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LIMITE

MAMA 131
ENER 472
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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)/Council
Subject:	Strategic partnership on energy between the European Union and Tunisia - Authorisation to negotiate a non-binding instrument

1. On 7 September 2023, the Commission informed the Mashreq/Maghreb (MaMa) Working Party of its intention to negotiate a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on a Strategic Partnership on energy between the European Union and Tunisia (doc. 12624/23).
2. The core objective of this Strategic Partnership is to contribute to accompanying Tunisia to meet its renewable electricity targets, energy efficiency and the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions as foreseen in Tunisia's Nationally Determined Contribution under the Paris Agreement.
3. On 19 September 2023, the Commission also informed the Working Party on Energy on the matter.
4. At its meeting on 24 October 2023, MaMa agreed, for its part, to the Commission's suggestion to negotiate the envisaged Strategic Partnership on energy on the basis of indications set out in doc. 12624/23.
5. It is understood that the Commission will keep MaMa informed on the progress of the negotiations and will revert to the Council at the end of the negotiations to seek the Council's approval of the Strategic Partnership on behalf of the European Union.

6. Subject to confirmation by the Permanent Representatives Committee, the Council is therefore invited to approve the Commission's intention to enter into negotiations on the Strategic Partnership on energy between the European Union and Tunisia.
