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| From: | General Secretariat of the Council |
| To: | Delegations |
| Subject: | AOB for the meeting of the Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council on 6 June 2025 : Report of the Digital Ministers of the Mediterranean EU countries meeting - MED9 - Information from Slovenia |

The MED9 group, consisting of Cyprus, France, Greece, Croatia, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Spain and Slovenia, was established in 2013 to promote cooperation between EU Member States on general Mediterranean issues. The countries in this group represent one third of the EU Member States and up to 45% of the EU population, and closer cooperation within the group helps to keep Mediterranean issues high on the EU agenda.

The MED9 group is committed to strengthening cooperation between the Mediterranean EU Member States on key EU issues and to better coordinating their positions within the EU on areas of common interest. These priorities include not only political dialogue and cooperation, security and stability in the region, but also other common challenges and opportunities that link all shores of the Mediterranean, such as coping with the adverse effects of climate change, energy and food security, migration, water, youth, green and digital transition, blue economy and economic development.

Cooperation between the MED9 countries takes the form of regular informal ministerial coordination meetings held prior to various EU Council formations and the European Council. Thematic ministerial meetings are organised to review the implementation of shared commitments and to closely coordinate positions on topical issues in specific areas.

It is becoming increasingly clear that advanced artificial intelligence tools and other technologies are becoming more powerful and accessible and are rapidly permeating all aspects of social and economic life. In this context, Europe emphasises the importance of the ethical use of AI and respect for fundamental human rights, dignity and personal identity. We are committed to shaping a responsible digital future - one that is not only technologically advanced, but also sustainable, inclusive and ethical.

The MED9 Digital Ministerial meeting will take place in Luxembourg on 5 June. Ministers will exchange views on the potential opportunities, benefits and best practices of artificial intelligence and new technologies in addressing current challenges in the Mediterranean region, such as climate change, natural disaster response, food security and sustainable agriculture, migration, secure and resilient connectivity, cybersecurity, and AI-enabled education and innovation. Digital Ministers will also discuss possible actions and activities that could be undertaken by the European Commission to support the efforts made in this area.

The Slovenian delegation will inform the TTE Council about the meeting of the Digital Ministers of the Mediterranean EU countries - MED9.