

Medlemmerne af Folketingets Europaudvalg
og deres stedfortrædere.

Asiatisk Plads 2
DK-1448 København K
Tel. +45 33 92 00 00
Fax +45 32 54 05 33
E-mail: um@um.dk
Telex 31292 ETR DK
Telegr. adr. Etrangeres
Girokonto 300-1806

Bilag

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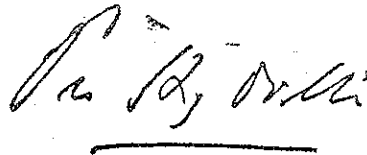
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21. marts 2005

Til underretning for Folketingets Europaudvalg vedlægges i forbindelse med Det Europæiske Råd i Bruxelles den 22.-23. marts 2005 Fremme af konkurrenceevne, forsyningssikkerhed og miljømæssig bæredygtighed – Et bidrag fra ministrene for så vidt angår energiområdet, 6522/05 + COR 1.


P. B. Nielsen





**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 18 February 2005

6522/05

**ENER 29
ENV 78
RECH 35
COMPET 31**

I/A ITEM NOTE

From: the General Secretariat
To: Coreper/Council
Subject: Promoting competitiveness, security of supply and environmental sustainability
- A contribution of the Energy Ministers to the 2005 Spring European Council

1. The 2005 Spring European Council will discuss options for climate change strategies for the period after 2012 and the mid-term review of the Lisbon Strategy. In this context, and as Energy Ministers consider it important to deliver a contribution to this debate, the Dutch Presidency had drafted a first paper which the Energy Working Group started examining last December.
2. Building on this text and on discussion in the Working Group, the Luxemburg Presidency has submitted a compromise text. After extensive consultations with delegations, the text as annexed has now been agreed. In endorsing the attached contribution, delegations made it clear that this was without prejudice to ongoing as well as future discussions on Community financial instruments.
3. Coreper is therefore invited to submit this contribution to the Competitiveness Council for adoption under part A of its agenda.

**PROMOTING COMPETITIVENESS, SECURITY OF SUPPLY AND ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY**

A contribution of the Energy Ministers to the 2005 Spring European Council

1. Energy policy needs to provide a significant contribution to promoting a balanced approach to the goals of security of energy supply, competitiveness and environmental sustainability. It should underpin the refocusing of the Lisbon Strategy on jobs and growth, inform the EU's Climate Change Strategy and give input to the revision of the European Sustainable Development Strategy. To this end, the EU needs to develop a long-term perspective, which integrates economic, environmental and energy objectives and accelerates investment, research, technology development and diffusion, as well as the development of efficient markets. In this context, Energy Ministers welcome the Commission's Communication "Winning the battle against global climate change".

The Lisbon Agenda and Energy

2. Economic growth, sustainable development, competitiveness and employment must be at the heart of EU policy making. To ensure that the EU remains competitive over the long term, policy and initiatives in the energy field should:
 - While taking account of Member States' responsibility for determining their own energy mix, encourage a diversity of energy supply which enhances supply security;
 - Implement agreed commitments on energy market liberalisation and on interconnecting infrastructure;
 - Develop policy and regulatory frameworks based on supply/demand and emissions analysis and projections that promote investment in the EU economy and provide medium and long term planning certainty;
 - Promote energy efficiency and related services. This will contribute to lower production costs and provide further job opportunities.

Environmental Sustainability

3. It is crucial that the development of the EU's Sustainable Development Strategy be based on measures and approaches that are realistic and achievable as well as affordable while providing medium and long term planning certainty as a basis for investment decisions. Development of and investment in the energy sector is central to achieving environmental objectives that are consistent with growth and employment in the EU. EU policies on climate change will only be successful within a broad international coalition involving all developed countries and the major emitters among emerging economies. To these ends:

- A thorough analysis from an energy perspective of the Commission's cost/benefit analysis of medium and long term strategies for climate change, including targets, and the Report on the new European Environmental Technology Action Plan will be crucial. Energy Ministers also invite the Commission to present its report on impacts of emissions trading on other energy policy instruments, as requested by the Spring European Council 2003;
- It is the intention of Energy Ministers to contribute to making the EU emissions trading scheme, which has now been launched, more effective and comprehensive while taking account of the need for promoting competitiveness and an affordable energy supply;
- Energy efficiency actions are most likely to have an early impact on energy demand and consequently emissions. As energy efficiency is an important aspect of the Lisbon strategy with significant potential for economic, environmental and employment synergies, Energy Ministers support the Commission's intention to develop a European Energy Efficiency Initiative in 2005 and welcome its intention to come forward with a Green Paper on this initiative, including a list of possible concrete actions;
- Building on the full implementation of agreed commitments on renewable energies, a feasible strategy for addressing the EU's aspirations for renewable energy sources beyond 2010, also on the basis of the Commission's communication of 26 May 2004 and the Council conclusions of 29 November 2004, will be a priority;

- The Intelligent Energy – Europe Programme is a good instrument to overcome non-technological barriers to energy technologies. Due attention should be paid to the importance of bringing these technologies to the market phase including through relevant Community instruments.
- The EU should work to promote an open and constructive dialogue with key international partners on medium to long-term energy/climate change issues. Energy Ministers support global coalition building and will contribute to it, including through energy fora such as the IEA, IEF and JREC (Johannesburg Renewable Energy Coalition).

Research, Development and Demonstration

4. The EU needs to give a higher priority to energy RD&D, reversing recent trends. As Member States retain responsibility for determining their energy fuel-mix, effectively targeted research is necessary in all energy sectors that offer the prospect of contributing to the EU's economic, environmental and energy objectives. To that effect:
 - Energy players should contribute to the definition of EU RD&D priorities, particularly in respect of the 7th RTD Framework Programme;
 - Efforts in developing and promoting Technology and RD&D in the field of energy should be better organised;
 - More effort must be made to ensure that research activity leads to effective diffusion, adoption and market take-up of energy technologies by involving the private sector with public programmes, resources and public-private partnerships.

Next Steps

5. Energy Ministers look forward, and are committed, to making a major contribution to future discussions on the development of the EU's medium and long term emission reduction strategies and the longer term sustainable development strategy, and to integrating these strategies with Lisbon and other energy policy objectives.



**RÅDET FOR
DEN EUROPÆISKE UNION**

**Bruxelles, den 23. februar 2005 (24.02)
(OR. en)**

**6522/05
COR 1**

**ENER 29
ENV 78
RECH 35
COMPET 31**

CORRIGENDUM TIL I/A-PUNKTS-NOTE

fra: Generalsekretariatet for Rådet

til: Coreper/Rådet

Vedr.: Fremme af konkurrenceevne, forsyningssikkerhed og miljømæssig bæredygtighed
– Et bidrag fra ministrene for så vidt angår energiområdet til Det Europæiske Råds
2005-forårsmøde

Emnet for I/A-punkts-noten affattes således:

"Fremme af konkurrenceevne, forsyningssikkerhed og miljømæssig bæredygtighed

– Et bidrag fra ministrene for så vidt angår energiområdet til Det Europæiske Råds
2005-forårsmøde"

Punkt 3 affattes således:

"3. Coreper opfordres derfor til at forelægge dette bidrag for Rådet [.] på en kommende samling
til vedtagelse som A-punkt på dagsordenen."