPP)
<b>Previous Danish Commissioner</b>	Mariann Fischer Boel
<b>Portfolio</b>	Climate Action
<b>Services</b>	DG Climate Action (to be set up before Summer 2010): core of DG Climate Action will be the existing Directorate C of DG Environment (ENV) except the Clean Air Unit ENV C.3 that will remain in DG Environment.
<b>Personal details</b>	<p>Born September 15, 1960, Holbæk, Denmark</p> <p>Married</p> <p>2 children</p>
<b>Current duties</b>	Minister for The United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen 2009.
<b>Political career</b>	<p>2007 – 2009: Minister of Climate and Energy</p> <p>2008 – 2009: Member of The Danish Governments Coordination Committee</p> <p>2004 – 2007: Minister for Environment, 2005 – 2007 also Minister for Nordic Cooperation</p> <p>1984 – 1990 and 2005-2009: Member of Parliament, the Conservative Peoples Party.</p>
<b>Professional career</b>	<p>1998 – 2004: Anchor at current affairs magazine “Deadline” on DR2, Danish Broadcasting Cooperation</p> <p>1998 – 2004: Columnist at Danish national newspaper “Politiken”.</p> <p>1994 – 1998: Head of News Bulletin Service, Radioavisen, at the Danish Broadcasting Cooperation</p> <p>1990 – 1994: Journalist at Danish national newspaper “Berlingske Tidende”.</p>

<b>Education</b>	Masters degree in Literature and History from University of Copenhagen 1979: Graduated high school (Stenhus Gymnasium) 1967-1976: Primary School (Holbæk Private Realskole)
<b>Languages</b>	Danish: mother tongue English: excellent German: basic French: basic
<b>FYI....</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Represents the Conservative People's Party, the minority party in Denmark's governing coalition.</li> <li>▪ Achievements during her time as Minister have included signing an action plan with India in April 2009 on renewable energy and introducing Denmark's 2008-2011 energy policy, which saw the country commit to a landmark reduction in energy.</li> <li>▪ Hedegaard was a member of the Danish Parliament between 1984 and 1990, after which she took a break from politics in 1990 to pursue a career in journalism. During this time, she broadcast for DR 2, Radio Denmark and wrote for the newspaper Berlingske Tidende.</li> <li>▪ Resigned as president of UN Climate Change conference, said the move was merely procedural, and that it was more appropriate for the Danish Premier Lars Lokke Rasmussen to preside over the final stages. The Guardian claimed that the real reason was rumours that she was unhappy with the contents of the so-called 'Danish text' a secret negotiating text prepared by rich countries and leaked to the Guardian.</li> <li>▪ Criticised by African nations for favouring rich nations during the negotiations.</li> <li>▪ In 1984 was elected as the hitherto youngest member of the Folketing, the Danish national parliament, where she sat for six years</li> </ul>

For more information on the Commission hearings and the other nominees, please contact:

The team at European Movement Ireland

A: 6 Merrion Square, Dublin 2

E: [info@europeanmovement.ie](mailto:info@europeanmovement.ie)

T: +353 1 662 5815

F: [facebook.com/emireland](https://www.facebook.com/emireland)