



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 27 June 2022
(OR. fr)

10707/22

LIMITE

COEST 497

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Memorandum of understanding on a strategic partnership in the field of energy with the Republic of Azerbaijan - authorisation to open negotiations

1. On 21 June 2022, the Commission informed the Working Party on Eastern Europe and Central Asia of its intention to enter into negotiations on a non-legally binding instrument in the form of a 'Memorandum of understanding on a strategic partnership in the field of energy with the Republic of Azerbaijan'.
2. The memorandum of understanding will serve as a political platform for dialogue on energy, in order to advance the EU's energy agenda with Azerbaijan with a view to underpinning the GSC's expansion to double its current capacity , promoting renewable energy capacity, energy efficiency and renewable hydrogen, and tackling methane emissions.
3. The text will be of a political nature and will not entail any legal or financial commitment on the part of the EU. The Commission will share an initial version of the memorandum of understanding with the Member States, requesting their comments.

4. It is understood that the Commission will contact the Council again at the end of the negotiations, to request its authorisation for the signature of the memorandum of understanding on behalf of the EU, scheduled for the second half of July.
 5. The subject has been discussed by the Working Party on Eastern Europe and Central Asia and none of the delegations has raised any objections to authorising the Commission to begin negotiations.
 6. In light of the above and subject to confirmation by the Permanent Representatives Committee, the Council is invited to:
 - examine the Commission's intention to enter into negotiations on a 'Memorandum of understanding on a strategic partnership in the field of energy with the Republic of Azerbaijan', as set out in 10491/22;
 - approve the opening of negotiations by the Commission on a 'Memorandum of understanding on a strategic partnership in the field of energy with the Republic of Azerbaijan'.
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