



Council of the European Union
General Secretariat

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ENER
PROCED

COMMUNICATION

WRITTEN PROCEDURE

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Subject:	END OF WRITTEN PROCEDURE Council conclusions on the response to the COVID-19 pandemic in the EU energy sector – road to recovery

Delegations are informed that the written procedure, opened by CM 2661/20 of 24 June 2020, was completed on 25 June 2020 at 17:30 and that all delegations agreed to the approval of the Council conclusions on the response to the COVID-19 pandemic in the EU energy sector – road to recovery, as set out in document ST 8382/2/20 REV 2.

Therefore, the above Council conclusions are approved.

The statements by Malta; and Germany, Belgium, Hungary, Czech Republic are reproduced in the Annex to this CM.

The above statements will be included in the summary of acts adopted by the written procedure as statements to be entered in the Council minutes, in accordance with the third subparagraph of Article 12(1) of the Council's Rules of Procedure.

STATEMENT BY MALTA

In general, Malta is in agreement with the Council Conclusions. We are committed to striving towards an energy transition and the achievement of the energy and climate objectives towards 2030 and beyond. Having said this, we would also like to put forward our Statement on the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism which we have already circulated prior to today's meeting. Malta stresses the need of having an impact assessment which should also analyse the economic and social impact of a future instrument, notably on the peripheral economies of the EU Member States, including islands, which are heavily dependent on importation. A future instrument should address the differences in the economic structure of Member States and consider implications on competitiveness for each respective Member State, whilst ensuring that it does not disproportionately increase the cost of living of citizens on the basis of location. This would ensure a more equitable solution.

STATEMENT BY GERMANY, BELGIUM, HUNGARY, CZECH REPUBLIC

Joint statement by Germany, Belgium, Hungary and the Czech Republic

The abovementioned Member States understand the last half sentence of paragraph 18 of the present Conclusions of the Energy Council within the meaning of the Conclusions of the European Council of December 2019. In paragraph 7 of the December Conclusions, reference is made to the need to develop effective measures which are compatible with WTO law in order to prevent carbon leakage. At the same time, note is taken of the European Commission's intention to propose and introduce a carbon border adjustment mechanism for emission-intensive sectors. The abovementioned Member States believe that it is first necessary to carry out a comprehensive impact assessment as well as an open-ended examination of all options and possible alternatives. The abovementioned Member States believe that the Member States need to discuss all possible mechanisms to protect against carbon leakage in order to resolve the various outstanding issues, such as WTO compatibility and administrative feasibility. The rules should ensure the creation of a level playing field for the European economy, as long as there are still differing levels of ambition in terms of climate policy across the world.
