WORKING PAPER

PROPOSAL OF THE SECRETARIAT
ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TASK FORCE ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY

I. BACKGROUND

At its meeting in June 2007, the PHLG agreed to the establishment of a Task-Force to produce a detailed plan for tackling energy efficiency issues in the Contracting Parties of the Energy Community (Conclusion 7, 5th PHLG Meeting, 28th June 2007).

Respectively, the PHLG asked the Energy Community Secretariat (the Secretariat) to make a proposal on the composition and work of the Task-Force.

It is on this ground that the Secretariat has developed the current proposal on the establishment of a Task Force on Energy Efficiency.

II. ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES

Unless otherwise decided, the work of the Task Force shall be organizationally and administratively supported by the Secretariat. In this capacity the Secretariat will also attend the meetings of the Task Force. Since it is intended to deliver over a short-medium-term period a certain number of deliverables, the task force should have a stable structure with a permanent chairman for the period of the mandate of the Task force. Therefore, it is proposed that the MC nominates the chairman at the same time as it adopts the mandate of the task force.

III. COMPOSITION OF THE TASK FORCE

1. The Task-Force shall consist of expert level representatives of the Parties and participants to the Treaty establishing the Energy Community. The task force should be composed by representatives of the governmental institutions, which have responsibilities in the area of energy efficiency.

2. The Observers to the Energy Community shall be invited to nominate their representatives (from the same type of institutions and under the same conditions) so as to actively participate in the work of the Task Force.
3. Each Party shall have no more than two representatives at the meetings of the Task Force. Participants and observers shall have no more than one representative.

4. The Chair may invite stakeholders, including representatives of the Donors' community, to participate on an ad hoc basis.

5. The MC will nominate a chair upon proposal of the PHLG among the members of the Task Force. The chair would normally be a representative from the Contracting Parties. The chair of the task force will not be remunerated by the Energy Community.

IV. WORK OF THE TASK FORCE AND MANDATE

The meetings and the work of the Task Force shall be chaired by the chair of the task force, assisted by the European Commission, acting as vice-chair.

The meetings of the task force shall take place upon the invitation of the chair. The task force should meet as often as needed in order to achieve the goals set up by the mandate of the Ministerial Council. Meetings should preferably take place in the territory of a Contracting Party of the Energy Community or at the premises of the Secretariat.

The Chair is responsible for establishing the report of the task force. By doing so, it shall take into account the views of all members.

The mandate of the task force should be adopted by the MC upon proposal by the PHLG. The mandate should include a list of deliverables and a deadline.

Proposed mandate:

The task force should build the needed knowledge in terms of energy efficiency in the region covered by the Treaty in order for the Energy Community to be able to act in accordance with Article 35 of the Treaty. In accordance with the Conclusion of the PHLG of 28 June 2007 as endorsed by the Ministerial Council of 29 June the Task-Force should produce a detailed plan for tackling Energy Efficiency. In particularly this should entail:

- Present a comprehensive state of play of the situation among Contracting Parties and observers in terms of Energy efficiency
- Identify the concrete areas where improvement is needed and/or feasible, with a proper prioritisation of these areas according to a cost/benefit analysis
- Identify the EU legislation on energy efficiency that could be extended to the Energy Community and would produce largest impact. This should include an analysis of the extent to which the Contracting Parties will be able to take up the legislation, possible consequences, as well as a realistic timetable.
- Propose immediate concrete actions (together with a timetable and a budget estimation) allowing the improvement of the energy efficiency in the region. Actions could include exchanges of experiences, training, promotion of concrete measures, institution building.

- Propose concrete measures/indicators to monitor the evolution in terms of energy efficiency

The task force shall take into account the findings of the on-going benchmarking study concerning the state of play in terms of energy efficiency (laws, policies, and institutions) among the Contracting Parties of USAID and EAR. This study should be finalized in October 2007.

**Deadline:**

The task force should be constituted, its chairman elected and its mandate adopted at the PHLG/MC meeting in December 2007.

It is proposed that the Task force be given 18 months to achieve the goals assigned in the mandate.

The chairman of the Task force should regularly report on the progress of the Task force to the PHLG. The final report prepared by the Task Force should be submitted to the Ministerial Council by end of June 2009.