

Brussels, 10 July 2023
(OR. en)

11421/23

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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)/Council
Subject:	Memorandum of Understanding between the European Union and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay on cooperation related to renewable energies, energy efficiency and renewable hydrogen - Authorisation to sign a non-binding instrument

1. On 7 March 2023, the Commission informed the Working Party on Energy of its intention to negotiate a Memorandum of Understanding between the European Union and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay on cooperation related to renewable energies, energy efficiency and renewable hydrogen, with a view to its signing, on behalf of the EU, before the EU-CELAC Summit in July 2023¹.
2. The Energy Working Party discussed the approach proposed by the Commission, with the understanding that the Commission will inform the Working Party on the advancement of the negotiations with the Oriental Republic of Uruguay and will revert to the Council at the end of the negotiation process to seek the Council's authorisation for the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of the EU.
3. On 12 June 2023 the Council authorised the Commission to negotiate on behalf of the EU such a Memorandum of Cooperation (9434/23).

¹ WK 2739/23.

4. On 6 July 2023, the Working Party on Energy discussed the text of the Memorandum as set out in document 11189/23. There were no additional drafting proposals to the text. Subsequently, the text was submitted to the Working Party on Energy for informal written consultation. During the consultation, delegations did not raise any additional remarks.
5. In light of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to:
- Confirm its agreement on the text of the Memorandum of Understanding between the European Union and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, as set out in document ST 11189/23;
 - Invite the Council to authorise the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the EU and Uruguay as set out in document ST 11189/23, subject to possible small adjustments as a result of negotiations with the relevant partners, but without changes in substance.
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