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European Union

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#### INFORMATION NOTE

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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Council
Subject:	Work programme of the incoming Presidency - Information from the Estonian delegation

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Delegations will find in Annex an information note from the Estonian delegation.

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## WORK PROGRAMME OF THE INCOMING ESTONIAN PRESIDENCY

The ultimate focus of the Estonian Presidency during the second semester of 2017 is on legislative action to **deliver the Energy Union**. In order to ensure a market-based energy supply, reduce the EU's energy dependence, and establish a future-proof climate policy, the Council will be working on Commission's proposals in four areas of the energy policy – electricity market design, governance of the Energy Union, renewable energy and energy efficiency. Estonia is committed to ensuring the quality, balance and efficacy of the legislation and will seek to attain practical results as much as possible.

Building on the valuable work done by the Maltese Presidency, the Estonian Presidency will strive to progress on the **clean energy package proposals**, with a view to concluding its legislative efforts at the TTE Energy Council on December 18<sup>th</sup>, but could also convene another meeting on October 24<sup>th</sup>, if needed.

Estonia will give particular attention to the **electricity market design** which is a central building block for the Energy Union. A well-functioning market is the main driver for the deployment of renewable energy and the best motivator for energy efficiency. While understanding the complexity of the electricity market and renewable energy proposals, the Estonian Presidency strives to agree at least on the core issues among Member States.

A **streamlined governance** setup in the energy and climate policy framework will be the main tool for achieving long-term goals, consolidating cross-sectoral efforts and reducing the administrative burden. The governance regulation should give a clear direction to the energy and climate policy sought by the society, investors and the international partners of the EU. The Estonian Presidency will work with the Member States on the proposal to reach an agreement.

Pending the results of the Maltese Presidency and the availability of the Parliament, the trilogues on two **energy efficiency proposals** will be opened.

Estonia will start the discussions on the **mandate for Nord Stream 2 negotiations** without a delay.

The narrative of the Estonian Presidency will be based on a strong link between its horizontal digital priority and the energy sector. The Presidency will propose a **public-private partnership declaration on digitizing the energy sector**. Digitization empowers consumers and sustainable energy transition like no other policy.

The **informal meeting of energy ministers** will take place on September 20th to address the key issues raised at the negotiations of the **electricity market initiatives**. Also the governance principles will be on the agenda. The aim is to support the progress of the legislative deliberations in the Council. The informal meeting will conclude with a **joint session with the transport ministers** to take stock of the implementation of the trans-European networks of transport and energy. It is also crucial to start discussions on the future financing framework for these networks.