

Brussels, 19.11.2019 COM(2019) 607 final

ANNEXES 1 to 3

ANNEXES

to the Proposal for a Council Decision

on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the Ministerial Council of the Energy Community and in the Permanent High Level Group of the Energy Community (Chisinau, 12 and 13 December 2019)

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ANNEX 1

Ministerial Council

1. DECISION ADOPTING THE ENERGY COMMUNITY BUDGET AND FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE PERIOD 2020-2021;

The position to be taken on behalf of the European Union is to approve the Decision adopting the Energy Community Budget and financial contributions for the period 2020-2021 in accordance with Commission Decision of 6 November 2019 on establishing the Commission's proposal to the Ministerial Council of the Energy Community on the Budget of the Energy Community for the period 2020-2021, C(2019) 7828 final, and the draft Procedural Act of the Ministerial Council attached as Addendum to this Annex.

- 2. DECISIONS UNDER ARTICLE 91(1) ECT ESTABLISHING THE EXISTENCE OF A BREACH OF THE AGREEMENT IN THE FOLLOWING CASES: CASE ECS-10/17 (SERBIA), CASE ECS-13/17 (SERBIA), CASE ECS 6/18 (KOSOVO*);
- (a) The position to be taken on behalf of the European Union is to approve the draft Decisions under Article 91(1) ECT establishing the existence of a breach in Case ECS-10/17 (Serbia) on condition that the obiter dictum in point (71) of the Reasoned Request is removed, Case ECS-13/17 (Serbia), and Case ECS-6/18 (Kosovo*).
- 3. DECISIONS UNDER ARTICLE 92(1) ECT ON: IMPOSING OR EXTENDING MEASURES ON BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA IN CASES ECS-8/11, ECS-2/13 AND ECS-6/16; ON SERBIA IN CASES ECS-3/08 AND ECS-9/13;

The position to be taken on behalf of the European Union is to approve the draft Decisions under Article 92(1) ECT on Bosnia and Herzegovina in Cases ECS-8/11, ECS-2/13 and ECS-6/16 and on Serbia in Cases ECS-3/08 and ECS-9/13.

ADDENDUM TO ANNEX 1

PROCEDURAL ACT OF THE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL OF THE ENERGY COMMUNITY

2019/PA/01/MC-EnC: On the adoption of the Budget of the Energy Community for the years 2020-2021 and on the contributions by the Parties to the budget

The Ministerial Council of the Energy Community,

Having regard to the Treaty Establishing the Energy Community, and in particular Articles 73,74,86 and 88 thereof,

Having regard to Articles 24 and 25 of the Energy Community procedures for the establishment and implementation of Budget, Auditing and Inspection,

Whereas the Ministerial Council shall adopt a bi-annual budget covering the operational expenses of the Energy Community necessary for the functioning of its institutions,

Whereas each Party shall contribute to the budget of the Energy Community as set out in Annex IV of the Treaty establishing the Energy Community,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The Energy Community Budget covering the financial years 2020 and 2021 as set forth in the Annex to the present Procedural Act is hereby adopted.

Article 2

With effect as of 1 January 2020, the contributions to the budget of the Energy Community by the Parties are set out in Annex to the present Procedural Act.

Article 3

Article 4
The Director of the Energy Community Secretariat shall make this Procedural Act and its Annex available to all Parties and institutions under the Treaty establishing the Energy Community within 7 days after its adoption.
Adopted in Chisinau on 13 December 2019
For the Ministerial Council
Presidency

This decision is addressed to all Parties and institutions under the Treaty establishing the

Energy Community.

Annex

to the Commission Decision on establishing the Commission's proposal to the Ministerial Council of the Energy Community on the Budget of the Energy Community for the period 2018-2019

Explanatory Memorandum of the Energy Community budget 2020-2021

- 1. Context of the proposal
- 1.1. Treaty basis

Articles 73 and 74 of the Treaty establishing the Energy Community (hereinafter referred to as the "*Treaty*") stipulates that a Procedural Act adopted by unanimity by the Ministerial Council, on a proposal of the European Commission, shall lay down a biannual budget of the Energy Community. It *cover(s)* also the operational expenditure of the Energy Community necessary for the functioning of its institutions.

The present budget proposal and explanatory memorandum was prepared by the Director as required under Article 30 of the *Energy Community Procedures for the Establishment and Implementation of the Budget, Auditing and Inspection* (hereinafter referred to as the "Budgetary Procedures").

1.2. Provisions for 2020-2021 budget of the Energy Community

Guiding principles and provisions for the preparation of the budget (on content and structure) are laid down in the Energy Community *Budgetary Procedures* (amended in 2014).

An additional principle applied for the first time in the process is related to the introduction of Activity Based Budgeting (ABB) principles in the future reporting scheme of the Energy Community.

2. Outline of the Work Programme 2020-2021

While also reflecting the need to address new challenges ahead, the priorities of the Energy Community and its institutions, including the Secretariat, will be firmly centred on the key objectives established by the Treaty:

- 3. Extend the EU internal energy market rules and principles to countries in South East Europe, the Black Sea region and beyond on the basis of a legally binding framework
- 4. Establish a stable regulatory and market framework capable of attracting investment in power generation and networks;
- 5. Create an integrated energy market allowing for cross-border energy trade and integration with the EU market;
- 6. Enhance the security of supply to ensure stable and continuous energy supply that is essential for economic development and social stability;

7. Improve the environmental situation in relation with energy supply in the region and foster the use of renewable energy and energy efficiency; and

The Secretariat will continue to support the Contracting Parties in transposing and implementing the *acquis*. In situations where progress is lacking, experts of the Secretariat will get more and more involved in individual cases providing tailor-made support, either through country specific implementation missions or through the management of external consultancy services. The enforcement mechanism under the Treaty, supported by mediation and dispute resolution, will continue to serve as important tool to support the process of Treaty implementation in cases where other types of support have failed (e.g. drafting, knowledge sharing, capacity building).

At the same time, the Regulation for Energy Market Integrity and Transparency (REMIT) and Gas Network Codes and Guidelines, recently adopted by decision-making bodies of the Energy Community, will have to the transposed and implemented. Further tasks in infrastructure related issues (PECI/PMI related) will remain on the agenda of the Secretariat and will require regular reporting in line with the applicable regulation.

The General Policy Guidelines on 2030 Targets for the Contracting Parties of the Energy Community, adopted in December 2018, set the future focus of the work of the Energy Community in the area of decarbonisation. At the said December meeting, the Ministerial Council announced to work towards the incorporation of the Clean Energy Package. The first pieces of the Package that might be incorporated into the *acquis* already in 2019 are the recast Renewable Energy Directive, the amended Energy Efficiency Directive and the amended Energy Performance in Buildings Directive, and the Governance Regulation. This will result in further tasks and obligations of the Contacting Parties and require new efforts to be provided by the Secretariat. A particularly challenging obligation will be the preparation and adoption of National Energy and Climate Plans.

In addition, the *acquis* on Security of Gas Supply and the existing and future Network Codes foresee a number of new tasks for the Secretariat and the ECRB.

Further, the adoption of Procedural Acts by the Ministerial Council on the establishment and work of the Coordination Group of the Energy Community Distribution System Operators for Electricity and of the Energy Community Coordination Group for Cybersecurity and Critical Infrastructure will result in a number of new tasks, e.g. the organisation and preparation of meetings, overall content support to the working groups, etc. .

With the existing and new tasks following from the mandate of the Secretariat, the list of reporting obligations towards various Energy Community institutions (e.g. Ministerial council, ECRB, PHLG) and the European Commission, has been increasing steadily. Details of the reporting obligations are presented in Annex II of the Work Programme.

Overall, the Secretariat's work reflects three main priority areas in line with Article 67 of the Treaty:

- Activity 1 (A1) Implementation of the acquis pursuant to Article 67(b) of the Treaty focusing on the assistance offered to the Contracting Parties to support the proper implementation of the obligations under the Treaty and annual progress reporting to the Ministerial Council;
- Activity 2 (A2) assistance to donors and to the coordination by the European Commission of the donors' activity pursuant to Article 67(c), including assistance to the work of the donors' community in the areas of the scope of the Energy Community in Contracting Parties; and

 Activity 3 (A3) – Administrative support to institutions and bodies in line with Article 67(a) regarding the facilitation and organisation of the work of the Energy Community institutions and working bodies established by decisions of the Ministerial Council.

The main activities, as defined in the Work Programme for reporting purposes, are further divided into actions (see Annex I to Work Programme 2020-2021). Further on reporting on the budget utilisation will be done according to defined activities (see above A1-A3) and corresponding indicators.

This document however, refers the planning of resources in accordance with the principles of the *Budgetary Procedures* (see below).

8. Budget assumptions

The major assumption underpinning the budget proposal is that the stable legal and financial framework will be further on applicable to the operations of the Energy Community. The planned amendments to the Treaty to improve its functioning that the Ministerial Council is scheduled to adopt in 2019, supported by the Presidency in Office and the Secretariat, is a first step of assurance that the Community will continue to work towards the achievement of the Energy Community objectives, responding to the requirements of creating a single internal energy market. On the level of financial planning for 2020-2021, the experience of budget implementation of the previous three years was taken into consideration as well as the strategic planning of future tasks and activities as presented in the Work Programme.

9. Energy Community budget structure

The financial planning follows the predefined structure of the budget through the provision of the applicable Rules. This stable frame given for planning of the expenditures and revenue since the very beginning of the Energy Community allows a multiannual comparison of utilization of the results.

The presented budget is allocated according to four budget lines ("BL") which are *Human Resources*, *Travel Expenses*, *Office* and *Other Costs*, *Services* that are further detailed in the budget positions (different number in different budget lines). Each of the budget positions is further composed of pre-defined accounts that are creating a group of accounts representing a certain category of expenditures related to the budget lines. Explanations given under this section are applicable for both years 2020-2021.

9.1. Budget Line: Human Resources

Budget Line I constitutes human resources expenditures. This part of the budget is defined in accordance with the approved Establishment Plan and follows the established salary scales.

The existing organisational structure of the Secretariat is the basis for the proposal. The budget for the Human Resources Budget Line is a result of the following considerations:

- In 2020 and 2021 respectively, the salaries are indexed with a 2% inflation factor;
 and
- Continued promotion of temporary employment under secondment and internship schemes is envisaged. Secondment, used as a form of strengthening the administrative capacity of the Contracting Parties, will be further on use in the years 2020-2021 to complement the Secretariat's team with specific technical expertise from national administrations and other organisations. Internships aim at supporting staff as well as disseminating knowledge about the Energy Community and contributing to capacity building. The financial assumptions of the proposed budget

envisages funds for approximately 60 man/months for and internships¹ and 24 man/months for secondment. The number of temporary personnel is counted on a basis of 1 year engagement, i.e. in total five one-year internships and 2 one-year secondments planned for 2020(in total 7 temporary).

9.2. Budget Line: Travel

Budget Line II comprises expenditures related to authorised travels of the Secretariat's staff on behalf of the Energy Community pursuing activities related to the implementation of the Treaty.

The expenditures refer mainly to the Contracting Party missions or technical assistance for the review of the implementation of the obligations under the Treaty. This budget contains also funds for justified travels linked to the organisation and participation of the staff in different meetings and conferences, including those of the Energy Community institutions, as speakers, etc.

In its structure, the budget for travel expenses is planned and composed of:

- Costs for flights and accidentals; and
- Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA)².

9.3. Budget Line: Office

Budget Line III comprises expenditures that increase or alter the assets of the Energy Community and other office infrastructure expenditures (rent, office supplies, consumables and other services) that are necessary for the functioning of the Secretariat as an institution under the Treaty.

This budget line includes the following budgetary positions:

- Rent: The estimation of expenditures for the rental of office premises. This budget position considers the donation to be received from the host country (Austria) to the overall budget of the Energy Community³.
- Office equipment: This budgetary position reflects the necessity to maintain the equipment (particularly IT and related office furniture) up-to-date to provide maximum security of the working environment, processes and of the processed data. This budget line is composed of the following budget accounts: hardware, software, office equipment and low value assets. The budgeting of the overall expenditure for 2020 follows the IT plan, which estimates the exchange of hardware (staff IT equipment laptops, printers and servers in the IT administration area) and corresponding software. It also comprises licenses for the functioning of existing software required for the Energy Community website and for the internal accounting programme for the management of the Energy Community accounts.

Regulated by separate Rules on Secondees, Interns and locally recruited staff.

The Energy Community Secretariat follows the DSA as published by the *EuropeAid Cooperation Office*, also applied by other international funded by the EU.

The Republic of Austria committed to donate EUR 170,000 on an annual basis to the office rent of the Secretariat in Vienna; no other forms of contribution to the rent expenses is considered (neither internal allocation of resources nor other donations)

- <u>Consumables</u>: This budget line comprises the following accounts: office supplies, repairs and maintenance as well as office cleaning, running costs and electricity costs for the premises.
- Other services: The envisaged budget under the budgetary position "Other services" reflects the necessary funds for carriers and transport by third parties, postal fees, other operating expenses and costs of communication (telecommunications).

9.4. Budget Line: Other costs and services

Budget Line IV concerns other expenditures that relate to the activities, which are necessary for the functioning of the Secretariat and other Institutions under the Treaty (Ministerial Council, PHLG, ECRB and Fora).

This budget line is composed of the following budget positions:

- Advertising, communications and representation: It covers the work performed within the area of public relations, related to issuance of publications by the Secretariat (i.e. publishing of new editions of the Legal Framework books, Implementation Reports, etc.), advertising required for the purposes of procurement and personnel search as well as costs of representation;
- Studies, research and consulting: Experience has shown that technical support through studies is a very useful tool for achieving the Energy Community's objectives. The research and consulting relates to the areas of work outlined in the Work Programme of the Energy Community (incl. ECRB);
- Costs of outsourced services (IT, payroll, etc.): This budget line corresponds to the performance of activities and tasks related to IT administration (outsourced activity to an external partner), technical maintenance of the website of the Energy Community (in both administrative and external user areas), as well as the lease contracts for office equipment (e.g. copy machines and printers) as well as for the maintenance of existing IT solutions within the area of administration, accounting and human resources (databases for accounting and human resources);
- Costs of audit, legal and financial advice: This budget line includes funds for external audits as well as for outsourced legal services and financial contracts for payroll and accounting⁴;
- Financial services: It covers banking and transaction fees;
- Costs of events: This budget line covers the expenses related to the organisation of all regular and *ad hoc* events, including: renting of premises and equipment, catering, technical arrangements; .;
- Refunding: It covers the travel expenses related to the participation of representatives of the Contracting Parties and/or Observers in the institutional meetings, workshops and other events organized by the Energy Community Secretariat; implementation of this budget follows a separate set of rules on reimbursement. As a principle, the same rules on reimbursement of the costs of transportation and accommodation apply since the beginning of the Energy Community; and

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The function of accounting has been outsourced since 2014 based on the provisions of the Budgetary Procedures (Art 41(2))

<u>Training</u>: This budget position covers the expenses related to training, education, internal annual meetings of the Secretariat's staff and, primarily, educational measures offered to the representatives of the Contracting Parties.

10. Energy Community Budget 2020

The proposed budget for 2020 is in line with the figure put forward by the Commission and is on the level of the 2019 budget (EUR 4,812,073). As is the case each year, the EU contribution (94,78 % of the Energy Community budget) is conditional to the final adoption of the EU budget for 2020.

5.1. Budget line 1: Human Resources 2020

Compared to 2019, there is a 3,7% increase in financial resources requested for Budget Line 1. This is caused by the request for two new expert positions (for details and justification see Work Program attached) who will be employed in the course of next year and by 2% inflationary adjustment.

This budget line is composed of salaries for permanent staff members (on limited contracts subject to extensions) and temporary personnel (interns, secondees). The salaries are exempt from national income tax, without any further benefits (pension rights, health, unemployment) but accident insurance. There are no additional allowances and benefits offered.

The salaries of Energy Community Secretariat personnel applicable as of 1 January 2020 are based on existing levels of remuneration (2019) and subject to inflationary adjustment of 2%.

In this budget line, resources of temporary assignments (24 man-months for secondments and 60 man months for internships) are also included (in 2019: 46.6 man-months). The scale of remuneration for secondees has been adjusted, which allowed to decrease the overall budget for temporary personnel from EUR 190,485 to EUR 175,432.. This type of employment proved to deliver an added value to the work of the Secretariat. It has been also the best instrument to engage young professionals or experts from the Parties into the work of the Energy Community. In addition, temporary employments help to fulfil the requirements of the 'geographical equilibrium' - as required under the Rules for Recruitment, Working Conditions and Geographical Equilibrium of the Secretariat's Staff of the Energy Community ("the Recruitment Rules").

The request for an increase of personnel as justified in the work programme 2020-2021 was compensated through reallocations of budget appropriations between several budget lines.

5.2. Budget line 2: Travel 2020

The travel budget for 2020 (EUR 340,000) is 8% lower in comparison with 2019 (EUR 367,812). The estimate for 2020 was established based on experience of budget utilisation acquired in the past years. The efficient planning of future trips and missions shall allow sufficient performance of the activities within the requested budget.

5.3. Budget Line 3: Office 2020

The 6% increase between 2019 (EUR 400,084) and 2020 (EUR 424,205) for the office expenses budget relates to realistic provisions made for rent and other services. Both budget positions lacked resources in the past years of implementation.

5.4. Budget Line 4: Other Costs and Services 2020

The overall budget request for other costs and services is 6% lower for 2020 (EUR 1,395,000) than for 2019 (EUR 1,486,956). This comes as an adjustment to the planning in different budget lines. Based on actual past values of utilisation in all budget positions, it is assumed that this budget will be sufficient for the continuation of the activities under this budget line.

11. Energy Community Budget 2021

The proposed budget for 2021 of EUR 4,812,073 is based on the same assumption of a full team according to establishment plan, salary level and all other costs as for 2020. Increase of funds for salaries is outweighed with a decrease in funds for studies, education, consumables.

Figures for 2021 are not yet available as concerns the future EU contribution, pending the outcome of the multiannual financial framework for 2021-2027. Thus, this constitutes an advanced indication of the resources needed for the operations of the Energy Community post-2020.

12. Statement of revenue 2020-2021

Description	Budget 2019	Budget 2020	Budget 2021	Change Budget 2019 vs. Budget 2020	Change Budget 2021 vs. Budget 2020
Budget Contributions Parties					
European Union	4.560.883	4.560.883	4.560.883		
Republic of Albania	4.331	4.331	4.331		
Bosnia & Herzegovina	9.624	9.624	9.624		
Georgia	5.293	5.293	5.293		
Kosovo*	3.368	3.368	3.368		
North Macedonia	4.812	4.812	4.812		
Moldova	4.812	4.812	4.812		
Montenegro	2.406	2.406	2.406		
Serbia	26.948	26.948	26.948		
Ukraine	189.596	189.596	189.596		
2. Donations	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.		
3. Other revenue	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.		
Total Revenue	4.812.073	4.812.073	4.812.073	0%	0%

13. Statement of expenditure 2020-2021

Description	Budget 2019	Budget 2020	Budget 2021	Change Budget 2020 vs. Budget 2019	Change Budget 2021 vs. Budget 2020
1. Human Resources	2.557.221	2.652.868	2.804.091	3,74%	5,70%
2. Travel	367.812	340.000	340.000	-7,56%	0,00%
3. Office	400.084	424.205	414.205	6,03%	-2,36%
4. Other services	1.486.956	1.395.000	1.253.777	-6,18%	-10,12%
Total expenditure	4.812.073	4.812.073	4.812.073	0%	0%

14. Details of Statement of expenditure 2020-2021

Energy Community Budget Planning 2020-2021						
(in Eur)	Budget 2019	Budget 2020	Budget 2021	Change Budget 2020 vs. Budget 2019 [in EUR]	Change Budget 2020 vs. Budget 2019 [in %]	Change Budget 2021 vs. Budget 2020 [in %]
1. HUMAN RESOURCES			1,02			
Subtotal Human Resources	2.557.221	2.652.868	2.804.091	95.647	4%	6%
	-					
2. TRAVEL EXPENSES						
Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA)	122.400	112.000	112.000	- 10.400	-8%	0%
Travel Expenses (flights and incidentals)	245.412	228.000	228.000	- 17.412	-7%	0%
Subtotal Travel Expenses	367.812	340.000	340.000	- 27.812	-8%	0%
3. OFFICE EXPENSES						
Office rent	150.000	170.000	170.000	20.000	13%	0%
Office equipment	50.000	50.000	50.000	-	0%	0%
Consumables	147.084	141.000	131.000	- 6.084	-4%	-7%
Other Services	53.000	63.205	63.205	10.205	19%	0%
Subtotal Office Expenses	400.084	424.205	414.205	24.121	6%	-2%
4. OTHER COSTS AND SERVICES						
Advertising, communication and representation)	56.304	56.500	51.500	196	0%	-9%
Studies, research and consulting incl. TA	459.000	459,000	332,777	-	0%	-27%
Costs of outsourced services (IT, payroll, etc.)	132.600	145.000	145.000	12.400	9%	0%
Costs of Audit, Legal and Financial Advice	106.080	96.000	86.000	- 10.080	-10%	-10%
Financial services	15.300	22.500	22.500	7.200	47%	0%
Conference costs	214.200	133.200	133.200	- 81.000	-38%	0%
Refunding	330.480	372.800	372.800	42.320	13%	0%
Training	172.992	110.000	110.000	- 62.992	-36%	0%
Subtotal Other Costs and Services	1.486.956	1.395.000	1.253.777	- 91.956	-6%	-10%
TOTAL	4.812.073	4.812.073	4.812.073	-	0%	0%

15. Institutional Budget (refunding and organisation of events)

(in EUR)

Ministerial Council (incl.bodies established by decisions of MC)
Permanent High Level Group
Energy Community Regulatory Board
Secretariat (incl. different workshops/events)
Electricity Forum
Gas Forum
Oil Forum

TOTAL

Budget 2020	Budget 2021	
147,700	147,700	
25,600	25,600	
68,700	68,700	
201,100	201,100	
21,300	21,300	
20,800	20,800	
20,800	20,800	
506,000	506,000	

16. Annex IV of the Treaty: Parties Contribution Table 2020-2021

ANNEX IV of the Treaty establishing the Energy Community Budgetary Period 2020-2021

Parties	Contribution in %	Budget 2020 Contribution (in EUR)	Budget 2021 Contribution (in EUR)
European Union	94,78%	4.560.883	4.560.883
Republic of Albania	0,09%	4.331	4.331
Bosnia & Herzegovina	0,20%	9.624	9.624
Georgia	0,11%	5.293	5.293
Kosovo*	0,07%	3.368	3.368
North Macedonia	0,10%	4.812	4.812
Moldova	0,10%	4.812	4.812
Montenegro	0,05%	2.406	2.406
Serbia	0,56%	26.948	26.948
Ukraine	3,94%	189.596	189.596
		4.812.073	4.812.073

17. Establishment Plan 2020-2021

Remark:

This establishment plan indicates the number of permanent and temporary posts proposed for carrying out the tasks under the corresponding work programme.

The number of temporary posts is estimated on the basis of 12-month assignments and may vary depending on the individual duration of the assignments.

	2020		2021		2019	
	Permanent Post	Temporary Post	Permanent Post	Temporary Post	Permanent Post	Temporary Post
Director	1		1		1	
Deputy Director *	1		1		1	
Head of Unit or Section	5		5		5	
Experts	19		19		17	
Assistants/ Officers	5		5		5	
Temporary Personnel		7		7		10
	31	7	31	7	29	10

^{*}For the future, the position of the Deputy Director would need to be clearly stipulated and defined in the Staff Regulations and the Recruitment Rules

ENERGY COMMUNITY SALARY SCALES 2020-2021*

Level/description	per month (in EUR)	Full-time salary per month (in EUR)	Full-time salary per month (in EUR)
	2019	2020	2021
Director	14.284	14.569	14.861
Deputy Director**	9.721	9.916	10.114
Head of Section/Unit	7.777	7.933	8.091
Expert	6.514	6.644	6.777
Assistant /Officer	4.767	4.862	4.960
Secondee	3.200	3.200	3.264
Intern	1.611	1.644	1.677

Note: The Energy Community Work Programme 2020-2021, which is an Annex to this Procedural Act, is attached as a supporting document.

^{*} Figures are indicative for a full time employment

** For the future, the position of the Deputy Director would need to be clearly stipulated and defined in the Staff Regulations and the Recruitment Rules

ANNEX 2

PHLG

DECISION OF THE PERMANENT HIGH LEVEL GROUP OF THE ENERGY COMMUNITY ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REGULATION (EU) 312/2014 ESTABLISHING A NETWORK CODE ON GAS BALANCING OF TRANSMISSION NETWORKS

The position to be taken on behalf of the European Union is to approve the draft Decision to implement Commission Regulation (EU) 312/2014 in accordance with Commission Decision of 6 November 2019 establishing the Commission Proposal for a decision of the Permanent High Level Group of the Energy Community on the implementation of Regulation (EU) 312/2014 establishing a Network Code on Gas Balancing of Transmission Networks, C(2019), 7831 final,

ANNEX 3

Issues not falling within the scope of Article 218 (9) TFEU, but requiring a political approval by the Council

1. 2019 GENERAL POLICY GUIDELINES ON THE 2030 TARGETS AND CLIMATE NEUTRALITY FOR THE ENERGY COMMUNITY AND ITS CONTRACTING PARTIES OF THE ENERGY COMMUNITY

The position to be taken on behalf of the European Union is to a support the adoption of the draft 2019 General Policy Guidelines attached as Addendum to this Annex. Minor changes to these draft 2019 General Policy Guidelines may be agreed to, in the light of comments from the Energy Community Contracting Parties before or at the Ministerial Council, by the Commission, without a further decision of the Council.

2. THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ENERGY COMMUNITY 2018-2019

The position to be taken on behalf of the European Union is to support the adoption of the draft Annual Report 2018-2019.

3. DECISION D/2019/01/MC-ENC ON THE DISCHARGE OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE SECRETARIAT

The position to be taken on behalf of the European Union is to support the adoption of the draft Director's financial discharge for 2018.

ADDENDUM TO ANNEX 3

2019 General Policy Guidelines on the 2030 Targets and Climate Neutrality for the Energy Community and its Contracting Parties

INTRODUCTION

At its meeting in November 2018, the Ministerial Council adopted General Policy Guidelines on 2030 Targets for the Contracting Parties of the Energy Community. The Guidelines represented the political consensus on the establishment of three distinct 2030 energy and climate targets: a target for energy efficiency, a target for the contribution of renewable energy sources, and a greenhouse gas emission reduction target. These targets should be in line with the EU targets for 2030, represent an equal ambition for the Contracting Parties and take into account relevant socio-economic differences, technological developments and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

The political agreements by the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament in 2018 and early 2019, enabled all of the rules introduced by the Clean Energy for all Europeans package to be in force from June 2019. The three 2030 energy and climate targets of reducing by at least 40% greenhouse gas emissions compared to 1990, energy efficiency target of at least 32.5% and a renewable energy target of at least 32% are now fully enshrined in EU legislation.

The 2009 Renewable Energy Directive and the 2012 Energy Efficiency Directive were adopted and became part of the Energy Community's legal order through decision of the Ministerial Council, including a 2020 target for the Energy Community as a whole for energy efficiency and specific 2020 targets for each Contracting Party for renewable energy.

The 2017 Ministerial Council of the Energy Community emphasized the need of setting targets for 2030 on energy efficiency, renewable energy and greenhouse gas emission reduction. This is in line with Contracting Parties' respective obligations in the EU accession process as well as considering the commitments taken by countries in the framework of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement.

As a preliminary step within the target setting process, the Secretariat of the Energy Community launched an external study to identify, if possible, a methodology for setting three energy and climate targets based on the criteria outlined in the 2018 General Policy Guidelines. The findings of the study were thoroughly discussed and examined by the Technical Working Group of the Energy and Climate Committee, with the support of analytical guidance by the Commission. The study, which was completed in June 2019, provided a useful basis for discussions. However, it also proved that there were some methodological limitations related to the quality and availability of data as well as analytical scope of study as compared to the capacity traditionally used in the EU. As a result, drawing straightforward conclusions and proposing unequivocal 2030 targets for the Energy Community and its Contracting Parties based solely on the study would not be possible.

The discussions indicated that further and more advanced analysis would be needed to propose robust and credible energy and climate targets for the Energy Community and its Contracting Parties with an equal ambition level and in line with the EU targets for 2030.

Such analysis will be carried out in the context of a new modelling exercise, based on EU methodology that will be launched by the European Commission.

Furthermore, it is essential that the 2030 targets setting process in the Energy Community takes into account new developments at EU level, in particular the possible upward revision of the EU 2030 targets in the context of the new European Green Deal announced by President-elect Ursula von der Leyen in her political guidelines.

THE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL OF THE ENERGY COMMUNITY

Having regard to Article 47(a) of the Treaty establishing the Energy Community ("the Treaty") and item VI of the Procedural Act 2006/01/MC-EnC on the Adoption of the Internal Rules of Procedure of the Ministerial Council of the Energy Community,

Recognising the need to provide an effective response to the challenges posed by climate change,

Taking into account that the Contracting Parties of the Energy Community support the call for enhanced action on climate change provided by the Paris Agreement,

Acknowledging that the energy sector is one of the main contributors to the emissions of greenhouse gases, and given the strong links between energy policy and climate,

Taking note that during the first meeting of the Energy and Climate Committee, held in Vienna on 5 September 2017, it was acknowledged that stable national energy and climate plans up to 2030 should be accompanied by three overall targets, namely for the increase of renewable energy in overall energy consumption, increased energy efficiency and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions,

Recalling the December 2017 Ministerial Council Conclusions which underlined the need of 2030 targets in the Energy Community for renewable energy, energy efficiency and greenhouse gas emission reduction, and which welcomed the declaration of the European Commission to work on appropriate proposals to the Energy Community to incorporate suitable provisions of future EU legislation related to these, once such legislation is adopted in the European Union,

Recalling the Ministerial Council Recommendation 2016/02/MC-EnC on preparing for the implementation of Regulation (EU) 525/2013 on a mechanism for monitoring and reporting greenhouse gas emissions and Recommendation 2018/01/MC-EnC on preparing for the development of integrated national energy and climate plans by the Contracting Parties of the Energy Community.

Acknowledging the importance for the Energy Community of the political consensus at the EU level on the EU's 2030 targets through the amendment of the Energy Efficiency Directive, the Renewable Energy Directive, and the agreement on the Effort Sharing Regulation,

Recalling the 2018 General Policy Guidelines and the political consensus on the establishment of three distinct 2030 energy and climate targets for the Contracting Parties of the Energy Community,

Recognising the contribution of a preliminary analytical work undertaken by the Secretariat and the external experts with analytical guidance of the Commission services but noting at the same time that further data and methodological analysis is needed to determine robust and credible 2030 targets,

Acknowledging the need for a high ambition to reach climate neutrality in line with the enhanced ambitions of the European Union to become the world's first climate-neutral continent.

THE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL ADOPTS

The 2019 General Policy Guidelines on 2030 Targets and Climate Neutrality for the Energy Community and its Contracting Parties

The present 2019 General Policy Guidelines reconfirm the political consensus reached in the 2018 Ministerial Council on the 2030 targets for the Contracting Parties of the Energy Community.

Given the growing urgency to address effectively the adverse impact of climate change, the 2019 General Policy Guidelines represent the political commitment of the Contracting Parties to the clean energy transition aiming at a climate-neutral Energy Community in line with the Paris Agreement as well as taking into account the EU decarbonisation ambition.

Three distinct 2030 energy and climate targets (a target for energy efficiency, a target for the contribution of renewable energy sources, and a target for greenhouse gas emission reduction) should be established in line with the EU targets for 2030. They should represent an equal ambition for the Contracting Parties and take into account relevant socio-economic differences, technological developments and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. They should be based on the most robust and credible data possible, resulting from the extended modelling capacities offered by the European Commission through a new dedicated analytical and modelling study.

In order for the targets to guide the energy and climate actions effectively, the targets should be set as national targets for each Contracting Party and collectively form the overall target at Energy Community level.

Contracting Parties should use the political consensus reached in the 2018 General Policy Guidelines in the preparation of their national energy and climate plans

The Ministerial Council of the Energy Community is looking forward to the inclusion of the 2030 targets for the Contracting Parties in the Energy Community legal framework through the adoption of the amended Energy Efficiency Directive, Renewable Energy Directive and the Governance Regulation, as indicated in the indicative timetable set out in the Annex. The Ministerial Council Recommendation 2018/1/MC-EnC on preparing for the development of integrated national energy and climate plans by the Contracting parties of the Energy Community and the indicative schedule therein should be read in the light of this timetable.

ANNEX

The following indicative timetable outlines the next steps:

Dates	Step
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13 December 2019	Adoption of the 2019 General Policy Guidelines at the
	Ministerial Council
November 2019 –	[Preparatory phase for the new study]
March 2020	
April 2020	Launch by the European Commission of a new external study
	extending the EU energy and climate modelling to Energy
	Community
April 2020 -	Energy and Climate Committee and its Technical Working
December 2020	Group are regularly informed about the implementation of the
	study and consulted on relevant aspects
Beginning 2021	Presentation and discussion of the results of the study at the
	Energy and Climate Committee and its Technical Working
	Group
Spring 2021	Endorsement by the PHLG of the 2030 targets for the Energy
	Community Contracting Parties
Mid 2021	Adoption by the Ministerial Council of adapted Energy
	Efficiency Directive, Renewable Energy Directive and
	Governance Regulation with 2030 targets for the Contracting
	Parties