



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 14 November 2022
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NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council

To: Delegations

Subject: Establishment of the EU-ASEAN Energy Dialogue on behalf of the Union – request for endorsement by the Council under the non-binding instrument arrangements

- Note to Council

DOCUMENT PARTIALLY ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC (29.11.2022)

Delegations will find in the annex a note from the Commission to the Council (Working Party on Energy) regarding the establishment of the EU-ASEAN Energy Dialogue on behalf of the Union and the request for endorsement by the Council under the non-binding instrument arrangements.



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Directorate-General for Energy

Directorate TF – Energy Platform Task Force
The Director

Ref. Ares(2022)7805783 - 11/11/2022

Brussels, 8 November 2022

NOTE FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE WORKING PARTY ON ENERGY

***SUBJECT:* Establishment of the EU-ASEAN Energy Dialogue on behalf of the Union – request for endorsement by the Council under the non-binding instrument arrangements**

***CONTACT POINTS:* Commission DG ENER Unit TF3 (International Relations)**

REMARKS:

Following our correspondence of the 28 September 2022 (Ares(2022)6673207), please find enclosed the document for your due diligence in order to allow the Commission to launch, on behalf of the Union, the EU-ASEAN Energy Dialogue on the occasion of the EU-ASEAN commemorative summit.

Cooperation and dialogue between the EU and ASEAN on energy goes back several decades. In 2020, the Commission had an exchange at the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Energy (SOME) on EU-ASEAN energy cooperation and the prospects for further engagement. In 2021, with support from the EU, ASEAN SOME endorsed a concept note for a study on enabling a Clean Energy Transition in ASEAN, including a Clean Energy mapping and assessing the potential of an EU-ASEAN energy dialogue.

The establishment of an EU-ASEAN Energy Dialogue was proposed to the ASEAN SOME in June 2022. Such Dialogue would allow for a more structured and regular policy dialogue and facilitate exchanges on business and industry practices. The Dialogue would not create, replace or duplicate existing regional or bilateral cooperation programmes. In the current global energy context, this would allow to bundle and structure the EU's interaction on the just and clean energy transition with a region that is a growing energy demand centre.

On 28 September 2022, the Commission submitted its first note to the Council informing about its intention to enter into discussions with ASEAN and its Member States for Terms of Reference. EU Member States were informed about the Commission's intention at the Energy Working Party meeting of 4 October 2022. The Commission also informed the Council that the Dialogue will not create rights or obligations under international or domestic law, hence should be considered as non-binding multilateral

instrument. The Commission and the ASEAN secretariat and ASEAN Member States have now finalised Terms of Reference to guide the EU-ASEAN Energy dialogue.

The Terms of Reference for the EU-ASEAN Energy dialogue, considered stable, are attached to this note. The ASEAN Member Countries have *in principle* endorsed the Terms of Reference ad-referendum (written procedure) on 18 October 2022. It cannot be excluded that minor changes will still be necessary in the run-up to or during the Summit.

The EU-ASEAN dialogue is envisaged as a deliverable at the EU-ASEAN Commemorative Summit taking place on 14 December in Brussels. Given the procedures on ASEAN side (approval of the final Terms of Reference by all Member States), the endorsement of the Council is requested before 5 December 2022.

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