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COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Ad Hoc Preparatory Working Group of Senior Officials
“Environment for Europe”

Fourth meeting
Geneva, 30 May – 1 June 2007
Item 2 (f) of the provisional agenda

PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE SIXTH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE
“ENVIRONMENT FOR EUROPE”

PARTNERSHIPS

DELIVERING ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Draft Statement on Energy Efficiency and the Environment¹

Proposed category I document²

Submitted by the Chairman of the PEEREA Group³

Addendum

¹ The text in this document is submitted as received from the authors.

² Documents for possible action by Ministers (signature, endorsement, approval, adoption, discussion) submitted through and endorsed by the WGSO (ECE/CEP/AC.11/2006/5, Section II).

³ Energy Charter’s Working Group on Energy Efficiency and Related Environmental Aspects.

We, the Ministers and Heads of Delegations at the Belgrade Conference,

Recognize that the adverse environmental consequences of producing and using energy can in part be addressed and often significantly minimized through effective efforts to fully integrate energy efficiency improvements throughout the energy cycle,

Recognize that addressing many of the major environmental and energy security issues concerning us today, require a government-wide and multi-stakeholder approach with an increased attention for energy efficiency,

Consider that the Kiev Statement on Energy Efficiency together with the Energy Charter's Protocol on Energy Efficiency and Related Environmental Aspects (PEEREA), for many countries offer a long-term framework for integrating energy efficiency policy and programme developments into overall energy and environmental policies,

Note the report "Delivering Energy Efficiency" on the progress in implementing the energy efficiency provisions of the Kiev Policy Statement and the Aarhus Declaration, prepared by the Energy Charter Secretariat in cooperation with other International Organizations; the report details the progress made in recent years both in national energy efficiency policies and programmes and in international cooperation,

Decide to:

1. *Better exploit* the benefits that improving energy efficiency brings to the environment, both at global level by mitigating climate change and at local level by reducing local pollutants;
2. *Reflect* energy efficiency considerations into existing and planned national and international environmental policies, also through more effective co-operation with authorities responsible for energy;
3. *Strengthen* coordination of energy efficiency policies and measures with national and regional policies and programmes to address climate change, in particular in the implementation of the flexible mechanisms Joint Implementation and Clean Development Mechanism;
4. *Develop* a strategy to increase the role of the civil society and NGOs in the process of ensuring better coordination of energy efficiency and environmental measures;
5. *Give* a high priority to the reform of energy prices and the removal of environmentally harmful subsidies, in order to increase energy efficiency and strengthen environmental policies;
6. *Support* the development of the environment-related taxation policies reflecting the potential benefits that improved energy efficiency can bring to the environment through the use of highly performing technologies and energy services;
7. *Develop* environmental and cost-effective criteria for the selection of energy efficiency and renewable technologies to be promoted by environmental programmes and fund; and
8. *Reflect* the importance of various energy efficiency measures, such as labelling and audits, in the development of environmental strategies and programmes.
9. *Invite* the Energy Charter Secretariat in cooperation with other relevant organizations to continue to report through UNECE on progress in implementing international energy efficiency provisions.
