

10 Minutes for the Planet**Hulot Sacrifices Our Health to Lobbies** ©

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Retrouvez la traduction de certains mots à droite du texte**Les syllabes accentuées sont en gras et soulignées***

Hi and welcome to this week's episode of 10 minutes for the Planet. I hope you had a great summer and fun and eco-friendly **holidays**! This week I'll be giving you a few of the summer **highlights** in terms of environmental news and **politics**. **Unfortunately**, at the **governmental** level it's not brilliant...

On July 6th, Nicolas Hulot, our new Environmental **Minister**, **unveiled** the much **anticipated** "Climate Plan" promised by President Emmanuel Macron **a few** weeks before. This plan's **objective**: "that France take its part and **leadership** in climate change". The main element of the Climate Plan is an increased **ambition** in terms of fight against climate change with a **national** carbon neutral objective by 2050. This **means** that as a nation we will have to reach an **equilibrium between** our greenhouse gas emissions and absorption.

Most of Hulot's Climate Plan measures **confirm** what was already announced in Macron's En Marche **program**. **For instance**: the end of diesel-powered car sales by 2040, the **closure** of the last four coal-fired power **plants** by 2022, the increase in carbon price, and a **ban** on new hydrocarbon **exploration**.

Nuclear-**wise**, nothing new on the **horizon**. Hulot reaffirmed the objective of **reducing** from 75% to 50% our production by 2025 but **silenced** the how-to. **Waste-wise**, the Climate Plan announces a 2025 goal of 50% less landfilled waste and 100% plastic **recycling**. One last heated subject is built-up areas. On that topic Hulot **announced** a high level of vigilance in protecting non-artificial land and **preventing** unnecessary constructions.

The Climate Plan also announces a few **reports** to **look forward to**: for example, the **finance** law to be **presented** this month, a publication on a national **strategy** to end imports **contributing**

Unfortunately (adv.)
malheureusement

to unveil (vb.tr) révéler

a few (adj.) quelques

to mean (vb.tr)
signifier/vouloir dire

for instance (adv.) par exemple

plant (n.) usine

ban (n.) interdiction

-wise (suffix) en ce qui concerne

waste (n.) déchets

look forward to (vb.tr;
phrasal insep.)
attendre avec impatience

to **deforestation** by early 2018, and an Energy multiyear plan by late 2018. However nothing is said about the many **international free trade agreements** that are **currently** being **discussed**. The Climate Plan was highly criticized by civil **society** on that point and on the vague nuclear plan.

Mr. Hulot's current personal media **situation** does not help the **credibility** of the Climate Plan. **Indeed** Hulot has been the **object** of scandal by Le Canard Enchaîné and other main **media**. Hulot has **revenues** of hundreds of thousands of euros through his Foundation **funded** by EDF and Vinci amongst others as well as his **consulting** company whose biggest client is the brand Ushuaia. All three are not **known** for their **positive** environmental **approach**. The affair is currently brought to the High Authority for transparency in **public** life.

Hulot's **popularity** is also **hindered** by his July decision to vote for a European common **definition** for endocrine disruptors that **specialists** do not find sufficiently **encompassing**. Consumer organizations are trying to block the **decision** at the Parliament level.

And July 27th was declared black Thursday for French **organic** agriculture. **Indeed** Agricultural Minister Stéphane Travert announced the 2018 **European subsidies redistribution** rates for French agriculture that are far lower than **expected**. Organic agriculture **subsidies** for 2015 and 2016 are still mostly **unpaid** by the state, leading organic farmers to difficult **financial** positions. Organic agriculture does not seem to be a **priority** for the government **despite** Macron's **promise** of introducing organic food in schools... This decision received a very bad press at the **beginning** of the General Assembly on Food and Agriculture. If you want to follow and **participate** in the General Assembly go to www.egalimentation.gouv.fr. The public **consultation** is open till mid October.

Next week we'll **hunt down** summer local environmental news that is more **inspiring**! So see you then!

free trade agreement (n.)
accord de libre-échange

currently (adv.) en ce moment

indeed (adv.) en effet

to fund(vb.tr) financer

known (adj.) connu

to hinder (vb.tr) gêner, entraver

encompassing (adj.)
global, exhaustif

subsidy (n.) subvention

expected (adj.) prévu

despite (prep.) malgré

to hunt down (vb.tr; sep.)
trouver, débusquer

Inspiring (adj.)
enthousiasmant

*Aide à la prononciation

La terminaison « -ion » se prononce [ɔ̃n] : Les très nombreux mots se finissant en « -ion » ont une prononciation qui exclut l'articulation de la lettre « i ». Par ailleurs, la lettre « o » se prononce [ɔ̃].
Ex.: **situation** - **education** - **transmission** - **production** - **circulation**