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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE  
COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY**

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

Fifth meeting  
Geneva, 14–15 February 2007  
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

**SIXTH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE “ENVIRONMENT FOR EUROPE”**  
Draft Category I document for consideration by the Executive Committee

**STATEMENT ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

Prepared by the PEEREA Group<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Energy Charter Working Group on Energy Efficiency and Related Environmental Aspects.

## **Draft Statement on Energy Efficiency and the Environment**

Submitted by the PEEREA Group Chairman

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

1. Recognize that the adverse environmental consequences of producing and using energy can in part be addressed and often significantly minimised through effective efforts to fully integrate energy efficiency improvements throughout the energy cycle;
2. Recognize that addressing many of the major environmental issues concerning us today, including those generated by the production and use of energy, require a government-wide and multi-stakeholder approach;
3. 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;
4. 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 Organisations; the report details the progress made in recent years both in national energy efficiency policies and programmes and in international cooperation;
5. Decide to:
  - a. *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*
  - b. *Reflect energy efficiency considerations into existing and planned national and international environmental policies, also through more effective co-operation with authorities responsible for energy*
  - c. *Integrate energy efficiency into national and regional policies and programmes to address climate change, and in particular in the implementation of the flexible mechanisms Joint Implementation and Clean Development Mechanism*
  - d. *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*
  - e. *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*
  - f. *Reflect in the environment-related taxation policies the potential benefits that improved energy efficiency can bring to the environment through the use of highly performing technologies and energy services*
  - g. *Develop environmental and cost-effective criteria for the selection of energy efficiency and renewable technologies to be promoted by environmental programmes and fund*
  - h. *Reflect the importance of various energy efficiency measures, such as labelling and audits, in the development of environmental strategies and programmes*
  - i. *Invite the Energy Charter Secretariat in cooperation with other relevant organisations to continue to report through UNECE on progress in implementing international energy efficiency provisions*

**Danish North Sea Partner**

State Participation in Oil and Gas Licences

**To: Mr Miroslav Spasojevic**

Assistant Director International Relations  
Ministry of Science and Environmental Protection of Serbia  
Chairman of the WGSO “Environment for Europe”  
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Date: 11 January  
File No: 100401/40001-0001  
Ref: phs

**and Mr Kaj Bärlund**

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**Through: Mrs Monika Linn**

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Dear Mr Spasojevic and Mr Bärlund,

I am pleased to address you in my capacity of Chairman of the Energy Charter Working Group on Energy Efficiency and Related Environmental Aspects (PEEREA Group).

The PEEREA Group started to function in 1998, following the entry into force of the Energy Charter Treaty and of PEEREA. One of its first international contributions was the work delivered as part of the Energy Efficiency Initiative to the 1998 Aarhus Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference. More than 50 Euro-Asian countries are covered by PEEREA, and this significant overlap in constituency with UN-ECE triggered the wish of several countries to avoid overlap in activities, and to make effective use of the work of PEEREA in the UN-ECE Environment for Europe process.

PEEREA proved to be both an effective instrument for undertaking policy analysis and an operational forum where energy-efficiency policy-issues are discussed among the representatives from various Euro-Asian member countries. Through the review system, which the PEEREA has established, it is also an instrument of peer pressure. Several EU member countries (old and new) and CIS countries have hosted in-depth energy efficiency reviews organized under PEEREA. As deputy managing director of the Danish Energy Authority 1991- 2005 I can reconfirm the added value of promoting energy efficiency objectives and policies in connection with environmental related priorities.

As you know the PEEREA and the Energy Charter Secretariat also brought their contribution to the Kiev Environment for Europe Conference in 2003. In Kiev ministers agreed on substantial issues guiding energy efficiency policies to the benefit of the environment in Europe (Policy Statement on Energy Efficiency), and through the Kiev Declaration the Energy Charter has been invited to report on progress in improving energy efficiency to the next Ministerial Conference in Belgrade 2007. The Secretariat is progressing in this work with the support of the PEEREA Group and taking advantage of the cooperation with other international organizations.

The PEEREA group has discussed the Belgrade Ministerial and finds it desirable that energy efficiency is put in focus by adding a draft policy statement to the analytical work of the Charter Secretariat, since energy efficiency seems even more relevant as a political instrument than it was four years ago. How issues should be brought to the attention of ministers and the optimal form are of course to be decided by the WGSO and the EXECOM where member countries plan and design the entire Conference. However, from the perspective of the energy efficiency community, it would be important to reflect some of the key energy efficiency issues highly relevant to the environment and to continue to make appropriate use of PEEREA both as a legal instrument and as an operational forum covering both the enlarged EU and the CIS countries. We believe that synergies exist and can be exploited to the benefit of all participants. We welcome the good cooperation between the Energy Charter Secretariat and the Environmental Division of the UNECE and we are willing to support strengthening cooperation, avoid overlapping and making best use of resources and capabilities.

In light of the above, I am pleased to attach a brief Draft Policy Statement on Energy Efficiency. The document has been drafted following discussions in the WGSO in October 2006 and in the PEEREA meeting in November 2006. I hope that the WGSO and the EXECOM will find it useful to be included in the category I documents that will be opened for discussions with a view to be brought to the attention of Ministers in Belgrade.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

[original signed]

Peter Helmer Steen  
Chairman of the PEEREA Group  
Director General of the Danish North Sea Partner  
Danish Ministry of Transport and Energy