

Work Programme



Energy Community

Work Programme

2026-2027

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I. INTRODUCTION

This outline of the Work Programme of the Energy Community 2026-2027 is a summary of activities linked to the budgeting process of expenditure for the next two years. It is prepared following the requirements of the establishment of the budget laid down in the Energy Community Procedures for the Establishment and Implementation of Budget Audit and Inspection (“*Budgetary Procedures*”).

II. TASKS

1. The Energy Community Tasks

Over the past 20 years, the Energy Community Secretariat has been supporting the Contracting Parties to align the region with the Energy Community acquis, integrating it into EU energy and climate policies.

According to the Treaty, the task of the Energy Community shall be to organise relations between the Parties and create a legal and economic framework in relation to electricity and gas as well as hydrogen and carbon dioxide sectors in order to:

- create a stable regulatory and market framework capable of attracting investment in gas networks, power generation, and transmission and distribution networks, so that all Parties have access to the stable and continuous energy supply that is essential for economic development and social stability,
- create a single regulatory space for trade in electricity, gas, hydrogen and CO₂ that is necessary to match the geographic extent of the concerned product markets,
- enhance the security of supply of the single regulatory space by providing a stable investment climate in which connections to Caspian, North African and Middle East gas reserves can be developed, and indigenous sources of energy such as natural gas, coal and hydropower can be exploited,
- improve the environmental situation in relation to energy carriers and related energy efficiency, foster the use of renewable energy, and set out the conditions for energy trade in the single regulatory space,
- develop competition in market markets on a broader geographic scale and exploit economies of scale.

The tasks outlined in the Treaty provide a legal framework for an accelerated and gradual integration with the EU. The Council of the EU continues to encourage further advancing gradual integration in a merit-based and reversible manner. In line with the Council conclusions of 17 December 2024, gradual integration remains subject to relevant EU acquis alignment. The Council also underlines the importance of fully using the potential of existing legal instruments.¹

Thus, the Energy Community tasks are inextricably intertwined with reforms promoted by the European Union in the Contracting Parties. The New Growth Plan for the Western Balkans, the Ukraine Facility, and the Moldova Reform and Growth Facility are frameworks pivotal in steering the region's energy transitions from 2024 to 2027. These frameworks **leverage the Energy Community activities, and the Energy Community offers an agile platform for promoting regional cooperation that puts the Contracting Parties on track towards their future membership in the EU.**

2. Tasks Conferred on the Secretariat

The Energy Community institutions will continue to fulfil their mandates, also in order to, face the new challenges and tasks linked to the implementation of the acquis and the support to Ukraine amid the Russian war of aggression.

For the Secretariat, this comprises:

- Provision of administrative support to **the Energy Community institutions** to smoothly conduct decision-making processes needed for the fulfillment of the Treaty objectives;
- Provision of **legal assistance** to Energy Community institutions within the scope of their competences linked to the implementation of the Energy Community Treaty;
- Provision of **assistance of organisational, conceptual and technical nature** to all Contracting Parties and their relevant authorities, including review of draft and final documents (laws, secondary legislations, decisions, concepts etc) in all areas and levels;
- **Review the proper implementation by the Parties of their obligations** under the Energy Community Treaty, including assessment of timely and full transposition of the Energy Community acquis;
- **Enforcement in cases of non-compliance** with Energy Community law, and support and **promotion of the amicable settlement of disputes**;
- **Organising events** of the Energy Community, its institutions and its institutional partners, coordinating the work of working groups and task forces;

¹ [Council conclusions on Enlargement as approved by the Council on 17 December 2024](#)

- Reviewing and assisting the coordination by the European Commission of the donors' activity in the Contracting Parties and **providing administrative support to the donors, particularly in Ukraine;**
- **Promotion of the objectives of the Energy Community** via e.g. publications, presentations, public relations, maintaining and developing the website, liaising with other international institutions and bodies, donors, investors, etc.;
- **Managing and implementing the budget** of the Energy Community and providing support to the donors in line with availability, objective necessity and applicable rules.

a. Providing administrative support to institutions

Institutional meetings: Ministerial Council and Permanent High-Level Group

The Ministerial Council (MC) is the highest decision-making body of the Energy Community, which adopts new *acquis* and decides on the Energy Community's priorities. It consists of government representatives of the Contracting Parties, and it convenes at least once a year. The Permanent High-Level Group (PHLG) prepares the work of the MC, and it generally meets four times a year. It is the Secretariat's responsibility to organize the MC and PHLG meetings. To this end, the Secretariat liaises with the Presidency and the Vice-Presidency and prepares the agendas for the meetings, circulates relevant documents and oversees all logistical matters.

ECRB meetings

An independent regional body of energy regulators in the Energy Community and beyond, Energy Community Regulatory Board (ECRB) is composed of high-level representatives from the national energy regulatory agencies of the Contracting Parties, Observers and Participants. The Board elects its president for a two-year term. The ECRB is supported by the ECRB Unit of the Energy Community Secretariat seated in Vienna.

As an institution of the Energy Community, ECRB advises the Ministerial Council and Permanent High-Level Group on details of statutory, technical and regulatory rules and makes recommendations in the case of cross-border disputes between regulators. ECRB holds the board meeting quarterly. The four key pillars of ECRB activities are organised in four corresponding working groups. Under this general set up, the Customers and Retail Markets Working Group covers retail market and customer protection related aspects of the electricity and gas sectors, while the Electricity Working Group and Gas Working Group focus on wholesale related aspects of the relevant energy sectors. The REMIT Working Group deals with regulatory and ECRB duties stemming from the REMIT Regulation.

The Secretariat's ECRB Unit assists and supports the operations of the ECRB and its various working groups. Implementation of the Electricity Integration Package and the related

legislation raises new tasks for the ECRB in review and adoption of regulatory acts, such as regional terms, conditions and methodologies (TCMS).

b. Providing assistance to Contracting Parties

A compliant, coherent legal framework is the indispensable precondition for Contracting Parties to achieve the objectives of the Treaty. That is why providing assistance to Contracting Parties regarding reviewing, transposing and implementing legislation is one of the priorities also for the upcoming period.

The Secretariat, within the mandate set out by the Treaty, will continue to review all draft and adopted legislation and other documents pertinent for the implementation of the Treaty. It will continue to provide comments on their compliance with the *acquis*, making sure that the adopted legislation is in line with the obligations under the Treaty.

The Secretariat will provide assistance to the Contracting Parties also by advising them on the implementation of the *acquis*. For that purpose, the Secretariat establishes internal task forces and working groups with a special purpose to tailor make solutions according to the particularities, needs and shortcomings of the Contracting Parties.

The Secretariat will continue its support via capacity building to national institutions such as the national statistics institutes, competition and State aid authorities, regulatory authorities, etc. All these activities will be additionally supported by webinars and other online educational tools.

c. Carrying out specific duties conferred by the Treaty

Tasks and responsibilities stemming from the Electricity Integration Package

The adoption of the Electricity Integration Package resulted in number of new specific tasks and responsibilities of the Secretariat that will be conducted throughout 2026-2027 including issuing opinions and taking decisions on various issues, coordinating inputs of TSOs, to the extent bidding zones are outside of CE synchronous area, representing EnC DSOs in a cooperation with the EU DSO entity, participate as an observer in the Market Coupling Steering Committee (MCSC) as well as performing specific monitoring and reporting activities. Most prominently, in line with the Electricity Regulation requirements, the Energy Community Secretariat will issue opinions on the implementation plans submitted by the Contracting Party when they will be notifying a capacity mechanism, as well as opinions on whether the implementation plans have been sufficiently implemented. Further to this, the Energy Community Secretariat will assess the Risk-preparedness plans developed by the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties and issue a non-binding opinion in accordance with the procedure set in the Risk-preparedness Regulation. The Secretariat will also evaluate the

possible means to enhance security of electricity supply which will be followed by the report in 2028. In addition to the regular monitoring and reporting activities of the Secretariat related to the implementation of acquis, the Energy Community Secretariat shall monitor integration of the Contracting Parties in the EU platforms, including for day-ahead, intraday and balancing market. It will coordinate with ACER monitoring of the Contracting Parties' integration into the single day-ahead and single intraday coupling (SDAC/SIDC) and for that purpose collect relevant information from TSOs in accordance with the CACM Regulation. The Secretariat will also monitor integration into the EU electricity balancing platforms in line with the Electricity Balancing Guideline and for that purpose will collect and process that data from the transmission system operators and, where relevant, market participants and other relevant organisations.

Duties according to the revised TEN-E Regulation

The Secretariat will organise the process of evaluating candidate projects for the Project of Energy Community (PECI) label in line with the revised TEN-E Regulation and will organise the adoption of the 2nd PECI list by the Ministerial Council at the end of 2026, in coordination with the European Commission. The PECI selection process is expected to start in Q4/2025, and the draft preliminary PECI list will be defined by the end of May 2026 and reviewed later within three months by the ECRB. The final preliminary PECI list will be defined in early September 2026 and will be immediately delivered to the European Commission to draft the Ministerial Council decision on the 2nd PECI list. Electricity and Gases Groups, organized in line with the TEN-E Regulation, will be engaged in this process and moderated by the Secretariat.

In 2026-2027 the Secretariat will carry out its monitoring and reporting tasks as defined in the revised TEN-E Regulation and will assist project promoters in complying with theirs. The Energy Community Regulatory Board, assisted by the Energy Community Secretariat, and the Electricity and Gases Groups will monitor the progress achieved in implementing the projects on the Energy Community (PECI) list and, where necessary, will make recommendations to facilitate their implementation.

By 30 April 2026, the Secretariat will assist the Energy Community Regulatory Board in submitting a consolidated report for the projects on the Energy Community list that are subject to the competence of national regulatory authorities to the Electricity and Gases Groups, evaluating the progress achieved and expected changes in project costs together with the recommendations on how to overcome the delays and difficulties encountered.

The Secretariat will regularly update the energy infrastructure transparency platform (PLIMA) and perform all other activities defined in the revised TEN-E Regulation.

If requested by the ECRB, the Secretariat will assist in establishing and publishing a set of indicators and corresponding reference values for the comparison of unit investment costs for comparable projects of the eligible energy infrastructure categories. The Secretariat will also

assist the ECRB in reviewing national methodologies and the criteria used to evaluate investments in energy infrastructure projects and the higher risks incurred by those projects.

As regards the process for selecting the Projects of Mutual Interest (PMIs) carried out by the European Commission in line with the revised TEN-E Regulation, the Secretariat will be actively involved and contribute to the relevant regional groups where candidate PMIs involving Contracting Parties will be discussed and assessed.

Duties stemming from the Security of Gas Supply and Storage Regulations

1. Setting the gas storage targets

Based on the adopted and adapted Storage Regulation for the Energy Community, the Energy Community Secretariat is obliged to adopt a decision setting the filling trajectory for underground gas storages, for each Contracting Party. The adoption of such decision is due by 15 November of the preceding year. The decision is based on technical information provided by each Contracting Party and taking into account the assessment of the Security of Supply Coordination Group. The Storage Regulation envisages that the setting of storage targets is obligatory by the end of 2025. However, the prolongation of its validity might be expected. The decision is set in a manner that safeguards the security of gas supply, while avoiding unnecessary burdens on Contracting Parties, gas market participants, storage system operators or customers and not unduly distorting competition between storage facilities located in neighboring Contracting Parties and/or Member States

2. Issuing the opinions related to the preventive and emergency plans

The Security of gas supply Regulation obligates the Secretariat to issue Opinions to the Contracting Parties competent authorities responsible for security of supply. The Secretariat assesses the notified preventive action plan or the emergency plan and recommends in the said Opinion amendments to these plans in several cases, defined by the Regulation. The Secretariat has other duties related to verifying the declaration of crisis levels and deviation from the measures in the adopted plans.

3. Issuing the binding opinions related to certification of storage system operators

The Storage Regulation amended the Gas Regulation to empower the Secretariat in issuing a binding opinion on certification of storage system operators. The Secretariat's opinion shall be issued within 25 working days of the notification from the Contracting Party's relevant certifying authority, which is obliged to comply with the said opinion. Such opinions are issued for both existing and new storage system operators. The *acquis communautaire* increasingly requires the Secretariat to get engaged in individual case assessments in issuing and monitoring the implementation of certification opinions in areas such as unbundling, exemptions or gas storages.

d. Monitoring and Reporting

As in the past, the Secretariat will report on the progress of Treaty implementation by issuing the 2026 and 2027 Implementation Reports, as the most comprehensive reference document and basis for further policy development and enforcement measures. The Implementation Report involves all experts of the Secretariat.

In line with the EU objectives, the European Commission will present for the adoption by the 2026 Ministerial Council a legal proposal aiming at simplification of current reporting obligations stipulated by the Energy Community legislation in place.

The Secretariat's monitoring and reporting obligations related to NECPs, and integrated progress reports will require a cross-unit effort. In addition to ensuring the consistency of the reports, the Secretariat will provide targeted assistance to the Contracting Parties and liaise with the European Environment Agency (EEA) and DG ENER concerning ReportNET.

Furthermore, the Secretariat will continue to publish reports as part of the Secretariat's involvement in different regional initiatives. This includes the flagship reports for the Berlin Process and CBAM-Readiness Tracker and further ad hoc reports on different subjects, when required or assigned to the Secretariat by the relevant institutions.

Upon request of the Regional Coordination Council, the Secretariat will further engage in monitoring the implementation of the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans within the scope of Energy Community Treaty tasks and activities.

Beyond the annual implementation monitoring, individual pieces of the *acquis communautaire* require targeted monitoring and reporting by the Secretariat and ECRB. This includes a wide range of Directives, Regulations and other pieces of the *acquis*. Network codes and guidelines on electricity and gas will bring specific reporting obligations to the Secretariat's agenda.

Moreover, the Secretariat will cooperate with the ENTSO-E, together with the European Commission, ECRB and other energy sector stakeholders related to the collection and publication of all required information and data within the scope of the Procedural Act on Regional Market Integration.

For a full, indicative list of the Secretariat's monitoring and reporting obligations, please refer to Appendix 2.

e. Enforcement of the acquis and dispute resolution

The dispute settlement mechanism under Article 90 of the Treaty is the instrument for Treaty enforcement and following up on instances of incompliance with the Treaty. The work on enforcement, which under the Dispute Settlement Rules involves the Secretariat, the Permanent High-Level Group and the Ministerial Council, has been and is already one of the activities taking up a large part of the Energy Community's work and deliberations. This is and will continue to be important for the credibility of a community based on the rule of law.

The Secretariat is also increasingly addressed with complaints by citizens, market participants, investors and civil society organizations on a regular basis and will continue follow up on these complaints in accordance with dispute settlement rules under the Treaty.

Mediation of state-investor disputes has become an important instrument for finding fast and amicable agreements to conflicts which otherwise risk to paralyse the reforms in Contracting Parties and affect the investment climate. Throughout 2024 and 2025, the focus of the Secretariat's Dispute Resolution and Negotiation Centre has been on supporting Ukrainian energy companies in coordinating their legal actions and preparing legal claims against the Russian Federation for its intentional destruction of Ukraine's critical energy infrastructure and generation facilities. These legal actions promote the rule of law, and accountability, thereby contributing to a more predictable and stable market investments climate in Ukraine amid ongoing war actions. This work is expected to be intensive during the coming budget period 2026-2027.

III. DELIVERING ON AN ACCELERATED INTEGRATION WITH THE EU

1. Electricity Sector

Activities in the electricity sector will focus on delivering the accelerated integration of the Contracting Parties' electricity markets into the EU internal market for electricity on the basis of reciprocity to which the key precondition is a compliant transposition and implementation of the Electricity Integration Package (EIP).

a. Transposition and implementation of the acquis

Supporting the Contracting Parties in the implementation of the EIP, adopted by the Ministerial Council in December 2022, along with the transposition and implementation of any new acquis which could possibly be adapted and adopted in the Energy Community during the budgetary period, will be in focus of the Energy Community Secretariat's activities. As the transposition of the EIP, consisting of nine legal acts, is expected to be completed in all Contracting Parties in 2025, two years after the legal deadline, it is to be expected that the implementation activities, which were mainly due in 2024-2025, will be postponed for the period 2026-2027.

The Secretariat's assistance in the implementation of the EIP will primarily include drafting, amending and reviewing a comprehensive set of secondary legislation, including regulations and administrative acts necessary to comply with Directive (EU) 2019/944 (Electricity Directive), Regulation (EU) 2019/943 (Electricity Regulation), Regulation (EU) 2019/942 (ACER Regulation) and with Network Codes and Guidelines related to the electricity market and system operation: Regulation (EU) 2015/1222, Regulation (EU) 2016/1719, Regulation 2017/2195, Regulation (EU) 2017/2196 and Regulation (EU) 2017/1485. The Secretariat will actively support and streamline activities of Contracting Parties' governments, ministries, regulators, system and market operators in delivering a compliant and sound legislative framework and conduct assessments necessary to verify its compliance with the acquis as a prerequisite for the accelerated integration into the EU single electricity market platforms.

Furthermore, the integration of the Contracting Parties' electricity markets into the EU platforms, namely single day-ahead coupling (SDAC), single intraday coupling (SIDC) and EU balancing platforms on the principle of reciprocity between Contracting Parties and the EU Member States will require fully harmonised and coherent regulatory framework among Contracting Parties and EU Member States. To that extent, the Secretariat will facilitate the implementation of the respective Network Codes and Guidelines in the Energy Community to set a robust legal framework paving the way for integration at regional level and with EU Member States. In particular, the implementation of the Network Codes and Guidelines will require the adoption of

a high number of pan-European, regional and national terms, conditions and methodologies by the Contracting Parties. This will require more efforts to align the existing and developing new secondary acts in line with the pan-European and regional processes and best practices that will also be underpinned by the Secretariat. The Secretariat's activities will also assume issuing various guidelines and opinions on the proper implementation of the electricity acquis in force.

Alignment with the EU electricity acquis which are of relevance for the accelerated integration will also require adoption of the new Electricity Market Design consisting of the amending Directive (EU) 2024/1711 and the amending Regulation (EU) 2024/1747 adopted on 21 May 2024 and entered into force on 16 July 2024 and possibly new network codes and guidelines. Adoption of the new electricity acquis in the Energy Community will require further amendments to the primary and secondary legislation by the Energy Community Contracting Parties. The activity will be supported by the Energy Community Secretariat through drafting, amending and reviewing provisions with the aim of ensuring compliant transposition and implementation of the new acquis.

To ensure proper understanding and application of the new acquis, and consequently to facilitate its implementation by relevant stakeholders, the Secretariat will provide technical assistance and capacity building for the Contracting Parties' stakeholders, from the organisation of dedicated workshops and working group meetings, to launch studies and publishing policy guidelines. These topics will require a high understanding and knowledge within the Contracting Parties' and call for continuous assistance by the Secretariat to enable proper implementation in line with the best EU practice.

Monitoring and reporting of the proper implementation of the acquis will be conducted by the Secretariat in line with its legal obligations stemming from the Treaty and the electricity acquis. Continuous compliance monitoring will be performed through a set of predefined indicators and the findings published in the Secretariat's Annual Implementation Report. This will be reinforced by the monitoring and reporting activities that will be designed to support accelerated integration in line with the EIP requirements.

In addition to this, monitoring the progress in market coupling as a precondition for obtaining a time-limited exemption from the CBAM for the export of electricity the electricity imported into the EU, subject to certain conditions spelled out under article 2(7) of the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) Regulation, will be part of the Secretariat activities. The results of monitoring will be displayed in the Secretariat's CBAM-Readiness Tracker. A monitoring and reporting of relevant indicators related to the electricity market development will also be presented, underpinning activities on creating fully integrated and competitive energy markets aimed at providing market signals for decarbonisation and green investments necessary to meet 2050 carbon-neutrality target.

Moreover, the Secretariat will actively cooperate and assist the European Commission in the coordination and streamlining with donor organisations on the policy measures and assistance provided in implementing electricity acquis in the Contracting Parties to avoid overlapping and to ensure an efficient and consistent approach to the accelerated integration with the EU.

The Secretariat will also actively cooperate with the relevant institutions such as ENTSO-E and its dedicated EnC TF, ACER, the All NEMO Committee, the Market Coupling Steering Committee, the Pentilateral Coordination Group including through co-chairing of its dedicated EnC Joint Expert Team, the European entity for DSOs, Energy Traders for Europe, EUROPEX etc. The Secretariat will also actively cooperate with the various projects and initiatives dedicated to enhancing electricity market integration and strengthening regional cooperation.

The accelerated integration will also require the harmonisation of legislative provisions governing trade, commerce, fiscal, financial, and corporate matters essential for the efficient operation of regional electricity markets. This will include organizing consultative meetings and workshops as needed, particularly in Contracting Parties where full alignment of VAT regulations with the EU acquis has yet to be achieved.

b. Accelerated integration of the electricity markets

The accelerated integration of the Contracting Parties into the EU single electricity market, most prominently SDAC, SIDC and EU balancing platforms, will continue to be a focal activity in 2026-2027.

Considering that the transposition of the EIP, as a minimum requirement for Contracting Parties adherence to the SDAC, SIDC and EU balancing platform, is expected to be accomplished in the course of 2025, it is to be expected that activities on the Contracting Parties' integration into the platforms, including adherence to contractual and operational framework will be intensified in the budgetary period. While coupling of day-ahead and intraday markets, the integration of Contracting Parties into EU balancing platforms (IGCC, TERRE, MARI, PICASSO) will come into focus too.

While the Electricity Regulation on one hand sets general provisions for integrated electricity markets, the market related Guidelines, namely the Forward Capacity Allocation (FCA) Guideline, the Capacity Allocation and Congestion Management (CACM) Guideline and the Electricity Balancing Guideline, adding specific provisions and a high number of TCMs related to the respective market timeframe will have to be implemented. The Secretariat will have increased activities in supporting Energy Community Contracting Parties' stakeholders, transmission system operators (TSOs) and nominated electricity market operators (NEMOs),

in this process. The Secretariat will facilitate activities at regional level through support to the capacity calculation regions (CCRs) and system operation regions (SORs), as established by the EIP, and the established local implementation projects for market coupling (LIPs). The Secretariat will also streamline cooperation between NEMOs and TSOs with NRAs through the established governance structures and offer organisational and content-related support. The Secretariat will actively cooperate also with all NEMO and all TSO committees as well as with the Market Coupling Steering Committee, as an observer member, as well as with governance structures of EU balancing platforms. Furthermore, the Secretariat will support TSOs in ensuring that regional allocation platform is operational and complies with the functional requirements stemming from the FCA and harmonised with rules applied by the single allocation platform. For this purpose, the Secretariat will facilitate the entering of platforms into administrative cooperation agreements should it be considered needed. Implementation of the above-mentioned activities will require strong regional and European coordination and cooperation which will be provided through different regional and already established platforms and working groups.

Monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the requirements for the adherence to the EU SDAC, SIDC and EU balancing platforms in accordance with the needs of the dedicated platforms will also be regularly performed by the Secretariat in the prearranged reporting format. The report will be used for planning the Contracting Parties' adherence into the EU platform and for monitoring of the progress made in fulfilling necessary requirements for joining the platforms. This will contribute to the predictability and efficiency of the adherence process while avoiding duplicating monitoring activities among various institutions involved in the market integration process.

c. Competitive, consumer-centered and flexible electricity markets

The accelerated integration of the electricity markets will require Contracting Parties to ensure a level playing field through an open access to their national electricity market and the third-party access to the transmission and distribution infrastructure in a non-discriminatory, fair and transparent manner in line with the rules laid down by the Electricity Directive. The Secretariat will support Contracting Parties in developing a conducive legal and regulatory framework for integrating all customers interested to actively participating in the electricity market and supporting the energy transition, including active customers, citizen and renewable energy communities, storages, demand response, electric vehicles, and new business models such as peer-to-peer energy trading.

This will require the removal of barriers to free price formation and the establishment of better links between wholesale and retail markets, including the introduction of functional Price

Comparison Tools to enhance retail market functionality in a transparent and efficient manner. The Secretariat will monitor the functioning of the electricity market at both national and regional level and identify possible legal and regulatory obstacles within the mandate set out in the Energy Community legal framework, and where needed promote it proactively. The Secretariat will monitor implementation of the public interventions in the price setting for the supply of electricity to household customers and to microenterprises as well as all measures adopted to fulfil universal service and public service obligations and their possible effect on national and international competition in line with the Electricity Directive. Further to this, the Secretariat will monitor measures and actions to eliminate any restrictions on the wholesale price formation or, if not possible, to mitigate the impact of that policy or measure on bidding behavior in accordance with Electricity Regulation.

An introduction of the capacity mechanisms that is expected to emerge in the Contracting Parties during the budgetary period will have an impact on the electricity market functioning and the Secretariat's activities. The related Secretariat's tasks foresee to include issuing an opinion on the Contracting Parties' implementation plans on measures to eliminate any identified regulatory distortions, following identified resource adequacy concerns or market failures and monitoring its implementation.

The Secretariat will step up its activities related to flexibility assessments and measures to increase flexibility which will require capacity building. The integration of renewable energy sources should attract investments in non-fossil flexibility sources such as energy storage and demand response, so the Secretariat will continue to provide educational support on these topics, also cooperating with the more experienced European TSOs and DSOs on these issues. This should also involve consumers, providing them with the right incentives to become more active and to provide demand-side elasticity. The Secretariat will also provide support to the authorities in preparing the national reports on the estimated flexibility needs, which are obligatory under the new electricity market design.

The Electricity Integration Package significantly increases the importance of the distribution infrastructure and new roles of the distribution system operators (DSOs). Furthermore, it is expected that around 70% of the new generation mix in the EU will consist of distributed generation, which may be mirrored in the CPs regarding the long-term frame. Given the existing, quite obsolete legal and regulatory framework with respect to electricity distribution, and a lack of preparation/readiness of the distribution system operators for their new obligations and roles in the electricity market including connection of the new types of customers to the network, the Secretariat will provide capacity building and assistance to the Contracting Parties' distribution system operators in delivering on their obligations and tasks defined in the Electricity Integration Package, especially regarding the connection of new generatorschargers/heat pumps/storages/other consumers to the distribution networks, preparation/review of TYNDPs,

market-based procurement of energy to cover distribution losses, regulatory frameworks in the CPs to allow and provide incentives to DSOs to procure flexibility services, and regarding the DSO-TSO cooperation and information exchange. The Secretariat will also provide support in other activities related to electricity distribution, including smart metering, smart grid projects development, and dynamic tariffs application. The Secretariat will also provide organisational and content-related support to the Energy Community Distribution Systems Operators for Electricity Coordination Group (ECDSO-E), established for the cooperation of the distribution system operators. The ECDSO-E CG currently has four Task Forces (smart grids, network tariffs, managing energy transition, network planning) and two technical networks (compliance officers network, data hub network). At the end of 2024, the ECDSO-E CG agreed on the new work plan for 2025-2026 and the topics which will be analysed by the group, addressing the most important issues that DSOs face today. The Secretariat will continue to coordinate all group activities, organising regular meetings of the group and its task forces and technical networks, also endeavouring to establish tight cooperation and coordination with the relevant EU institutions like EU DSO Entity, E.DSO and COFEED. Through the ECDSO-E CG, DSOs in the EnC will continue to exchange information and their experience on various topics, including distribution tariffs in different countries, balancing responsibilities, technical criteria for network connections, 35 kV network gradual transformation, etc.

d. Security of electricity supply

Activities related to the security of electricity supply will focus on the monitoring and reporting obligations defined in Regulation (EU) 2019/941 (Risk-preparedness Regulation - RPR) and Commission Regulation (EU) 2017/2196 (Network Code on Electricity Emergency and Restoration – ER NC). The Secretariat will also continue to review the Security of Electricity Supply Statements prepared by the Contracting Parties every two years in line with Article 29 of the Treaty and to organise and moderate regular meetings of the Security of Supply Coordination Group – Sub-group for Electricity (SoS CG SGE).

The Secretariat will assist and monitor the implementation of the RPR in the national legislative frameworks, assessing and reviewing the risk-preparedness plans defined by the competent authorities. The Secretariat will facilitate the preparation of the agreement on regional and bilateral measures to deal with the electricity crisis. In the case of receiving an early warning based on the information that an electricity crisis may occur in a Contracting Party, the Secretariat will coordinate assistance to that the Contracting Parties through the SoS CG SGE. Evaluation of the ex-post reports on the electricity crisis will be conducted in due time and shared with the other Contracting Parties. The Secretariat will, on the basis of the experience

gained in the application of the RPR, evaluate the possible means by which to enhance the security of electricity supply at the Energy Community level and submit a report to the Ministerial Council by 1 September 2028, on the application of this Regulation, including, where necessary, legislative proposals to amend this Regulation.

According to ER NC, Contracting Parties and their TSOs are obliged to prepare defence, and restoration plans in accordance with this network code, which the Secretariat will monitor. The Secretariat will also cooperate with the ENTSO-E on this matter.

The Secretariat also participates in the work of the Electricity Coordination Group (ECG) at the EU level. It will continue to attend the ECG meetings regularly and inform the ECG about the SoS situation in the Contracting Parties. Ukraine and Moldova will be provided by assistance regarding electricity system operation and security needed within the scope of the Secretariat's activities.

2. Gas Sector

a. Transposition and implementation of the acquis

The Secretariat supports implementing and transposing the gas acquis in the Contracting Parties' legal and regulatory frameworks.

First, the Secretariat will continue monitoring the Contracting Parties' compliance with the Treaty's obligations (at present, the Third Gas package). While most Contracting Parties have implemented the third energy package into their legislation, discrepancies in full compliance remain, especially in Bosnia and Herzegovina. These imperfect transpositions lead to fragmented frameworks that hinder legal uniformity across the Energy Community region. Such gaps create regulatory inconsistencies, making it challenging for Contracting Parties to maintain uniform gas market operations and align with the EU acquis

In this respect, the Secretariat will focus on resolving market fragmentation due to differing regulations in the Contracting Parties, lack of cross-border compatibility, and limited infrastructure. This fragmentation limits market liquidity, as the Contracting Parties cannot efficiently transfer gas supplies across borders. To enable access to alternative gas sources and decrease energy costs for consumers, the Secretariat will work with Contracting Parties to design detailed roadmaps highlighting essential regulatory and infrastructure improvements required for full market integration. It will include specific goals and timelines for accountability to encourage Contracting Parties to open the existing pipelines and storage facilities and introduce yearly reviews to assess market functionality, pricing trends, and trade barriers, allowing Contracting Parties to make data-driven adjustments to their market structures.

The Secretariat's findings will be reflected in the annual Implementation Reports, as well as in ad hoc reports made for special occasions or region-wide initiatives. In particular, the Secretariat will review all drafts and adopted gas legislation, providing comments on their compliance with the *acquis* and ensuring that the legislation adopted aligns with the gas *acquis*. If a new *acquis* is incorporated, this will require that the Secretariat, in parallel, develops its own knowledge and comprehensive reach out to regulatory specificities of the new legislation and technical and industrial standards. The Secretariat will assist, upon Contracting Parties' request, in drafting primary and secondary legislation, to complete the implementation of the Gas Directive and the Gas Regulation requirements, such as unbundling and certification, market rules, network codes, security of supply, regulated and non-discriminatory access to network infrastructure. The Secretariat shall issue opinions related to certification of storage (binding opinions) and transmission operators and preventive and emergency plans.

The Secretariat will specifically continue to assist fast-reforming markets (Moldova), focus on Ukraine in re-establishing a competitive market it had before the war, provide guidance to expanding markets (Georgia, North Macedonia), monitor the development of competition in the gas markets and allow for their regional gas market integration. The Secretariat will continue assisting Serbia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina in rectifying their long-standing breaches of the *acquis* in the gas sector so that they can fully engage in the decarbonization of their economies. In addition, the Secretariat will pay closer attention to the retail market and unbundling distribution system operators and storage system operators. It will proceed with opening respective cases for serious breach of the Treaty. The Secretariat will also focus on the issues related to tariff policies, especially of the view of increased tariffs in infrastructure due to lack of transit and different flow patterns in Ukraine and Moldova, and on phasing out regulated prices in supply.

Moreover, the EU hydrogen and gas decarbonisation package, consisting of [Directive \(EU\) 2024/1788](#) and [Regulation \(EU\) 2024/1789](#), was adopted at EU level in May 2024. It updates the EU natural gas market rules set out in the Gas Directive 2009/73/EC and the Gas Regulation 715/2009. This Fourth Gas Package is expected to offer remedies to long-standing issues of nonapplication of the same rules on the interconnection points and, therefore, market zones between Member States and a Contracting Party. Once this Package is adopted within the Energy Community, the Secretariat will, depending on the transposition deadlines, assist the Contracting Parties in drafting the implementation plans and the primary legislation.

b. Market integration

The Secretariat will follow up its market integration-related activities, including joint activities with the European Commission under the Central and South-Eastern Europe Energy

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Connectivity (“CESEC”) and its South-East European Gas Initiative (“SEEGAS“) initiative. The Fourth Gas Package, if adapted for the Energy Community, is expected to offer remedies to long-standing issues of nonapplication of the same rules on the interconnection points and, therefore, market zones between Member States and a Contracting Party. Thus, the most important work in the Contracting Parties would consist of transposing elements of the said package which are related to the accelerated integration with the EU gas market. Establishing liquid gas markets (in Ukraine, Georgia, Moldova, and Serbia) and/or adhering and coupling with a more developed neighboring gas market of EU Member States shall be supported. The work will especially focus on transposing and implementing the gas Network Codes in the Contracting Parties and at the interconnection points with neighboring EU Member States, moving from interconnection agreements to the coupling capacity products and integrating balancing markets.

The CESEC will pursue natural gas, low carbon gases and hydrogen infrastructure projects in the region. In coordination with the Commission and following the leadership of the overall CESEC process, the Secretariat will continue mapping the relevant issues to be addressed at cross-border interconnection points and offer support and assistance to facilitate close cooperation between the Contracting Parties and bordering EU Member States, such as along the trans-Balkan pipeline, which would integrate the Southeast and Central Europe.

Under the SEEGAS initiative, using the experience of European markets, especially the role of balancing mechanisms and their importance for the transition to a marketplace, the Secretariat will continue to focus on market integration of the Contracting Parties and Member States in practical terms. The market balancing regime will promote the development of the short-term market, which it needs in the early stages, to transform into a well-functioning liquid wholesale market. Clearing (nomination and settlement) is beneficial for gas markets integration. After having analysed all existing clearing systems in the region in cooperation with the EBRD, a need for harmonisation of the financial market solutions is identified. The Secretariat will continue to assist the Contracting Parties in this pivotal work with the focus especially on the integration of the Ukrainian and Moldovan market with neighboring EU countries.

The Secretariat will assist Contracting Parties in exploiting to the optimum the EU initiative for joint gas procurement.

The Secretariat will promote the engagement of Energy Community gas TSOs within ENTSOG. To enable closer cooperation of TSOs from the Energy Community Contracting Parties, the Secretariat together with ENTSOG established an External Contact Platform, which allows for regular exchanges of views and information between EU TSOs and TSOs from Contracting Parties and other third countries’ TSOs. The Secretariat will continue to cooperate with ENTSOG via different formats, permanent ReCo group, and ad-hoc relevant actions – such as Prime Movers on gas quality and hydrogen acceptance and on Guarantees of Green Gases Origins.

Enabling the participation of Contracting Parties' TSOs in capacity platforms within the EU remains one of the main goals. The Secretariat will continue with its activities aimed at the compliant use of existing and new gas infrastructure as a precondition for the regional gas market. Particular attention will be paid to identifying and addressing project-specific challenges, especially from regulatory and legal perspectives.

The Energy Community Distribution System Operators (ECDSO-G) platform will continue to serve as a mobilisation platform for DSOs to enable best regulatory practices in coordination with the European Commission. The focus will continue to be on the proper functioning of DSOs in enabling non-discriminatory access to their grids and their interface with the TSOs, as well as from the perspective of sustainability of the gas sector. The Secretariat will further assist in organising workshops and commissioning studies when needed.

c. Security of supply of gas

The Secretariat will continue to review and assist in transposition and implementation of the security of supply gas acquis, assessment of risks of interruption as it has been doing in the previous period (Impact assessments) of energy supply and propose to the Contracting Parties its mitigation and reduction. It will review and publish statements on the security of supply concerning gas and the relevant acquis. Most notably, the Secretariat will assist Contracting Parties in smooth implementation of EU Regulation 1938/2017 on security of gas supply, adapted for the Energy Community. The Secretariat is going to assist in its implementation by engaging Contracting Parties in formulating risk assessment policies on a national level. It will continue to perform exercise with the Contracting Parties on ad hoc risk assessments, such as with Ukraine. The expected acquis will require much more substantial work, for both the Contracting Parties and the Secretariat, to adopt and monitor the implementation of the national preventive plans and emergency plans. The Secretariat will issue its opinions on the Preventive and Emergency plans per the Regulation. This is a particularly challenging task as the solution to effectively ensure security of supply. The Secretariat will be intensively assisting in the process of creation of the plans.

It will continue with publishing the Storage reports and be involved in cooperation with the EC in accomplishing the shared objectives. The Secretariat will adopt decisions setting intermediary trajectories to achieve the mandatory storage targets each year in the Energy Community.

The Secretariat will further support the work of the Security of Supply Coordination Group, Sub-group Gas, established by a Procedural act, and will plan and organise its activities in the next periods. The Secretariat will also continue to actively participate in the Gas Coordination Group

at EU level. The Secretariat will, finally, support the diversification efforts of the Contracting Parties from Russian sources and pursue the REPower policy of alternative supplies.

d. Hydrogen and other renewable gases

The Energy Community continues to pursue decarbonisation of the gas sector to secure its durability and sustainability in reaching the net-zero carbon economy in 2050. In that sense, the Energy Community has been identified as one of the key pillars in delivering the goals of the EU Hydrogen strategy (2020). The Energy Community is explicitly referred to as one of the stakeholders with a critical role to play for the promotion of EU regulations, standards and clean hydrogen, including the deployment of new infrastructure, such as refueling networks and the re-use, where relevant, of existing natural gas grids. Participation of the Western Balkans and Ukraine in the European Clean Hydrogen Alliance will be encouraged.

Currently, there is no hydrogen infrastructure in CPs to meet EU Hydrogen Strategy goals, as most CPs lack the regulatory frameworks or infrastructure needed for hydrogen development. In this context, the Secretariat will assist Contracting Parties in promotion of the projects for new gases and hydrogen. In addition, the Secretariat will support selection of Projects of Energy Community Interest (PECI) in line with the adapted TEN-E Regulation, enabling the prioritization of hydrogen infrastructure categories and electrolyzers – subject to criteria laid out in the Regulation. The Secretariat is engaged and will continue to be involved in the European bodies or platforms which are focusing on gas quality and hydrogen handling, as well as on guarantees of origin for decarbonized gases.

The Secretariat will continue evaluations of the potential for integrating biomethane, focusing on exploiting Ukraine's huge potential therein, and other low-carbon or renewable gases into existing energy systems. This approach will help identify specific gaps, set priorities for development, and align strategies for a holistic decarbonisation effort. It will promote the implementation of pilot projects. These projects can demonstrate such gases' technical and economic feasibility; help address regulatory and technical challenges and serve as proof-of-concept for broader adoption.

In coordination with the Commission and following the leadership of the overall CESEC process, the Secretariat will support the Contracting Parties' stakeholders in the ongoing work of CESEC in integrating hydrogen in a dedicated cross-border infrastructure and accommodating a growing share of biomethane in the gas networks of the CESEC countries, in accordance with the CESEC gases Action Plan.

e. Methane leakage

Mitigation of methane emissions by the gas industry is an important step in making the gas sector sustainable and more credible in delivering decarbonisation goals and commitments under the Governance Regulation and National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs) as part of the Energy Community framework.

Regulation (EU) 2024/1787 on the reduction of methane emissions in the energy sector was adopted for the EU in 2024, and the elements which would allow further smooth integration with the EU might be adopted for the Energy Community in 2026-2027. If such proposal is put forward for adoption by the Energy Community in the referred period, the Secretariat would support the Contracting Parties in its transposition and implementation, but also in preparatory work to address the methane emissions. The Secretariat supports the Contracting Parties' stakeholders (operators, companies) in joining a memorandum of understanding with Oil and Gas Methane Partnership (OGMP), to introduce monitoring, reporting, measurement, verification and mitigation of methane emissions.

The Secretariat, as a Supporting Organisation to the Methane Guiding Principles (MGP), will contribute to implementation of the MGP work plan, aiming to decrease methane leakage by operationalization Global Methane Pledge, to which all Contracting Parties committed, as well as support the actions under the Oil and Gas Decarbonisation Charter (OGDC) under the UNFCCC framework.

f. Emergency Oil Stocks

The transposition and implementation of emergency oil stocks in the Energy Community have been progressing at varying speeds. While some CPs, such as Serbia and North Macedonia, have made notable strides in establishing the necessary legal and institutional frameworks, others still face challenges in fully aligning with the EU Acquis on emergency oil stocks.

To promote the transposition and implementation of emergency oil stock obligations, a comprehensive approach combining legal, technical, and policy measures is required. The Secretariat's key focus areas include providing tailored assistance for drafting and amending national laws to align with the Oil Stocks Directive 2009/119/EC and organizing regional workshops and bilateral meetings to explain obligations and share best practices.

Such assistance will continue to build capacity in the CPs by developing and delivering training programs for national authorities responsible for emergency stock management and support in setting up stockholding mechanisms, such as public agencies and industry stockholding obligations. Additionally, the support will expand to identifying financial needs and potential funding sources (e.g., IFIs, EU assistance programs), supporting infrastructure development,

including storage facilities and logistical improvements, and encouraging public-private partnerships to co-finance stockholding projects, as demonstrated in Serbia. The outcome will demonstrate the economic and strategic benefits of compliance, such as improved energy resilience and regional stability.

The Secretariat will promote regional cooperation and best practice exchange by facilitating cross-border agreements for emergency oil stockholding, (including with EU Member States and regional organizations)

3. Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action

a. Transposition and implementation of the acquis

Building on the commitments to achieve 2030 climate and energy targets and pursue climate neutrality by 2050, as outlined in the Decarbonisation Roadmap for the Contracting Parties of the Energy Community (agreed in 2021), the Secretariat will continue supporting Contracting Parties towards their decarbonization agenda.

In this context, the Secretariat will continue to fulfill its role and obligation as spelled out in the adapted Governance Regulation, particularly on NECPs and Long-Term Strategies as outlined in Section 3b of this document. The Secretariat will also continue to monitor and assess progress in achieving the Energy Community's 2030 targets for energy and climate, in particular for the purpose of avoiding any gaps to the Energy Community's 2030 targets. In addition to these efforts and the ones outline in Section 3b, more targeted support activities will be offered based on specific programs, with active engagement from the Secretariat.

To enhance collaboration and address emerging priorities, the Secretariat plans to organise various topical formats within the Technical Working Group on Climate, focusing on areas such as governance, just transition, UNFCCC and sustainable financing. The Energy and Climate Committee will also maintain its regular meetings, particularly in conjunction with the COP conferences, to ensure continuous high-level dialogue and alignment with global climate objectives.

b. National Energy and Climate Plans

Second round of NECPs

The Secretariat will continue to focus on coordinating the implementation of NECPs and LTSs and ensuring their coherence and alignment with NDCs in 2026-2027. The 2023 and 2024 Ministerial Council emphasized the importance of sustained guidance, monitoring, and assistance to support the implementation of integrated National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs) and other climate aspects of the Governance Regulation. These efforts aim to steer

Contracting Parties toward achieving energy and climate objectives by 2030 and be ready to submit comprehensive draft NECPs for the period of 2030-2040 by 1 January 2028.

Experience with the assessment of draft and final NECPs and the process of NECP implementation has proven to be a complex exercise for the Contracting Parties.

The adoption of Long-Term Strategies (LTSs) (up to 2050) and the revision of the Parties' new, post 2030 Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) in 2025 remain pivotal milestones under the Paris Agreement and directly influence the NECPs preparation. The consistency of these processes with NECPs and 2030 targets, as well as the Energy Community 2050 climate neutrality objective, needs to be ensured, while providing a robust framework for long-term climate action.

NECP reporting

The Secretariat will maintain its collaboration with the European Environment Agency (EEA) to enhance climate reporting under the Governance Regulation. The cooperation with the EEA includes as well significant parts of the integrated progress reports – in line with the EU practice as outlined in Implementing Regulation (EU) 2022/2299, which are to be submitted to the Secretariat via the EEA by Contracting Parties.

In the line of the biennial reports, assessing the developments in Contracting Parties based on their integrated progress reports, the Secretariat will compile and publish its assessment report by 31 October 2027.

The implementation of the Governance Regulation will reach a critical stage by 2026 as Contracting Parties transition from initial procedural steps to a focus on improving the timeliness and quality of their submissions. By this stage, the first iterations of key elements—such as draft and adopted NECPs, Secretariat's Recommendations, and Integrated Progress Reports (IPRs)—will have been completed. Early experiences, however, reveal that delays and procedural inefficiencies have hindered substantive compliance with legal deadlines.

The Secretariat will expand its role in assessing IPRs and cross-referencing them with adopted NECPs to produce progress reports under Article 29 of Governance Regulation. Focus will be put on the assistance to be provided by the Secretariat to the Contracting Parties in managing the ReportENER platform—which demands tailored assistance.

In order to ensure the proper implementation of the Governance Regulation obligations by Contracting Parties, particularly regarding the preparation and submission of National Energy and Climate Progress Reports (NECPRs), it is necessary to strengthen both reporting and organisational capacities at national level. The first iteration of the NECPRs in 2025 has

highlighted critical lessons and revealed structural and procedural gaps that must be addressed swiftly to enable improved reporting in 2027. Strengthening these capacities will be crucial to provide credible data and to enable a credible assessment of the level of progress towards the achievement of the 2030 targets.

Supporting Contracting Parties in establishing sustainable internal frameworks for data collection, processing, and submission will require additional dedicated resources, particularly in the period 2026–2027, which will be more resource-intensive compared to subsequent cycles, in particular regarding NECPRs.

Experience from EU Member States further confirms that preparations for NECPRs must begin at least one year before the submission deadline, making 2026 a crucial year for providing direct support to national administrations. In this context, it is essential to reinforce existing work in the Secretariat in order to maintain the quality, timeliness, and completeness of Contracting Parties' reporting obligations, dedicated real-time assistance and helpdesk support for the use of ReportENER and ReportNET, support in the Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) and in-depth assessment of the NECPRs and to reinforce the Secretariat's own delivery capacity, which so far have been supplemented to some extent through external expertise under the 2024–2025 Work Programme.

In addition, enhancing regional exchange and cooperation among Contracting Parties is key to improving the overall quality and coherence of NECPRs.

4. MRVA and carbon pricing

a. Transposition and implementation of the acquis

In 2022, the Energy Community Ministerial Council adopted decisions to adapt and incorporate Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/2066, Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/2067 and Directive 2003/87/EC into the Energy Community acquis.

The Secretariat will monitor the Contracting Parties' transposition and implementation of for Monitoring, Reporting, Verification, and Accreditation (MRVA) acquis, that is critical for generating reliable emissions data and underpinning cost-effective emissions reductions. The Secretariat will also regularly monitor and review progress with establishing GHG permitting systems, accrediting verifiers, and designating competent authorities within the Contracting Parties, all of which are necessary for functional carbon pricing regimes. A harmonised approach across the region would help avoid trade distortions and ensure consistent obligations for operators.

Transposition and implementation of the acquis

The Secretariat will continue to support the transposition and implementation of the entire MRVA package including elements of the EU ETS Directive, the Monitoring and Reporting Regulation and the Verification and Accreditation Regulation in the Energy Community Contracting Parties through horizontal regional cooperation within the Energy and Climate Technical Working Group - MRV and through dedicated bilateral activities. 1 January 2026 will mark the end of the two-year initial period of the MRVA system, which gave the Contracting Parties extended time to build appropriate institutional structures, to establish internal procedures and processes between public institutions and entities subject to GHG emissions monitoring and reporting obligations, and to prepare national legislation that includes a fine and sanction enforcement mechanism in case of non-compliance.

b. Monitoring, Reporting, Verification and Accreditation (MRVA)

To effectively implement the MRVA provisions, it is necessary for each Contracting Party to establish appropriate institutional structures and arrangements as part of the public administration. The Secretariat will promote, based on existing national legislation, examples and successful stories from the EU, the building of centralised Competent Authorities to carry out all responsibilities related to the management and oversight of the MRVA processes including the of approval and validation of permits, monitoring plans and annual emission reports.

To ensure consistent interpretation of the MRVA rules, standardisation of processes and procedures, and equal treatment of entities in all Contracting Parties, the Secretariat will promote the use of existing and EU accepted standards, guidelines, electronic forms that simplify, systematise and standardise the process of monitoring, reporting and verifying of GHG emissions. The Secretariat will assist in identifying existing EU documents. The Secretariat will promote the use and implementation of modern IT tools for MRVA processes based on examples implemented by individual EU countries, EC services and Energy Community Contracting Parties.

The accreditation process of independent verifiers is one of the cornerstones of the well-functioning MRVA system. As the EU Regulation 765/2008 establishing general requirements and standardising accreditation processes and setting requirements and frameworks for accreditation bodies is not part of the EnC acquis, the Secretariat will promote the standardisation of the performance of the Contracting Parties' accreditation bodies for the accreditation of ETS verifiers through cooperation with bodies accredited within the EU, cooperation with international accreditation institutions (European Cooperation for Accreditation) and by promoting the use of internationally recognised standards and processes. The Secretariat will explore and promote the possibility of mutual recognition of EU and EnC accreditation bodies to enable accredited verifiers to operate in both markets and will explore potential synergies with accreditation and verification processes for the CBAM mechanism.

c. Carbon Pricing

The establishment of effective carbon pricing systems is essential for Contracting Parties to advance decarbonisation and align with EU climate policies and prepare for integration into the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) upon accession. These systems will also enable Contracting Parties to meet climate targets beyond 2030 and achieve climate neutrality by 2050. The Secretariat will support the implementation of carbon pricing mechanisms in line with the Impact Assessment conducted in the Energy Community and the Energy Community's Decarbonisation Roadmap.

The Secretariat will focus on engaging stakeholders, particularly via fostering regional dialogue, strengthening institutional readiness and fostering acceptance of carbon pricing mechanisms. Targeted outreach to public authorities, industries, and other entities will build awareness and facilitate smooth implementation, helping Contracting Parties meet immediate climate targets while advancing long-term decarbonisation goals.

To this end, the Secretariat will continue collaborating with stakeholders, including electricity generation utilities and industrial sectors, focusing on the implementation of carbon pricing and other instruments aimed at decarbonization (enshrined under the Energy Community Treaty) and analyzing its implications on the affected sectors. This aims to align carbon pricing policies and promote decarbonisation efforts in the Contracting Parties.

5. Renewables

a. Transposition and implementation of the acquis

In 2021, the Energy Community Ministerial Council adopted the revised Renewable Energy Directive (EU) 2018/2001 as part of the Clean Energy Package, laying the groundwork for its implementation in the Contracting Parties with a formal deadline set for the end of 2022. The focus will remain on assisting Contracting Parties with full implementation of the Renewable Energy Directive.

The continuation of current and new activities under the framework of the Renewable Energy Coordination Group will further support implementation of the EU Renewable Energy acquis in the Contracting Parties to promote higher uptake of renewable energy in electricity but also in heating, cooling and transport, as the last three are lagging behind.

Following adoption of 2030 RES targets at the December 2022 Ministerial Council, and their integration through the development of National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs), further monitoring of implementation of adopted policies and measures to achieve 2030 renewable energy targets will be conducted in the framework of the Renewable Energy Coordination Group.

b. Building a sound framework for investments

Workshops covering specific aspects of the Directive will continue to be organized back-to-back to the Renewable Energy Coordination Group. The Energy Community Conference on Advancing Renewable Investments will continue to be organised annually to foster collaboration between government representatives and potential investors who are eager to explore opportunities in the renewable energy sector.

Support schemes

To achieve ambitious renewable energy targets in the most cost-effective manner, access to support schemes must be granted through an auction process, allowing the market to determine the most competitive bid for each specified energy source, thus minimising support levels. While several Contracting Parties have transitioned from administratively set feed-in tariffs to market-based support schemes, with a few auctions already implemented, further work remains. The Secretariat will continue to support Contracting Parties in finalising the regulatory framework and creating the necessary conditions for fully implementing market-based support schemes. The Secretariat will also fulfil its obligation to report to the Ministerial Council on the performance of support for electricity from renewable sources granted by means of tendering procedures in the Contracting Parties.

Streamlined planning and permitting processes

Given the rapid pace of renewable energy projects, there is a growing need to support streamlined planning and permitting processes. Following the adoption of the 2024 Recommendation, which incorporated provisions from the revised Renewable Energy Directive on Renewable Energy Acceleration Areas and Project Permitting into the Energy Community acquis, the Secretariat has initiated activities to prioritize the acceleration of renewable energy development and the streamlining of permitting processes. These provisions intersect with environmental concerns and procedures, including environmental impact assessments, strategic environmental assessments, appropriate assessments, environmental mitigation measures, and the issuance of development consent for projects. The Secretariat has assessed the permitting and planning processes for energy projects and developed policy guidelines to streamline these procedures, ensuring more efficient planning and permitting of renewable energy projects. It has also established partnerships with international organizations to further enhance the permitting process through Renewable Energy Acceleration Areas. These efforts support Contracting Parties in developing these areas and implementing a one-stop shop approach to simplify permitting. Building on the successful collaboration in developing the model for Montenegro, the Secretariat will continue to assist other Contracting Parties in these

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efforts. The Secretariat will continue supporting Contracting Parties in streamlining permitting procedures to foster efficiency and speed while simultaneously ensuring improved environmental protection through best practices, innovative approaches, digitalization, and compliance with regulatory requirements.

Guarantees of origin

In 2022, as part of a regional project led by the Energy Community Secretariat, electronic registries for guarantees of origin were established for Albania, both entities of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kosovo*, North Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, and Ukraine. Contracting Parties have enabled the electronic registries created during the project to issue, transfer, and cancel guarantees of origin in accordance with EU standards. The Secretariat will continue to support further implementation, with a focus on disclosure rules to enhance transparency.

At the Energy Community Ministerial Council on 14 December 2023, the European Commission presented the draft Roadmap for the Recognition of Guarantees of Origin issued by Energy Community Contracting Parties within the EU. The Roadmap offers an initial assessment of the conditions outlined in Article 19(11) of the EU's Renewables Directive and details the criteria necessary for mutual recognition of guarantees of origin. This Roadmap is expected to be translated into a Decision on mutual recognition, which is set for possible adoption the Ministerial Council meeting in 2026. The Secretariat will dedicate its effort to assist in the adoption process of this Decision and, subsequently, in the process of transposition and implementation together with supporting the Commission in evaluating the fulfilment of the conditions for recognition.

Self-consumption and energy communities

A key priority for the Secretariat will be to further support Contracting Parties in accelerating the implementation of renewable self-consumption schemes and energy community initiatives. While many Contracting Parties have partially established an enabling legal framework for renewable self-consumption, challenges such as the permit granting process, the modernization of network tariffs, and provisions on tax revenue persist. Additionally, the implementation of energy communities has not yet been realized. The Secretariat will continue to provide targeted support to help address these obstacles and facilitate progress in these areas.

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Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs)

Building on the 2024 study, the Secretariat together with the Commission services and ECRB will work to remove legal barriers, establish the appropriate the regulatory and market framework with the aim to facilitate the implementation of utility and corporate PPAs.

Cooperation mechanisms

Cooperation mechanisms are essential for accelerating the deployment of renewable energy and achieving the 2030 targets efficiently and cost-effectively. These mechanisms, such as joint projects, statistical transfers, and joint support schemes, enable Contracting Parties to share resources, balance regional energy production and consumption and optimise the use of renewable energy infrastructure. The Secretariat will actively support the implementation of joint projects and cooperation mechanisms among Contracting Parties. It will also facilitate the establishment of joint renewable energy initiatives by providing technical assistance, project development guidance, and tools such as templates for agreements. The Secretariat will also help Contracting Parties address regulatory and administrative barriers to cooperation, fostering the use of statistical transfers and joint support schemes.

Mainstreaming RES in industry and buildings

Integrating renewable energy sources into industry and buildings is essential for meeting 2030 targets. Transitioning from conventional energy sources to renewables in high-intensity industries can significantly lower carbon emissions and support decarbonization efforts. Ensuring that new and existing buildings meet minimum renewable energy requirements will enhance energy efficiency, reduce consumer energy costs and contribute to overall decarbonization. The Secretariat will continue to assist Contracting Parties in implementing necessary regulatory reforms to enable this transition.

Criteria for biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels

The Secretariat will prioritize supporting Contracting Parties in introducing sustainability and greenhouse gas emissions-saving criteria for biofuels, bioliquids, and biomass fuels, as well as establishing a robust verification system. This foundational work is essential to ensuring alignment with EU standards and enabling the achievement of 2030 targets as outlined in the trajectories defined in their NECPs. Furthermore, the Secretariat will fulfil its obligations related to monitoring and reporting on the characteristics and impacts of biofuels, bioliquids, and biomass fuels consumed within the Energy Community. This will involve conducting baseline

studies, establishing a database, building capacity, and fostering cooperation among the Contracting Parties.

6. Energy Efficiency

a. Transposition and implementation of the acquis

The Secretariat will continue the Clean Energy Package implementation related to energy efficiency and will support the work on the transposition and implementation of Directive 2018/2002 amending Directive 2012/27/EU on energy efficiency, the new energy labelling regulation, and the definition of policies and measures at the national and regional level to support tackling common challenges in Contracting Parties to implement the Clean Energy Package and Energy Community Decarbonisation Roadmap. Operational support will be also provided by the Secretariat in the implementation and reporting on energy efficiency pillar of the National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs) under the Governance Regulation, to achieve 2030 energy efficiency targets.

A significant focus will be on the integration and implementation of energy efficiency in the energy and climate framework, especially by incorporation of new EU sectors and policy areas with significant impact on 2030 energy efficiency targets in the Energy Community, such as decarbonisation of buildings and renovation wave, heating and cooling, promotion of "energy efficiency first" principle, new EU legislative framework for eco-design and energy labelling for sustainable products, etc.

The EU is constantly updating its legislative framework. Further analysis and alignment of the energy efficiency policy in the Energy Community, with the EU, including towards the incorporation of the revised Energy Efficiency Directive and Energy Performance of Buildings Directive and new eco-design and labelling requirements into the acquis, will be performed within the Energy Efficiency Coordination Group (EECG), with the aim to update the energy efficiency framework in the Energy Community.

Technical assistance to the Contracting Parties in the process of implementation of the energy efficiency acquis will continue to be provided by the Secretariat in the form of training workshops using the EU's knowledge and experience, missions, and, if appropriate and with specific objectives, meetings of the Energy Efficiency Coordination Group and EU Concerted Actions on EED and EPBD. The Secretariat will regularly monitor and review progress.

The Secretariat will work on the application of the Energy Efficiency First (EE1st) principle, reinforced in the form of new Article 3 of 2023 Energy Efficiency Directive (EU) 2023/1791. This effort is supported by EU Guidelines and Recommendations from 2021 and 2024, as well as

the proposed Energy Community Ministerial Council Recommendations for 2024. The Secretariat will assist with the implementation of this principle and report on the progress annually. Additionally, the Secretariat will coordinate these activities within the Energy Efficiency Coordination Group, ensuring comprehensive integration and cooperation among stakeholders.

Specific focus will be on the social aspect and application of the results of the study on implementation of the Energy Efficiency First (EE1st) principle in buildings, particularly targeting the reduction of energy poverty. To analyze and implement the EE1st principle in buildings, the Secretariat will explore new EU policies, assess the current status in Contracting Parties, investigate financial sector practices, and recommend actions, funding models, legislative amendments, and methods for monitoring benefits.

The Secretariat will continue to support the Contracting Parties through REEP Plus in the transposition and implementation of energy efficiency directives and new policies to support achievement 2030 energy efficiency targets, such as decarbonisation of buildings and renovation wave, heating and cooling, promotion of "energy efficiency first" principle, new EU legislative framework for eco-design and energy labelling for sustainable products, demand reduction, etc.

The district heating sector must ensure that heat consumption is metered, and consumers pay based on their usage, as mandated by the EED. Many systems fail to implement this, preventing consumers from reducing energy consumption and adjusting room temperature as needed. The Secretariat will aid national authorities in coordinated development of necessary implementing legislation and support local authorities with implementation through meetings, donor linkages, and showcasing best practices. Additionally, the Secretariat will support in conducting a comprehensive assessment of the potential of energy efficient district heating and high efficiency cogeneration, including introduction of local heat planning under revised Energy Efficiency Directive.

b. Buildings and social aspects

In cooperation with the European Commission, the Secretariat will continue working with the Contracting Parties and IFIs on mapping legal and market barriers for buildings renovation, exchanging the best EU practices, analysing financing options and/or developing financial instruments and facilities for investments in energy efficiency, especially for deep buildings renovations. The additional tasks stemming from the political commitments will require a reinforcement of the Secretariat's legal and technical capacity to support the Contracting Parties in many new areas, and explicitly for renovation of buildings and making the district heating sector more energy efficient.

7. Energy Infrastructure

The Secretariat will intensify assisting and supporting the transposition and implementation of Regulation (EU) 2022/869 (TEN-E) in the Contracting Parties, all of which have not transposed it within the deadline (31 December 2024). In Q4 of 2025, the Secretariat will initiate the new PEI selection process, which will be intensified in 2026, in close coordination with DG ENER. This will result in the new list of Projects of the Energy Community Interest, planned to be adopted by the Ministerial Council at the end of 2026. It will regularly update data on the Projects of Energy Community Interest (PEI) on the infrastructure transparency platform PLIMA and continue reporting to the Ministerial Council about the progress in realising these projects. The Secretariat will assist PEI project promoters in requesting financial support for technical assistance and investment grants related to these projects from the EU financial programs, as well as from international financial institutions. The review of applications for financial support under the Western Balkan Investment Framework for infrastructural projects will also be continued. Under the CESEC High-Level Group, the Secretariat will continue supporting a realisation of priority infrastructure projects (including PMI and PEI projects) and market integration actions, cooperating with notably with the European Commission.

8. Environment

The work performed in the area of environment covers assisting the Contracting Parties in implementing the core *acquis* on Environmental Impact Assessment, Strategic Environmental Assessment, wild birds' protection, the sulphur content of liquid fuels, large combustion plants, and environmental liability. The progress of implementing these directives is systematically monitored and reported. Additionally, the Secretariat has actively facilitated and mediated environmental issues, successfully fostering cross-border dialogue, and will continue to carry with these efforts moving forward considering priorities within the Energy Community workstreams.

a. Limiting land-use conflicts

The environmental *acquis* will expand, incorporating adapted provisions of the Habitats Directive, the updated and broadened provisions of the Birds Directive, the adapted provisions of the Water Framework Directive, and its associated directives, including the Groundwater Directive and the Environmental Quality Standards Directive. The Secretariat will prioritise assisting Contracting Parties in transposing new environmental *acquis* into their national

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legislation and ensuring their effective implementation that should result in streamlining planning and permitting processes for investments in renewables. This will include assisting with the establishment of necessary frameworks for successful implementation, such as conducting appropriate assessments and streamlining these processes with other relevant assessment tools, preparing the list of protected areas (Special Protection Areas and Special Areas of Conservation), and developing the Programmes of Measures and River Basin Management Plans. The Secretariat will further strengthen communication and partnerships with other international treaty organizations (e.g., the Secretariat of the Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, and the Water Convention) that address these topics, fostering collaboration, knowledge exchange, and coordinated efforts to support effective implementation.

In line with Ministerial Council Recommendation 2024/1/MC-EnC on accelerating the deployment of renewable energy projects and implementing the energy efficiency first principle, the Secretariat actively supports Contracting Parties in establishing the necessary legal and institutional frameworks to enable the effective implementation of these provisions. This includes providing technical guidance and tailored support for the development of Renewables Acceleration Areas in accordance with the environmental preconditions and considerations outlined in Article 15c of the amending Directive (EU) 2023/2413 and facilitating capacity-building efforts to streamline renewable energy deployment. To support this, the Secretariat has developed a toolkit that offers step-by-step guidance, based on a methodology recognised as best practice by the European Commission, and will utilise it to provide targeted and tailored support to Contracting Parties. Additionally, the Secretariat supports the development of permitting procedures and protocols, including the establishment of one-stop-shop mechanisms, to enhance efficiency, reduce administrative barriers, and streamline environmental permitting for renewable projects. These efforts align with the requirements set out in Article 16(a), (b), (c), (d), and (f) of the amending Directive (EU) 2023/2413, ensuring a more coordinated and expedited permitting process. To further facilitate implementation, the Secretariat has developed a permitting protocol and training materials, providing options for setting up one-stop shops and optimising permitting processes for renewable energy deployment. Building on the successful development of the model for Montenegro, the Secretariat will continue providing country-specific assistance, offering tailored guidance and technical expertise to other Contracting Parties.

b. Air quality

One of the main areas of focus for the Secretariat has been supporting the implementation of the Large Combustion Plants Directive. This work will remain critical in the period leading up to 2026 – 2027, as the Directive poses significant challenges for the Contracting Parties. The scale

of the implementation challenges has become increasingly evident, with several instances of non-compliance already being addressed through dispute settlement procedures already ongoing since 2021. National Emission Reduction Plans are set to remain in effect until 31 December 2027 and the installations concerned will have to meet the stricter standards of the Industrial Emissions Directive as of 1 January 2028. During this period, the Secretariat will continue to verify that emissions from plants under the National Emission Reduction Plans (NERPs) align with the emission ceilings set in the NERPs through an annual reporting process.

Plants subject to limited lifetime derogations (opt-out – not exceeding 20,000 operational hours between 1 January 2018 and 31 December 2023) have reached the end of their permitted lifetime but most of them remain in operation due to security of supply concerns. The Secretariat has initiated dispute settlement procedures in response. The Secretariat's broader assessment will also incorporate findings and recommendations on the implementation of the opt-out regime, linking it to the overall progress under the Large Combustion Plant Directive, the potential transition towards the Industrial Emissions Directive and in a broader sense, contribution to decarbonisation goals and efforts.

With a view to completing the coupling with the EU electricity market, the Secretariat will continue conducting its assessment to review the current implementation status of the environmental legislation relevant for electricity generation utilities in Contracting Parties and provide recommendations for aligning with the requirements of the EU acquis, including the Industrial Emissions Directive (recently amended by Directive 2024/1785). This will include evaluating progress, identifying gaps, and suggesting actionable measures to provide level playing field on the integrated European electricity market.

9. Cybersecurity

Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1366 establishing a network code on sector-specific rules for cybersecurity aspects of cross-border electricity flows (NCCS) is expected to be adopted in the Energy Community by the Ministerial Council Decision in 2026. The Secretariat will perform the tasks in accordance with that Decision. The Secretariat will continue to moderate the activities of the Energy Community Coordination Group for Cyber-Security and Critical Infrastructure (CyS CG) with the aim to establish better coordination between the Contracting Parties and exchange of relevant information. In the period following the adoption of the NCCS, the Secretariat will establish cooperation with the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA) and the ENTSO-E on cyber-security issues and continue to provide educational support to the CyS CG.

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The Energy Community Secretariat is exposed to the risk of cybersecurity incidents propagated from the IT system, as the entry points for cyberattack attempts. Therefore, cybersecurity should apply to the smooth running of the Energy Community Secretariat itself by flagging risks linked to the continuous exposure of the general IT environment to cyberthreats, accentuated by the current geopolitical context: the number of attacks and threats continue to mount. These demands reinforcing the IT infrastructure within the Secretariat, identifying risks and putting mitigation measures in place by redeploying resources.



IV. COOPERATION WITH NATIONAL AUTHORITIES

1. ECRB and Energy Regulators

The Secretariat will support the Energy Community Regulatory Board and its working groups in executing tasks conferred on them. ECRB provides an opinion to the Secretariat on preliminary certification decisions of Contracting Parties' regulators and provides opinions on network code regulations prior to their adoption by the Permanent High-Level Group. It also submits the consolidated report on the PECL list, including also other TEN-E related obligations. Further to this, the ECRB gained new monitoring obligations, including monitoring implementation of network codes, monitoring of retail markets, customer empowerment as well as electricity and gas wholesale markets. The ECRB Work Program focuses on regulatory areas where coordination and exchange of experiences is important.

The ECRB also supports the regulators in enforcing the new competences arising from Regulation (EU) 1227/2011 on wholesale energy market integrity and transparency (REMIT) adapted and adopted in 2018, which did not include trade data reporting or centralised market monitoring by the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER). In the new budgetary period, the Secretariat will continue enhancing the energy market integrity and transparency framework in the Energy Community, with a particular focus on coordinating assessments of suspicious activity that have cross-border impact and providing consolidated regulatory guidance. Activities also include aligning regulatory practices of the Contracting Parties' market integrity regime with the EU, including consultation and exchange of opinions on future integration of the full REMIT regulation. The ultimate objective is to ensure a level playing field and readiness for integration in the single EU market.

A key development that expands ECRB role is the implementation of the Electricity Integration Package (EIP). The Secretariat is required to allocate more resources (people, expertise, and budget) to support the activities of the ECRB, its Working Groups and Task Forces. In addition to ongoing activity, ECRB should be supported on drafting opinions, decisions and monitoring the implementation of the terms, conditions and methodologies under the EIP. In coordinating the work of NRAs on these processes, the ECRB Unit must organise more frequent meetings at the working level (with NRAs, ACER and other stakeholders), both online and in-person, to discuss the impact and ensure that views of the NRAs are converged within the ECRB to enable coordinated implementation. This process embeds bilateral and regional exchanges with NRAs and ECRB to foster a shared understanding of the EU regulatory processes. This ongoing engagement of the Secretariat's experts strengthens NRAs capacities.

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By incorporating additional resources, budget and expertise, the Secretariat can leverage its professional support to the ECRB in fostering effective implementation of regulatory tasks. Permanent expertise and an increased budget, supplemented by expert contributions from NRAs, ensure that the regulatory work is coordinated efficiently by the ECRB Unit.

To summarise, in addition to ECRB plenary, the ECRB Unit facilitates the work of four Working Groups (Electricity, Gas, REMIT and Customers), including Taks Force on PECl and other ad-hoc activities. The working group and task force meetings, with structured agendas and recorded conclusion, are crucial to ensure the efficient completion of the ECRB Work Program. Beyond that, ECRB Unit facilitates the organisation of ad-hoc workshops for NRAs, and where necessary other stakeholders. All these activities, while important, increasingly are straining ECRB Unit's resources.

The ECRB Unit directly supports ECRB activities through engagement in drafting, assessments, discussions, and the organization of meetings and events. These include ECRB Plenary, Working Group meetings, Task Force activities, and workshops, as well as coordination with stakeholders such as ACER, EU NRAs, CEER, MEDREG, donors, and financial institutions. ECRB's responsibilities further extend to issuing opinions on certification of TSOs, the PECl list, and TCMs, monitoring and implementation reports, recommendations on regulatory practices, reports on wholesale markets, cross-border activity, transparency, grid and retail tariffs, and coordinating market integrity activities, including regulatory guidance, etc.

2. Competition and State Aid Authorities

The work in the area of competition falls into two parts, namely competition acquis (anti-competitive agreements and abuse of dominance) and State aid acquis, as reflected in Article 18 of the Treaty.

The Secretariat will continue its support to and monitoring of the work of competition and State aid authorities in Contracting Parties. This is being achieved through capacity building in the form of the Energy Competition Law Forum, and workshops on topics of current practical relevance in the enforcement practice of national authorities, as well as cooperation procedure under Article 2 of the Dispute Resolution Procedures. The Secretariat will also foster cooperation and sharing of best practices between competition and State aid authorities in Contracting Parties to streamline and strengthen enforcement activities.

To ensure effective and consistent enforcement of the prohibitions enshrined in Article 18 of the Treaty, the so-called Joint Committee, co-chaired by the European Commission and the Secretariat, will serve as an opportunity for cooperation, exchange of information and knowledge and mutual consultation.

In the same framework, based on the model of the European Competition Network, the Secretariat will set up a consultation mechanism between the national enforcement authorities on the one hand and the European Commission and the Secretariat on the other hand, to ensure swift guidance to ensure effective and consistent enforcement of the prohibitions enshrined in Article 18 of the Treaty. This mechanism shall enable competition and State aid authorities to inform each other of ongoing investigations and proposed decisions and take comments from the other authorities on board to pool their experience and identify best practices.

The activities related to competition law further include review and assistance in implementation of legislation and contracts needed for the promotion of decarbonisation, in particular renewables, including power purchase agreements and contract for difference. The Secretariat, during the next budget period, will continue providing assistance and ensuring knowledge sharing of best practices with the Contracting Parties relevant for organising auctions, which are increasingly replacing the administrative awarding of state support for renewable energy, and the drafting/review of a compliant contractual framework.

3. Statistics Authorities

Acquis on energy statistics incorporates all aspects of Regulation (EC) 1099/2008 on energy statistics, adapted for the Energy Community Contracting Parties, Directive (EU) 2016/1952 on natural gas and electricity prices, and Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/803 concerning the technical requirements regarding the content of quality reports on European statistics on natural gas and electricity prices pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2016/1952. With the amendments of the Energy Statistics Regulation until 2022 incorporated in the Energy Community acquis and the latest 2024 amendment expected to be incorporated in 2025, the energy statistics of the Contracting Parties are an essential tool for measuring implementation and compliance with the policy objectives and targets set by relevant decisions of the Ministerial Council based on comparable indicators and methodologies, following the respective EU rules.

For the upcoming period, priority tasks include monitoring the novelties introduced with the 2022 and 2024 amendments of Regulation (EC) 1099/2008 on energy statistics as implementing the Clean Energy Package demands additional data to track the green transition, reflecting an ongoing trend toward more granular energy statistics. In this context, a key challenge for National Statistical Institutions (NSIs) in the Contracting Parties will be producing high-quality, disaggregated statistics for the transport and services sectors – an already mandatory task that most currently lacks the capacity to fulfil. Furthermore, comprehensive data submissions for biomass, combined heat and power, district heating and cooling, hydrogen, and other energy categories essential to the green transition will be required.

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The Secretariat will continue supporting the Contracting Parties in implementing the new legislation during 2026-2027. The goal remains to ensure that official energy statistics from the Contracting Parties are transmitted to and published by EUROSTAT, adhering to quality standards such as accuracy, timeliness, punctuality, and coherence. This compliance will align with Regulation (EU) 1099/2008, the ESS (European Statistical System) Standard for Quality Reports, and the International Recommendations for Energy Statistics (IRES), effectively meeting the needs of policymakers, stakeholders, and consumers. Additionally, the Secretariat will support projects within the Contracting Parties to achieve these objectives.

The statistics authorities of the Contracting Parties are expected to actively enhance their data collection and reporting systems to meet the data submission requirements. When necessary, the Secretariat will provide technical support to help Contracting Parties develop methodologies for new data collections. Alongside the EUROSTAT Energy Statistics Working Group, in which all Contracting Parties NSIs participate, the Secretariat will continue fostering collaboration through knowledge-sharing initiatives and promoting best practices. This will be achieved through annual meetings and capacity-building efforts aligned with the interests of national energy statistics coordinators.



V. COORDINATION OF DONORS' ACTIVITIES

1. Implementation of NECPs

The Secretariat will enhance its role in assisting in the coordination by the European Commission of donors and mobilizing sustainable financing options to support the energy transition in the Contracting Parties. A central focus will be ensuring the alignment of financial institutions' policies with the Energy Community acquis and the policy directions established within the Energy Community framework. The Secretariat will actively engage, within the limits of its mandate under the Treaty, international financial institutions, bilateral donors, and private investors to de-risk investments by promoting innovative financing mechanisms and addressing market barriers.

It will further streamline the role of National Energy and Climate Plans as strategic blueprints for investment planning, guiding public and private financing toward decarbonization. These efforts aim to create a cohesive financing ecosystem that accelerates the implementation of energy and climate priorities while maintaining consistency with the Energy Community's legal and policy frameworks.

As we continue to address Ukraine's pressing energy challenges and long-term recovery needs, the adopted National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP) serves as a vital blueprint for achieving, on one hand, decarbonization, and on the other, green rebuilding, supported by donor consensus over key strategic priorities. Secretariat will continue to ensure a coherent and credible process of monitoring and reporting on progress in achieving NECP goals and prepare Ukraine to start drafting a new NECP for the period 2030-2040.

Moreover, through the Ukraine Energy Support Fund (UESF), the Energy Community Secretariat will actively align resources and initiatives to support these objectives, focusing on projects that inter alia enhance grid resilience, integrate renewable energy, and bolster energy storage solutions.

2. Providing Support to Donors in Ukraine

a. The Ukraine Energy Support Fund

Since the Russian war against Ukraine, the Energy Community Secretariat, upon direct request of the Ministry of Energy of Ukraine, has been coordinating activities in order to ensure availability of necessary support required to keep the Energy System of Ukraine operating in a

stable manner. It has established the Ukraine Energy Support Fund (“the Fund”) which matches available funds and demand for urgently needed equipment, fuel, services and capital inflow based on trilateral or bilateral grant and fiduciary agreements, stipulating the rights and obligations of donors, the Ministry of Energy of Ukraine and the Secretariat as fiduciary of the funds. Until the end of 2024, the Fund has accumulated almost EUR 1,1 billion in contributions from 30 different donors.

The Secretariat’s activities in implementing the Fund include:

- promotion of the Fund to attract new donations,
- negotiation and conclusion of grant and fiduciary agreements with donors and the Ministry of Energy of Ukraine,
- overseeing and reviewing compliance of the process of selecting and approving requests for support by Ukrainian energy companies through the Ministry of Energy of Ukraine
- the process of procuring the items/services through the external procurement agent,
- management of concluded contracts, including internal control-, and reconciliation processes
- disbursing funds in line with the contractual framework,
- tracking deliveries and monitoring the use of the items procured under the Fund, and,
- reporting and auditing.

The above detailed duties of the Energy Community Secretariat via the Fund as fiduciary, will be partly financed by extra budgetary contributions and donations from the contributors to the Fund.

b. The Ukraine Energy Market Observatory

The Ukraine Energy Market Observatory was established by the Secretariat in 2023 as a tool to showcase to donors and investors developments under the Treaty amid the ongoing war in Ukraine. It aims to bridge the transparency gap in Ukraine due to martial law by informing external partners and potential investors about regulatory changes that affect doing business in Ukraine. It focuses on the identification and analysis of legal and regulatory issues in the energy sector of Ukraine and the comprehensive assessment (i.e., going beyond the assessment of compliance with the EnC/EU acquis) of their actual or potential impacts on the energy market and market participants, such as consumers, companies, and any other entities active in the market. It covers associated regulatory and legal framework in Ukraine, e.g., acts of the Parliament, Government, NRA, Ministries, etc.

The Observatory is a non-periodic publication, driven by the importance of topics and issues as they arise over time. It is published on the Energy Community web site, accompanied by a

press release / news item if needed. For more information check the Ukraine Energy Market Observatory dedicated page on the Energy Community website.

The Observatory will continue to track developments in Ukraine's energy sector and decarbonisation policy as the key tool to promote transparency, while respecting confidentiality of information. It will continue to provide recommendations to Ukrainian policy makers on reflecting the best regulatory practices and the legislative framework in the Energy Community and the European Union, and vice versa - identify energy regulatory practices in Ukraine that could serve as inspiration for regulators and policy makers elsewhere.

c. Cross-Border Sustainable Renewable Energy Acceleration

In line with the Ministerial Council Recommendation 2024/1/MC-EnC on accelerating renewable energy deployment and implementing the energy efficiency first principle, and taking into account the renewable energy financing mechanisms outlined in Article 33 of Government Regulation 2018/199, as adapted and adopted by the Energy Community, the Secretariat implements a project “Cross-Border Sustainable Renewable Energy Acceleration in Ukraine - Mapping Synergy Renewable Energy Acceleration Areas between Ukraine, EU Member States, and Moldova” with financial support from the European Climate Foundation. It is managed and coordinated by the Legal Unit and logistically and technically supported by the Project Management Unit (PM Unit) within the Secretariat, as well as the Secretariat's Kyiv office. The overall objective of the Project is to support the identification and mapping of Renewables Acceleration Areas in five key Ukrainian oblasts: Lviv, Zakarpattia, Ivano-Frankivsk, Chernivtsi, and Vinnytsia, focused on areas with cross-border renewable energy potential with EU Member States and Moldova.

The project will conduct comprehensive research on renewable energy resources, infrastructure, and environmental constraints in these regions. Additionally, it will engage with various stakeholders, develop criteria for identifying potential acceleration areas, and create detailed maps.

The main deliverables include criteria for Renewables Acceleration Areas, addressing environmental constraints and renewable energy potential, including infrastructure readiness and cross-border potential. A technical and market analysis report, GIS maps integrating environmental, social, and energy data, and a step-by-step implementation roadmap and action plan will also be provided to guide execution.

d. Biomethane Sector Development

The Project “Supporting the Ukrainian Biomethane Sector Development” was launched in November 2024, financed by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland acting through the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO). It is managed, coordinated and logistically supported by the Project Management Unit (PM Unit) within the Secretariat.

The purpose of the grant is to provide the Secretariat with assistance to strengthen the energy security of Ukraine and alleviate the effects of Russia’s war on the population of Ukraine by supporting the Secretariat’s activities in Ukraine, namely enhancing energy efficiency, promoting green energy projects of interest and diversify green energy resources available for the population in Ukraine including bioenergy which will help to stabilise Ukraine’s energy system following Russia’s war against Ukraine. The Secretariat activities in this regard include biomethane development.

In terms of concrete activities, the project aims at development of analytical notes, elaborating raw materials which have not been yet in use of biomethane production in Ukraine, namely: intermediate/cover crops, ligno-cellulose materials and micro-algae harvested on digestate of biogas plants. The results of three analytical notes will be included in on-line biomethane production educational programs for farmers. The aim is to include wide range of participants across Ukraine. Finally, the project aims at advocating for regulatory reforms and conducting targeted awareness campaigns to empower and modernize the Ukrainian energy sector.

3. Providing Support to Donors in Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia

The EU4Energy Governance Project was launched by the European Union in June 2016, as part of its Regional Action Programme – East. It aims at supporting the elaboration and implementation of evidence-based, medium to long term energy policies in Eastern Partnership countries, based on sharing the best practice and EU experience. Currently the action is in phase II+. The project is financed by a grant agreement concluded with the European Commission and has an end date on 30.11.2026.

Implementation of Project activities is managed, coordinated and logistically supported by the Project Management Unit (PM Unit) within the Secretariat. In addition, regional project offices established by the Energy Community in Kyiv, Chisinau and Tbilisi ensure smooth implementation of the action. The Secretariat’s staff assists the PM Unit with expertise and use of its resources, in line with the contracts between the Energy Community and DG NEAR,

according to the Description of Action and Work Programme. Currently the Secretariat is implementing Phase II+ Grant Contract for EU4Energy Governance.

The overall objective of the EU4Energy Governance Project Phase II+ is:

- the clean energy transition (Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine),
- increased energy security in three Eastern partner countries (Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine)
- access to energy for the Ukrainian distressed population to mitigate the impact of the war.

4. Providing Support to Donors in Western Balkans

a. Berlin Process and the Green Agenda for Western Balkans

The Secretariat will play a central role in advancing the energy and climate transition in the context of the Berlin Process. A key aspect of its work will involve close cooperation with other regional organizations such as CEFTA, RCC, and the Transport Community to ensure a coordinated approach to sustainable development. By collaborating on cross-sectoral initiatives, the Secretariat will help to align energy, trade, transport, and climate objectives, promote regional connectivity, and enhance the overall resilience and sustainability of the region. These efforts will include facilitating the adoption of decarbonization strategies, supporting energy security, and providing technical and policy guidance to achieve the region's green transition goals.

b. Clean Air Regions Initiative

The Secretariat has placed a specific focus on regions where citizens are most affected by poor air quality through the launch of the Clean Air Regions Initiative. The Secretariat supported participating municipalities with smart sensors for the monitoring of particulate matter and the successful implementation of this initiative will continue and potentially broaden in close cooperation with relevant stakeholders.

These efforts will contribute to the evaluation of the incorporation of the Air Quality Directive into the Energy Community acquis and to identify opportunities for further advancements in addressing local air pollution.

VI. CROSS-CUTTING ACTIVITIES

1. Communication and Stakeholder Engagement

The Energy Community Secretariat's communication strategy for 2026-2027 will center on reinforcing its leadership in energy transition and market integration, while effectively engaging stakeholders and promoting its strategic goals. Building on the 2025 logo launch, this strategy will align messaging with the Secretariat's core mission, emphasizing transparency, collaboration, and measurable impact through compelling storytelling and impactful narratives. To this end, the Secretariat will conduct the following communication activities:

- **Brand Consistency:** Ensure the new logo is seamlessly integrated across all communications—publications, events, and digital platforms—to reinforce the Secretariat's identity and mission.
- **Thematic Campaigns:** Launch annual campaigns focused on strategic priorities such as decarbonization, energy market integration, and support for Ukraine, using storytelling to highlight the human and environmental impacts of these efforts.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:**
 - Facilitate ongoing dialogue with Contracting Parties, donors, institutional partners, media, and academia through workshops, forums, and consultations.
 - Cultivate relationships with media outlets, academic institutions, and think tanks to amplify the Secretariat's reach and impact.
 - Ensure the accurate representation of the Secretariat's work in the media, fostering coverage that reflects its key initiatives and the stories behind them.
 - Partner with academic institutions to support research, promote innovation, and contribute to policy debates aligned with the Secretariat's goals.
- **Digital Presence:** Regularly update the website and social media platforms with relevant, engaging content, incorporating storytelling and visuals that highlight the Secretariat's achievements and humanize its work.
- **Publications:** Distribute reports, case studies, and brochures that not only communicate progress but also tell the story behind the Secretariat's initiatives, showcasing the tangible impact of its work.
- **Monitoring and Feedback:**

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- Conduct media monitoring and public opinion surveys to assess the effectiveness of communication efforts, use feedback to refine strategies and ensure that narratives continue to resonate with audiences.
- This communication approach will ensure that the Secretariat's work from 2026 to 2027 is effectively promoted, fostering engagement with key stakeholders and advancing the Energy Community's mission for a sustainable, integrated energy future. Through visuals, storytelling and impactful narratives, the Secretariat will deepen its connection with stakeholders and amplify its role in shaping energy policy and systems.

2. Environmental and Social Responsibility

With the next external audits due in 2025 and 2027, the Secretariat is committed to maintaining and improving its environmental performance through recertification with the Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS, certified since 2021). The Secretariat's environmental management system in place builds on a policy, manual, numerous procedures, instructions and records, including an ongoing environmental programme that turns the policy principles into targets and actions. To ensure continuous improvement the system embeds annual internal audits and regular management reviews with the director.

In addition to facilitating Treaty implementation, the Secretariat is uniquely positioned to engage and influence a diverse range of stakeholders through supportive activities such as events, procurement, and targeted communication initiatives. Recognizing the importance of leading by example, the initial focus of EMAS has been on enhancing internal practices before offering concrete recommendations to Contracting Parties and other stakeholders. As the environmental management system continues to mature, the emphasis will increasingly be on sharing the Secretariat's EMAS journey and fostering change through exemplary actions. The EMAS environmental programme 2026-2027 will see an increasing number of outreach events and actions targeting the Secretariat's value chain. The team will also intensify talks with the landlord to carry out energy efficiency measures (cooling / heating) at building level at Am Hof 4.

The EMAS team will also progressively integrate sustainability into its core business strategy during the upcoming budget period. By incorporating ISO 26000 guidelines on social responsibility into its environmental management system, the Secretariat will address not only environmental concerns but also social, ethical, and governance responsibilities. This expanded approach will enhance the organization's reputation, strengthen stakeholder trust, and reinforce its commitment to sustainable development. By the 2027 external audit at the

latest, the EMAS Statement will evolve into a comprehensive sustainability report, reflecting these broader initiatives and demonstrating tangible progress.

3. Internal Audit

The Internal Audit function is responsible for providing independent and objective assurance on governance, risk management, and control processes. This is achieved through a structured audit process that examines the financial, compliance, and performance aspects of the Secretariat's activities. By evaluating these areas, the Secretariat's internal audit programme enhances transparency, accountability, and operational efficiency, supporting the organisation's commitment to high standards in administration and its sectoral goals in the energy domain.

Financial Audit

The Financial Audit within the Internal Audit function focuses on the Secretariat's finance sector, ensuring that financial statements and records are accurate, complete, and conform to generally accepted accounting principles and other relevant regulations. This audit examines the integrity and reliability of financial reporting, the appropriateness of expenditures, and the effectiveness of financial controls. It ensures that financial transactions are recorded accurately and that financial resources are used appropriately, safeguarding the organization's assets. Additionally, it verifies that budget allocations and expenditures align with the organization's strategic goals and legal requirements. Through financial audits, the Secretariat maintains accountability for its financial management and assures stakeholders of the soundness of its financial practices.

Compliance Audit

Compliance Audits at the Secretariat focus on evaluating whether administrative functions, particularly in areas such as procurement, human resources, and regulatory compliance, adhere to internal policies, procedures, and applicable laws. This type of audit assesses the organization's compliance with regulations governing procurement processes, contractual obligations, and internal governance policies. By doing so, the Compliance Audit ensures that operations are conducted in a legal and ethical manner, minimizing the risk of legal issues and promoting trust in the Secretariat's practices. This audit function also reinforces the organization's commitment to ethical standards and transparency, fostering a culture of accountability and due diligence across all administrative processes.

Performance Audit

Performance Audits focus on assessing the efficiency, effectiveness, and economy of specific operational units, with a particular emphasis on the Energy Community Secretariat's core energy sector functions. This audit examines how well various energy sector units, such as those involved in electricity, gas, renewables, and energy efficiency, achieve their objectives and contribute to the organization's mission. Performance Audits evaluate the adequacy of resource allocation, the effectiveness of operational processes, and the achievement of strategic energy goals. By identifying areas for improvement, this audit enhances the Secretariat's ability to meet its mandate in fostering cooperation among member countries and supporting sustainable energy policies. Performance Audits ensure that the organization's resources are being used optimally to achieve its energy sector objectives and meet stakeholder expectations.

4. Administration, Finance, Human Resources and General Services

With the purpose of implementing this work programme, the Secretariat will cope with its multiple administrative tasks in the areas of budget, accounting, financial management, reporting, office administration and security, facilities management, procurement, auditing, supply management, information technology (IT), physical and IT security on the basis of an efficiently coordinated use of the handicap minimal human and financial resources. The implementation of these tasks requires a holistic approach, maximising usage of the resources and creating synergies with increasing back-office administrative and financial demands and reinforcing the internal control mechanisms.

Distant administrative support will continue to be provided for staff working in Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia.

Outside of the core budget funding, the organisation must rely on non-core (extra-budgetary) financial and human resources, including continuing outsourcing of some administrative services to enable an adequate level of service for stakeholders.

a. Event management

In terms of events, the Secretariat normally organizes 132 meetings each year, thereby providing administrative support to the institutions as required under the Treaty (Article 67a) - for a full, indicative list of events, please refer to Appendix 1. The interest, need and demand for such types of activities as an effective platform to deliver organisational objectives and mandate continues increasing. A significant number of events takes place at the headquarters

of the Energy Community in Vienna, which contributes to the efficiency of costs harvesting on previous investments made over the past years.

In the period 2026-2027, not only will the number of events increase but also the nature of the meetings will be delivered mostly in hybrid format rather than doing it online or in person exclusively. The Secretariat will continue to work closely with organisers to select the most cost effective and efficient way to achieve meeting objectives, fostering online connections, platforms and self-service for organisers and relying on technical IT support from external consultants.

b. Travel and reimbursement

The costs for travelers (both for the Secretariat's staff mission and for participants of different events organised and sponsored by the Energy Community) needs to be aligned to the increased work scope, constant annual cost increase for air-travel and accommodation, and the need to reduce carbon emissions from business travel. Smart administrative management, including limiting the number of staff attending the same event, fostering online participation and advanced travel planning will continue to be applied to manage these budget positions' expenditure. Using professional external Travel Management Company for ticketing utilising fully online platform and e-ticketing is seen as an effective business model. Self-service travel arrangement by external participants of the events followed by reimbursement with close monitoring of costs would continue to be practiced as cost-efficient and working approach.

c. Human resources

The Secretariat's staff is and will be increasingly engaged in cross-unit cooperation projects.

With the significant increase in staffing level, the Secretariat will ensure professional management of the HR resources enabling comfortable working conditions, the ability to work from home and provide reasonable care contribution to the well-being of its staff and work-life balance. HR management includes administration, payroll, recruitment, employment contracts management, staff development, mentoring, knowledge transfer and coordination, mediation, training, and prevention and resolution of conflicts.

The Energy Community will continue to offer an internship/secondment scheme to young professionals and/or graduates in accordance with the applicable legal and financial framework of the Secretariat.

d. Financial management

There are opportunities in assessment, development and deployment of modern technologies including modernisation and integration of different IT-tools and administrative and data management platforms currently used by the organisation, based on budgetary availability. It can include, but not limited to the business process reengineering, AI-tools incorporation, process transformation and digitalisation, secure data transfer between existing IT-platforms what will allow us to mitigate existing risks, optimise processes, increase efficiencies and automate repetitive tasks.

Advance financial planning, budget and expenditure monitoring, budget and cash-floor forecasting, accurate daily accounting and monthly reporting, prompt 4-eyes principle of financial control applying risk-matrix will continue to be used aiming efficient and compliant allocation of available financial resources in the optimal manner.

e. Procurement and Supply

The potential and opportunities are laid down in looking to the existing procurement policy dated 2019, increasing the trash-hold of low-value procurement, further standardisation of assets and management of assets, more thorough sourcing, better contract management of corporate long-term administrative contracts, strategic planning and multi-year partnership with external service providers selected on competitive basis.

Procurement will be conducted in accordance with the established procurement guidance to ensure the best value for money, including, but not limited to implementation of audit recommendations. Regular evaluation of administrative contracts, timely retendering and annual planning implemented using procurement annual plan tool should enable delivery of goods and services required for the program implementation.

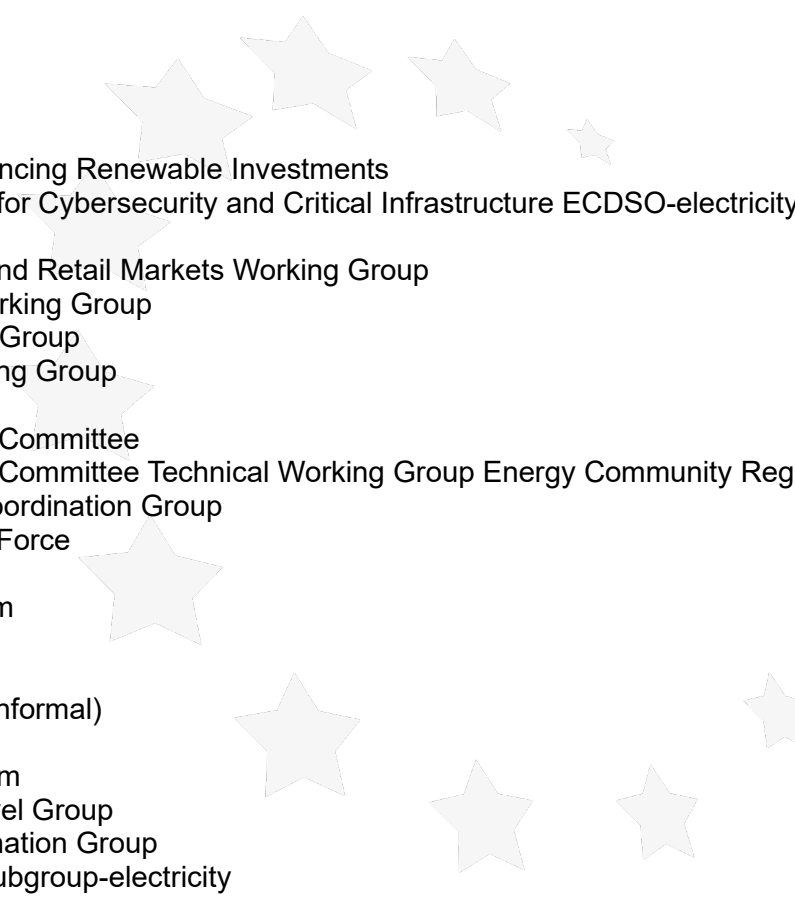
Timely initiation and planned replacement of fully depreciated assets, including upgrading the existing furniture to ergonomic for all personnel will continue to be pursued.

f. General Services

Continuing outsourcing some administrative services like office cleaning, IT, information security, accounting support tasks and facilities management maintenance and repairs will continue to be in place and is found an efficient and cost-effective way to provide required statutory functions enabling quality services for internal and external stakeholders. Previous investments in physical office security and planned multi-years CAPEX investments in the IT security infrastructure will be an important contribution to the seamless functioning of the organisation.

APPENDIX 1

Annex 1. List of Institutional Events



Advisory Committee
Budget Committee
Conference on Advancing Renewable Investments
Coordination Group for Cybersecurity and Critical Infrastructure ECDSO-electricity
ECDSO-gas
ECRB Consumers and Retail Markets Working Group
ECRB Electricity Working Group
ECRB Gas Working Group
ECRB REMIT Working Group
Electricity Forum
Energy and Climate Committee
Energy and Climate Committee Technical Working Group Energy Community Regulatory Board
Energy Efficiency Coordination Group
Environmental Task Force
Gas Forum
Just Transition Forum
Law Forum
Ministerial Council
Ministerial Council (informal)
Oil Forum
Parliamentary Plenum
Permanent High-Level Group
Renewables Coordination Group
Security of Supply subgroup-electricity
Security of Supply subgroup-gas

APPENDIX 2

List of Secretariat's Monitoring and Reporting Obligations

I. ELECTRICITY DIRECTIVES, REGULATIONS NETWORK CODES AND GUIDELINES.	ARTICLE	REPORTING (what / when)
<p>DIRECTIVE (EU) 2019/944 of 5 June 2019 on common rules for the internal market for electricity</p>	Article 5(10)	By 31 December 2028, the Energy Community Secretariat shall review and submit a report to the Ministerial Council on the implementation of this Article for the purpose of achieving market-based retail pricing of electricity < ... >.
	Article 29	The Energy Community Secretariat shall provide guidance on the definition of 'significant number of households in energy poverty' in this context and in the context of Article 5(5), starting from the premise that any proportion of households in energy poverty can be considered to be significant.
	Article 43(9)	Before an undertaking is approved and designated as a transmission system operator under paragraph 8 of this Article, it shall be certified in accordance with the procedures laid down in Article 52(4), (5), and (6) of this Directive and in Article 51 of Regulation (EU) 2019/943 as adopted and adapted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC, pursuant to which the Energy Community Secretariat shall verify that the arrangements in place clearly guarantee more effective independence of the transmission system operator than Section 3 of this Chapter.
	Article 44(1)	Where the transmission system belongs to a vertically integrated undertaking on 3 September 2009, Contracting Parties may decide not to apply Article 43(1) and designate an independent system operator upon a proposal from the transmission system owner. Such designation shall be subject to opinion of the Energy Community Secretariat.
	Article 53(6)	The Energy Community Secretariat shall examine the request referred to in paragraph 5 as soon as it is received. Within two months of receiving the request, it shall deliver its opinion to the regulatory authority or, if the request was made

		<p>by the designated competent authority, to that authority.</p> <p>In preparing the opinion, the Energy Community Secretariat may request the views of the Energy Community Regulatory Board, the Contracting Party concerned, and interested parties. In the event that the Energy Community Secretariat makes such a request, the two-month period shall be extended by two months.</p> <p>In the absence of an opinion by the Energy Community Secretariat within the period referred to in the first and second subparagraphs, the Energy Community Secretariat shall be deemed not to raise objections to the decision of the regulatory authority.</p>
	Article 57(7)	By 5 July 2022 and every four years thereafter, the Energy Community Secretariat shall submit a report to the Ministerial Council on the compliance of national authorities with the principle of independence set out in this Article
	Article 63(5)(6)	<p>5. Where the Energy Community Secretariat, within two months of having been informed by the Energy Community Regulatory Board in accordance with paragraph 3, or by a regulatory authority in accordance with paragraph 4, or, on its own initiative, within three months of the date of the decision, finds that the decision of a regulatory authority raises serious doubts as to its compatibility with the network</p> <p>codes and guidelines referred to in this Directive or in Chapter VII of Regulation (EU) 2019/943 as adopted and adapted by Ministerial Council Decision 2022/03/MC-EnC, the Energy Community Secretariat may < ... > examine the case further. In such a case, it shall invite the regulatory authority and the parties to the proceedings before the regulatory authority to submit observations.</p> <p>6. Where the Energy Community Secretariat < ... > examines the case further, it shall, within four months of the date of such decision, issue a final decision:</p> <p>(a) not to raise objections against the decision of the regulatory authority; or</p>

		<p>(b) to invite the regulatory authority concerned to withdraw its decision on the basis that network codes and guidelines have not been complied with.</p>
	Article 65(2)(3)	<p>2. The measures referred to in paragraph 1 shall be proportionate, non-discriminatory and transparent. Those measures may be put into effect only following the notification to and approval by the Energy Community Secretariat.</p> <p>3. The Energy Community Secretariat shall act on the notification referred to in paragraph 2 within two months of the receipt of the notification. That period shall begin on the day after receipt of the complete information. In the event that the Energy Community Secretariat has not acted within that two-month period, it shall be deemed not to have raised objections to the notified measures.</p>
	Article 69(1)(2)	<p>The Energy Community Secretariat shall monitor and review the implementation of this Directive and shall submit a progress report to the Ministerial Council as an annex to the State of the Energy Union Report referred to in Article 35 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2021/14/MC-EnC.</p> <p>By 31 December 2025, the Energy Community Secretariat shall review the implementation of this Directive and shall submit a report to the Ministerial Council.</p>
REGULATION (EU) 2019/943 of 5 June 2019 on the internal market for electricity	Article 14(2)	The Secretariat shall coordinate the contributions of the TSOs concerned to the report on structural congestions and other major physical congestions between and within bidding zones, including the location and frequency of such congestions.
	Article 14(8)	As a measure of last resort, the Energy Community Regulatory Board and after consulting the Energy Community Secretariat, shall adopt a decision whether to amend or maintain the bidding zone configuration in and between those Contracting Parties by six months after receipt of such a notification.
	Article 15(5)	The Energy Community Secretariat, as a last resort and after consulting the Agency for the

		<p>Cooperation of Energy Regulators, the Energy Community Regulatory Board and the relevant stakeholders shall adopt a decision whether to amend or maintain the bidding zone configuration in and</p> <p>between those Contracting Parties within six months of receipt of notification from the Contracting parties, if they fail to reach a unanimous decision within the timeframe laid down.</p>
	Article 20(5)	<p>Within four months of receipt of the implementation plan, the Energy Community Secretariat shall issue an opinion on whether the measures are sufficient to eliminate the regulatory distortions or market failures that were identified pursuant to paragraph 2, and may invite the Contracting Parties to amend their implementation plans accordingly.</p>
	Article 20(7)	<p>The Energy Community Secretariat shall issue an opinion on whether the implementation plans have been sufficiently implemented and whether the resource adequacy concern has been resolved.</p>
	Article 21(5)	<p>The Energy Community Secretariat shall issue an opinion, as referred to in Article 20(5) of REGULATION (EU) 2019/943, adapted for the Energy Community, towards the Contracting Parties' implementation plan, as referred to in Article 20(3). The Contracting Parties shall not introduce capacity mechanisms prior receiving the opinion of the Secretariat on the implementation plan.</p>
	Article 23(2)	<p>The Energy Community Secretariat shall participate in consultations with ENTSO-E and the TSOs of the Contracting Parties, prior the conduction of the European resource adequacy assessment.</p>
	Article 24(3)	<p>The Energy Community Secretariat shall provide an opinion on whether the difference between the national resource adequacy assessment and the European resource adequacy assessment are justified (should it be the case), within four months of the date of the receipt of the relevant report. When preparing its opinion, the Energy Community Secretariat shall request the Energy</p>

		Community Regulatory Board to provide its opinion on the report and shall consult the Agency for Cooperation of Energy Regulators.
	Article 51(1)	<p>The Energy Community Secretariat shall examine any notification of a decision on the certification of a transmission system operator as laid down in Article 52(6) of Directive (EU) 2019/944, as adopted and adapted by Ministerial Council Decision 2021/13/MC-EnC as soon as it is received. Within two months of receipt of such notification, the Energy Community Secretariat shall deliver its opinion to</p> <p>the relevant regulatory authority as to its compatibility with Article 43 and either Article 52(2) or Article 53 of Directive (EU) 2019/944.</p>
	Article 51(5)	Where the Energy Community Secretariat has received notification of the certification of a transmission system operator under Article 43(9) of Directive (EU) 2019/944, as adapted and adopted by the Ministerial Council Decision 2021/13/MC-EnC, the Energy Community Secretariat shall issue an opinion relating to certification.
	Article 52(1)	The Energy Community Secretariat shall represent the Energy Community Distribution System Operators in all activities aimed to enhance the cooperation with the EU DSO entity established in accordance with Regulation (EU) 943/2019.
	Article 52(8)	The Energy Community Secretariat may issue an opinion within 50 working days of the day following that of receipt of notification under paragraph 7 of Article 52 of Directive (EU) 2019/944, as adapted and adopted by the Ministerial Council Decision 2021/13/MC-EnC.
	Article 65(1)	The Energy Community Secretariat shall set a reasonable time limit within which the information is to be provided, taking into account the complexity and urgency of the information required.
	Article 65(2)	The Energy Community Secretariat may request all the information necessary for the purpose of enforcing this Regulation directly from the undertakings concerned if the Contracting Party

		<p>or the regulatory authority concerned does not provide the information referred to in paragraph 1 within the time limit referred to in paragraph 1 of Article 65 of Directive (EU) 2019/944, as adapted and adopted by the Ministerial Council Decision 2021/13/MC-EnC.</p>
	<p>Article 65(5)</p>	<p>The Energy Community Secretariat may request the Contracting Party concerned to require the information to be provided. That request shall specify what information is required and set an appropriate time limit within which it is to be supplied. It shall indicate an appropriate proposal for penalties provided for in Article 66 of Directive (EU) 2019/944, as adapted and adopted by the Ministerial Council Decision 2021/13/MC-EnC, where an undertaking does not provide the information requested within the time limit set by the Energy Community Secretariat or supplies incomplete information.</p>
<p>REGULATION (EU) 2019/941 of 5 June 2019 on risk-preparedness in the electricity sector and repealing Directive 2005/89/EC .</p>	<p>Article 18(4)</p>	<p>By 1 September 2028, the Energy Community Secretariat shall, on the basis of the experience gained in the application of this Regulation, evaluate the possible means by which to enhance security of electricity supply at Energy Community level and submit a report to the Ministerial Council on the application of this Regulation, including, where necessary, legislative proposals to amend this Regulation.</p>
<p>COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) 2016/1719 of 26 September 2016 establishing a guideline on forward capacity allocation</p>	<p>Article 63(1)</p>	<p>The Energy Community Secretariat shall monitor the implementation of forward capacity allocation and the establishment of single allocation platform in accordance with this Regulation. Monitoring shall cover in particular the following matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. the progress and potential problems with the implementation of forward capacity allocation, including fair and transparent access for market participants to long-term transmission rights; b. the effectiveness of the methodologies for splitting long-term cross-zonal capacity in accordance with Article 16; c. the report on capacity calculation and allocation in accordance with Article 26;

		d. the effectiveness of the operation of the forward capacity allocation and the single allocation platform.
COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) 2015/1222 of 24 July 2015 establishing a guideline on capacity allocation and congestion management	Article 82(2)	Monitoring of the implementation of the Contracting Party integration into single day-ahead and intraday coupling by the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators, acting in accordance with Article 2 of Procedural Act No 2022/01/MC, shall be performed in coordination with the Energy Community Secretariat.
COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) 2017/2195 of 23 November 2017 establishing a guideline on electricity balancing	Article 63(1)	The Secretariat shall monitor the implementation of this Regulation by the Contracting Parties.
COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) 2017/1485 of 2 August 2017 establishing a guideline on electricity transmission system operation	Article 14(1)	ENTSO for Electricity acting in accordance with Article 3 of Procedural Act No 2022/01/MC- EnC shall monitor the implementation of this Regulation in the areas covered by this paragraph. To the extent the monitoring covers Contracting Parties located outside the Continental Europe synchronous area or not being member of ENTSO for Electricity, the Energy Community Secretariat shall collect data from the relevant transmission system operators.
COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) 2017/2196 of 24 November 2017 establishing a network code on electricity emergency and restoration	Article 52(1)	ENTSOE-E acting in accordance with Article 3 of Procedural Act No 2022/01/MC- EnC, shall monitor the implementation of this Regulation in the areas covered by this paragraph. To the extent the monitoring covers Contracting Parties located outside the Continental Europe synchronous area or not being member of ENTSO for Electricity, the Energy Community Secretariat shall collect data from the relevant transmission system operators.
REGULATION (EU) 2016/631 of 14 April 2016 establishing a network code on requirements for grid connection of generators	Article 59(1)	The Secretariat and ECRB shall monitor the implementation of the Regulation. As of 12 July 2021, on annual basis - frequency not defined
	Article 65	The Secretariat and ECRB shall monitor the procedure of granting derogations from the Regulation by Contracting Parties' regulators. As of 12 July 2021, on annual basis - frequency not defined

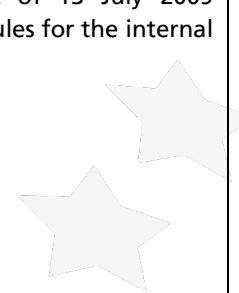
	Article 76(1)	The Secretariat and ECRB shall monitor the implementation of the Regulation. As of 12 July 2021, on annual basis - frequency not defined.
	Article 83	The Secretariat and ECRB shall monitor the procedure of granting derogations from the Regulation by Contracting Parties' regulators. As of 12 July 2021, on annual basis - frequency not defined.
	Article 57(1)	The Secretariat and ECRB shall monitor the implementation of the Regulation. As of 12 July 2021, on annual basis - frequency not defined.
	Article 55	The Secretariat and ECRB shall monitor the procedure of granting derogations from the Regulation by Contracting Parties' regulators
REGULATION (EU) 2016/1388 of 17 August 2016 establishing a network code on demand connection	Article 55(1)	The Secretariat and the Energy Community Regulatory Board shall monitor the procedure of granting derogations with the cooperation of the regulatory authorities or relevant authorities of the Contracting Party. Those authorities or relevant authorities of the Contracting Party shall provide the Secretariat and Energy Community Regulatory Board with all the information necessary for that purpose.
	Article 57 (1)	ENTSO for Electricity shall monitor the implementation of this Regulation for the Contracting Parties whose TSOs are members of ENTSO for Electricity. The Secretariat and the Energy Community Regulatory Board shall monitor the implementation of this Regulation for the Contracting Parties whose TSOs are not members of ENTSO for Electricity... Monitoring shall take into account the list of relevant information developed by the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators and it shall cover in particular the following matters: (a) identification of any divergences in the national implementation of this Regulation; (b) assessment of whether the choice of values and ranges in the requirements applicable to transmission-connected demand facilities, transmission-connected distribution facilities,

		<p>distribution systems and demand units under this Regulation continues to be valid.</p> <p>ENTSO for Electricity shall report its findings to the Secretariat and the Energy Community Regulatory Board. The Secretariat and the Energy Community Regulatory Board shall make available the findings stemming from the monitoring of the implementation of this Regulation.</p>
<p>REGULATION (EU) 2016/1447 of 26 August 2016 establishing a network code on requirements for grid connection of high voltage direct current systems and direct current-connected power park modules</p>	<p>Article 76(1)</p>	<p>ENTSO for Electricity shall monitor the implementation of this Regulation for the Contracting Parties whose TSOs are members of ENTSO for Electricity. The Secretariat and the Energy Community Regulatory Board shall monitor the implementation of this Regulation for the Contracting Parties whose TSOs are not members of ENTSO for Electricity <...>. Monitoring shall take into account the list of relevant information developed by the Agency for the</p> <p>Cooperation of Energy Regulators and it shall cover in particular the following matters:</p> <p>(a) identification of any divergences in the national implementation of this Regulation;</p> <p>(b) assessment of whether the choice of values and ranges in the requirements applicable to HVDC systems and DC-connected power park modules under this Regulation continues to be valid.</p> <p>ENTSO for Electricity shall report its findings to the Secretariat and the Energy Community Regulatory Board. The Secretariat and the Energy Community Regulatory Board shall make available the findings stemming from the monitoring of the implementation of this Regulation.</p>
	<p>Article 83(1)</p>	<p>The Energy Community Regulatory Board and the Secretariat shall monitor the procedure of granting derogations with the cooperation of the regulatory authorities or relevant authorities of the Contracting Party. Those authorities or relevant authorities of the Contracting Party shall provide the Energy Community Regulatory Board</p>

		and the Secretariat with all the information necessary for that purpose.
REGULATION (EU) 2019/941 of 5 June 2019 on risk-preparedness in the electricity sector	Article 10(7)	The competent authorities and the Energy Community Secretariat shall publish the risk-preparedness plans on their websites, while ensuring confidentiality of sensitive information, in particular information on measures relating to the prevention or mitigation of consequences of malicious attacks. The protection of the confidentiality of sensitive information shall be based on the principles determined pursuant to Article 19.
	Article 12(2)	<p>The Contracting Parties concerned shall agree the regional and bilateral measures to be included in the risk-preparedness plan after consulting the relevant regional coordination centres. The Energy Community Secretariat may have a facilitating role in the preparation of the agreement on regional and bilateral measures. The Energy Community Secretariat may request the Energy Community</p> <p>Regulatory Board and the ENTSO for Electricity to provide technical assistance to Contracting Parties with a view to facilitating such an agreement. At least eight months before the deadline for the adoption or the updating of the risk-preparedness plan, the competent authorities shall report on the agreements reached to the Security of Supply Coordination Group. If the Contracting Parties are not able to reach an agreement, the competent authorities concerned shall inform the Energy Community Secretariat of the reasons for such disagreement. In such a case the Energy Community Secretariat shall propose measures including a cooperation mechanism among Contracting Parties for the conclusion of an agreement on regional and bilateral measures.</p>
	Article 13(1)(2)	<p>1. Within four months of the notification of the adopted risk-preparedness plan by the competent authority, the Energy Community Secretariat shall assess the plan taking duly into account the views expressed by the Security of Supply Coordination Group.</p> <p>2. The Energy Community Secretariat shall, after consulting the Security of Supply Coordination</p>

		<p>Group, issue a non-binding opinion, setting out detailed reasons, and submit it to the competent authority, with a recommendation to review its risk-preparedness plan where that plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) is not effective to mitigate the risks identified in the electricity crisis scenarios; (b) is inconsistent with the electricity crisis scenarios identified or with the risk-preparedness plan of another Contracting Party; (c) does not comply with the requirements laid down in Article 10(2); (d) sets out measures that are likely to jeopardise the security of electricity supply of other Contracting Parties; (e) unduly distorts competition or the effective functioning of the internal market; or (f) does not comply with the provisions of this Regulation or other provisions of Energy Community law.
	Article 13(4)	<p>In the event that the competent authority objects to the Energy Community Secretariat's recommendation, the Energy Community Secretariat may, within four months of receipt of the notification of the competent authority's reasons for objection, withdraw its recommendation or convene a meeting with the competent authority and, where the Energy Community Secretariat considers it to be necessary, the Security of Supply Coordination Group, in order to assess the issue. The Energy Community Secretariat shall set out detailed reasons for requesting any modifications to the risk-preparedness plan. Where the final position of the competent authority concerned diverges from the Energy Community Secretariat's detailed reasons, that competent authority shall provide the Energy Community Secretariat with the reasons for its position within two months of receipt of the Energy Community Secretariat's detailed reasons.</p>
	Article 14(1)	<p>Where a seasonal adequacy assessment or other qualified source provides concrete, serious and reliable information that an electricity crisis may</p>

		<p>occur in a Contracting Party, the competent authority of that Contracting Party shall, without undue delay, issue an early warning to the Energy Community Secretariat, the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties within the same region and, where they</p> <p>are not in the same region, the competent authorities of the directly connected Contracting Parties.</p> <p>The competent authority concerned shall also provide information on the causes of the possible electricity crisis, on measures planned or taken to prevent an electricity crisis and on the possible need for assistance from other Contracting Parties. The information shall include the possible impacts of the measures on the neighbouring electricity market. The Energy Community Secretariat shall provide that information to the Security of Supply Coordination Group.</p>
	Article 18(4)	<p>By 1 September 2028, the Energy Community Secretariat shall, on the basis of the experience gained in the application of this Regulation, evaluate the possible means by which to enhance security of electricity supply at Energy Community level and submit a report to the Ministerial Council on the application of this Regulation, including, where necessary, legislative proposals to amend this Regulation.</p>

II. GAS AND OIL DIRECTIVES, REGULATIONS NETWORK CODES AND GUIDELINES.	ARTICLE	REPORTING (what / when)
<p>DIRECTIVE 2009/73/EC of 13 July 2009 concerning common rules for the internal market in natural gas</p> 	<p>Article 52(2)</p> 	<p>The Secretariat shall submit an overall progress report to the Ministerial Council for the first time by 30 June 2012, and thereafter on an annual basis. The progress report shall reflect the progress made on creating a complete and fully operational internal market in electricity and gas and the obstacles that remain in this respect, including aspects of market dominance, market concentration, predatory or anti-competitive behaviour and the effect thereof in terms of market distortion.</p>
	<p>Article 52(3)</p>	<p>The Secretariat shall present a report to the Ministerial Council for the first time by 30 June 2012, and thereafter on an annual basis, summarising the opinions issued by the Secretariat in application of the acts referred to in Article 1, as adapted by this Decision.</p>
<p>REGULATION (EC) 715/2009 of 13 July 2009 on conditions for access to the natural gas transmission networks</p> 	<p>Article 29(2)</p> 	<p>The Secretariat shall submit an overall progress report to the Ministerial Council for the first time by 30 June 2012, and thereafter on an annual basis. The progress report shall reflect the progress made on creating a complete and fully operational internal market in electricity and gas and the obstacles that remain in this respect, including aspects of market dominance, market concentration, predatory or anti-competitive behaviour and the effect thereof in terms of market distortion.</p>
	<p>Article 29(3)</p>	<p>The Secretariat shall present a report to the Ministerial Council for the first time by 30 June 2012, and thereafter on an annual basis, summarising the opinions issued by the Secretariat in application of the acts referred to in Article 1, as adapted by this Decision.</p>
<p>REGULATION (EU) 703/2015 of 30 April 2015 establishing a network code on interoperability and data exchange rules</p>	<p>Article 25(1)</p>	<p>Six months after the expiry of the deadline for transposing and implementing this REGULATION the Energy Community Secretariat shall monitor and analyse how transmission system operators have implemented Chapters II to V of this REGULATION and submit its report to the Energy Community Permanent High Level Group.</p>
<p>REGULATION (EU) 2017/459 of 16 March 2017 establishing a network code on capacity allocation mechanisms in gas transmission systems</p>	<p>Article 38</p>	<p>The Secretariat and ECRB shall monitor the implementation of the REGULATION as of 28 February 2020, on annual basis - frequency not defined</p>

REGULATION (EU) 2017/460 of 16 March 2017 establishing a network code on harmonized transmission tariff structures for gas	Article 36	The Secretariat shall monitor the implementation of the REGULATION as of 28 February 2020, on annual basis - frequency not defined
	Article 34	ECRB shall issue a report on the methodologies and parameters used to determine allowed or targeted revenues. Before 1 October 2021 - on off
REGULATION (EU) 312/2014 of 26 March 2014 establishing a network code on gas balancing of transmission networks		General reporting, no specific
REGULATION (EU) 2017/1938 of 25 October 2017 concerning measures to safeguard the security of gas supply as amended by Decision 2022/01/MG-EnC adapting and implementing Regulation (EU)2022/1032 Regulation with regard to gas storage	Articles 17 and 17a	<p>The Energy Community Secretariat shall carry out continuous monitoring of security of gas supply measures in the Contracting Parties and report regularly to the Security of Supply Coordination Group, the Permanent High Level Group and the Ministerial Council.</p> <p>By 1 June 2023 and annually thereafter, the Energy Community Secretariat shall submit reports to the Ministerial Council, containing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) an overview of the measures taken by the Contracting Parties to fulfil the storage obligations; (b) an overview of the time needed for the certification procedure, set out in Article 3a of Regulation (EC) No 715/2009 as adapted and adopted by the Ministerial Council Decision 2011/02/MC-EnC; (c) an overview of the measures requested by the Energy Community Secretariat in order to ensure compliance with the filling trajectories and the filling targets; (d) an analysis of the potential effects of this Regulation on gas prices and potential gas savings in relation to Article 6b(4).
DIRECTIVE 2009/119/EC of 14 September 2009 imposing an obligation on Member States to maintain minimum stocks of crude oil and/or petroleum products	Article 9	The Secretariat shall monitor and review the implementation of Directive 2009/119/EC in the Contracting Parties and shall submit on annual basis a progress report to the Permanent High Level Group by 30 June 2010.

III. GOVERNANCE, RENEWABLE ENERGY, CLIMATE, ENERGY EFFICIENCY DIRECTIVES, REGULATIONS AND DELEGATED REGULATIONS	ARTICLE	REPORTING (what / when)
DIRECTIVE (EU) 2018/2001 of 11 December 2018 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable source	Article 4	By 31 December 2022 and every three years thereafter, the Secretariat shall report to the Ministerial Council on the performance of support for electricity from renewable sources granted by means of tendering procedures in the Contracting Parties.
	Article 5	By 2024, the Secretariat shall carry out an evaluation of the implementation of this Article. That evaluation shall assess the need to introduce an obligation on Contracting Parties partially to open participation in their support schemes for electricity from renewable sources to producers located in other Contracting Parties or Member States with a view to a 5% opening by 2025 and a 10 % opening by 2030.
	Article 19	The Secretariat shall adopt a report assessing options to establish an Energy Community-wide green label with a view to promoting the use of renewable energy coming from new installations. Suppliers shall use the information contained in guarantees of origin to demonstrate compliance with the requirements of such a label.
	Article 28 (7)	7. By 31 December 2025, in the context of the biennial assessment of progress made pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2018/1999, the Secretariat shall assess whether the obligation relating to advanced biofuels and biogas produced from feedstock listed in Part A of Annex IX laid down in the fourth subparagraph of Article 25(1) effectively stimulates innovation and ensures greenhouse gas emissions savings in the transport sector. The Secretariat shall analyse in that assessment whether the application of this Article effectively avoids double accounting of renewable energy.
	Article 29 (14)	Conditional reporting obligation:

		<p>Contracting Parties may establish additional sustainability criteria for biomass fuels.</p> <p>By 31 December 2029, the Energy Community Secretariat shall assess the impact of such additional criteria on the internal market.</p>
	Article 30 (5)	<p>Conditional reporting obligation:</p> <p>The Secretariat shall require that each voluntary scheme on which an opinion has been issued under paragraph 4 submit annually by 30 April a report to the Secretariat covering each of the points set out in Annex IX to Regulation (EU) 2018/1999, as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2021/14/MC-EnC and Ministerial Council Decision 2022/02/MC-EnC. The report shall cover the preceding calendar year. The requirement to submit a report shall apply only to voluntary schemes that have operated for at least 12 months.</p> <p>The Secretariat shall make the reports drawn up by the voluntary schemes available, in an aggregated form or in full if appropriate, on the e-reporting platform referred to in Article 28 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1999, as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision 2021/14/MC-EnC and Ministerial Council Decision 2022/02/MC-EnC.</p>
	Article 31(2)	<p>Contracting Parties may submit to the Secretariat reports including information on the typical greenhouse gas emissions from the cultivation of agricultural raw materials of the areas on their territory classified as level 2 in the nomenclature of territorial units for statistics (NUTS) or as a more disaggregated NUTS level in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1059/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council.</p>
	Article 33(1)	<p>The Secretariat shall monitor the origin of biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels consumed in the Energy Community and the impact of their production, including the impact as a result of displacement, on land use in the Energy Community and in the main third countries of supply. Such monitoring shall be based on Contracting Parties' integrated national energy and climate plans and corresponding progress reports pursuant to Articles 3, 17 and 20 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1999, as adapted and adopted by Ministerial Council Decision</p>

		<p>2021/14/MC-EnC and Ministerial Council Decision 2022/02/MCEnC, and those of relevant third countries, intergovernmental organisations, scientific studies and any other relevant pieces of information.</p> <p>The Secretariat shall also monitor the commodity price changes associated with the use of biomass for energy and any associated positive and negative effects on food security.</p>
	Article 33 (4)	In 2032, the Secretariat shall publish a report reviewing the application of this Directive.
REGULATION (EU) 2018/1999 of 11 December 2018 on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action	Article 9	The Secretariat may issue country specific recommendation to draft integrated NECP no later than six months before the deadline for submission. Next submission is due by 1 January 2028.
	Article 15	The Secretariat shall assess whether the national long-term strategies are adequate for the achievement of the targets of the Energy Community and shall provide information on any remaining gap.
	Article 18	The Secretariat may prepare estimates for data gaps in Contracting Parties national projections of GHG emissions as required to compile Contracting Parties' projections.
	Article 24	The Secretariat shall share data communicated by Contracting Parties about energy poverty with the European Energy Poverty Observatory. (no specific deadline)
	Article 26	The Secretariat shall, on the basis of the Contracting Parties' approximated greenhouse gas inventories or, if a Contracting Party has not communicated its approximated inventories by that date, on the basis of its own estimates, annually compile a Contracting Parties' approximated greenhouse gas inventory. The Secretariat shall make that information available to the public by 30 September every year.
	Article 26	The Secretariat shall, in cooperation with the Contracting Parties, <...>compile an Energy Community greenhouse gas inventory and prepare an Energy Community greenhouse gas inventory report.

	Article 29	The Secretariat shall report on its assessment of progress and policy response to ensure contracting parties targets achievements (2030 climate and energy targets, climate neutrality objectives, renewable energy, energy efficiency) (by 31 October 2025 and then annually or biennially) as part of the annual implementation report.
	Article 30	Starting from 2025, based on assessment of progress The Secretariat shall issue recommendations to a Contracting Party if policy developments in that Contracting Party show inconsistencies with the overarching objectives of the Energy Union.
	Article 31	Where, on the basis of its assessment of the draft integrated national energy and climate plans or its assessment of the draft updates of the final plans, the Secretariat concludes that the objectives, targets and contributions of the Contracting Parties are insufficient for the achievement of the Energy Union objectives and in particular, for the 2025 to 2030 period, for the Energy Community's 2030 target for renewable energy and the Energy Community 2030 headline target for energy efficiency, it shall — as regards the Energy Community's target for renewable energy — and may — as regards the other Energy Union objectives — issue recommendations to Contracting Parties.
	Article 32	Where, on the basis of its assessment of progress, the Secretariat concludes that insufficient progress is made by a Contracting Party towards meeting its objectives, targets and contributions, its reference points for renewable energy, or in implementing the policies and measures set out in its integrated national climate and energy plan, it shall issue recommendations to the Contracting Party.
	Article 32	Where, on the basis of its aggregate assessment of Contracting Parties' integrated national energy and climate progress reports, and supported by other information sources, as appropriate, the Secretariat concludes that the Contracting Parties are at risk of not meeting the objectives of the Energy Union and, in particular, for the 2025 to 2030 period, the targets of the Energy Community's 2030 targets, it may issue

		recommendations to all Contracting Parties to mitigate such a risk.
	Article 35	By 31 October of every year, the Secretariat shall submit to Ministerial Council its annual Implementation Report including new elements related to implementation of Governance Regulation.
	Article 35	In the context of the Implementation Report, the Secretariat shall inform the Ministerial Council on the implementation of the integrated national energy and climate plans.
	Article 37	The Secretariat shall perform an initial check of the accuracy of the preliminary greenhouse gas inventory data to be submitted by Contracting Parties and shall send the results of that check to Contracting Parties within six weeks of the submission deadline.
	Article 37	Where a Contracting Party does not submit the inventory data required to compile the Energy Community inventory by 15 March, the Secretariat may prepare estimates to complete the data submitted by the Contracting Party, in consultation and close cooperation with the Contracting Party concerned.
	Article 52	Secretariat shall monitor and review the application of this Directive and submit an annual Implementation Report to the Ministerial Council.
	Annex V	The Secretariat may reject or grant the derogation to apply a different methodology for reporting of GHG emissions based on Contracting Party request.
	Annex X	The Energy Community bioenergy sustainability report on energy from biomass to be drafted biennially by the Secretariat together with the implementation report. (Biennially)
	Annex XI	The report on voluntary schemes in respect of which the Secretariat has issued an opinion pursuant to Article 30(4) of Directive (EU) 2018/2001, to be adopted biennially by the Secretariat together with the Implementation Report. (Biennially)

DIRECTIVE 2003/87/EC of 13 October 2003 establishing a system for greenhouse gas emission allowance trading within the Union	Article 15	The Secretariat shall inform competent authorities about any detailed verification provisions adopted by the European Commission.
COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2020/1044 of 8 May 2020 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 with regard to values for global warming potentials and the inventory guidelines and with regard to the Union inventory system	Article 5	The Secretariat shall prepare the estimates in case of data gaps in Contracting Parties national GHGs inventory report by 31 March of the reporting year.
COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2020/1208 of 7 August 2020 on structure, format, submission processes and review of information reported by Member States pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2018/1999	Article 11	The Secretariat shall provide the Contracting Parties with the following information for the purpose of preparation Energy Community GHG inventory report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - By 31 October (annually) the list of the most recent Energy Community key categories. - By 28 February (annually) updated key categories list. - By 31 October (annually) information on inventory methods, emission factors and on summary methodological descriptions. -By 28 February (annually) updated information on inventory methods, emission factors and on summary methodological descriptions.
	Article 32	The Secretariat shall provide concerned Contracting Party a final review report from comprehensive review of the national inventory data by 30 August 2027 and 20 August 2032 respectively.
	Article 38	The Secretariat in consultation with Contracting Party shall recommend harmonised values for key parameters for GHG projections on biennially bases starting on March 2024.
	Article 25 and Annex XXI	The Secretariat (assisted by EEA) shall submit to UNFCCC final annual Energy Community inventory report by 15 April.
COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2018/2066 of 19 December 2018 on the monitoring and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions pursuant to Directive 2003/87/EC	Article 55	The Secretariat shall approve upon consultation of the European Commission any tool for estimation of fuel consumption for small emitters aviation operators.
	Annex II, point 2.4	The Secretariat may publish reference values for biomass fraction in mixed fuels.

	Annex IV, point 8	The Secretariat may publish guidelines with estimation methods to calculate PFC emissions from production or processing of primary aluminium not related to anode effects.
DIRECTIVE 2012/27/EU of 25 October 2012 on energy efficiency, as amended by Directive (EU) 2018/2002	Article 24	Obligations on the assessment of the progress in achievement of energy efficiency targets have been amended in 2021 and now part of Integrated national energy and climate progress reports (pursuant to Article 29 of Governance Regulation) Reporting frequency: By 31 October 2025 and every two years thereafter (Article 29 of Governance Regulation)
DIRECTIVE 2010/31/EU of 19 May 2010 on the energy performance of buildings	Article 5(4)	The Secretariat shall publish a report on the progress of the Contracting Parties in reaching cost-optimal levels of minimum energy performance requirements. Reporting frequency: annually (part of annual Implementation Report)
	Article 9 (Nearly zero-energy buildings)	As part of its annual Implementation Report, the Secretariat shall report every four years to the Ministerial Council on the progress of Contracting Parties in increasing the number of nearly zero-energy buildings. On the basis of this reported information the Secretariat shall, where necessary, develop an action plan and propose recommendations and measures in accordance with Article 34 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 to increase the number of those buildings and encourage best practices as regards the cost-effective transformation of existing buildings into nearly zero-energy buildings. Reporting frequency: annually (part of annual Implementation Report)
REGULATION (EU) 2017/1369 of 4 July 2017 setting a framework for energy labelling and repealing Directive 2010/30/EU	Article 19	By 2 August 2025, the Secretariat shall assess the implementation of this Regulation and submit a report to the Ministerial Council.
DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2019/2013 of 11 March 2019 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2017/13691 with regard to energy labelling of electronic displays	Article 1(4) of Decision 2022/04/MC-EnC	The Secretariat shall monitor and review the implementation of the Regulations in the Contracting Parties. Reporting frequency: annually (part of annual Implementation Report)

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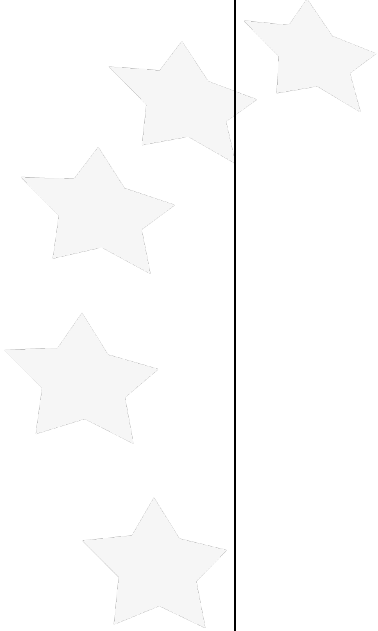

DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2019/2014 of 11 March 2019 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2017/13691 with regard to energy labelling of household washing machines and household washer-dryers	Article 1(4) of Decision 2022/04/MC-EnC	The Secretariat shall monitor and review the implementation of the Regulations in the Contracting Parties. Reporting frequency: annually (part of annual Implementation Report)
DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2019/2015 of 11 March 2019 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2017/13691 with regard to energy labelling of light sources	Article 1(4) of Decision 2022/04/MC-EnC	The Secretariat shall monitor and review the implementation of the Regulations in the Contracting Parties. Reporting frequency: annually (part of annual Implementation Report)
DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2019/2016 of 11 March 2019 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2017/13691 with regard to energy labelling of refrigerating appliances	Article 1(4) of Decision 2022/04/MC-EnC	The Secretariat shall monitor and review the implementation of the Regulations in the Contracting Parties. Reporting frequency: annually (part of annual Implementation Report)
DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2019/2017 of 11 March 2019 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2017/13691 with regard to energy labelling of household dishwashers	Article 1(4) of Decision 2022/04/MC-EnC	The Secretariat shall monitor and review the implementation of the Regulations in the Contracting Parties. Reporting frequency: annually (part of annual Implementation Report)
DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2017/254 of 30 November 2016 amending Delegated Regulations (EU) 1059/2010, (EU) 1060/2010, (EU) 1061/2010, (EU) 1062/2010, (EU) 626/2011, (EU) 392/2012, (EU) 874/2012, (EU) 665/2013, (EU) 811/2013, (EU) 812/2013, (EU) 65/2014, (EU) 1254/2014, (EU) 2015/1094, (EU) 2015/1186 and (EU) 2015/1187 with regard to the use of tolerances in verification procedures	Article 1(4) of Decision 2018/03/MC-EnC	The Secretariat shall monitor and review the implementation of the Delegated Regulations in the Contracting Parties. Reporting frequency: annually (part of annual Implementation Report)
DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2015/1094 of 5 May 2015 supplementing Directive 2010/30/EU with regard to the energy labelling of professional refrigerated storage cabinets	Article 1(4) of Decision 2018/03/MC-EnC	The Secretariat shall monitor and review the implementation of the Delegated Regulations in the Contracting Parties. Reporting frequency: annually (part of annual Implementation Report)
DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2015/1186 of 24 April 2015 supplementing Directive 2010/30/EU with regard to the energy labelling of local space heaters	Article 1(4) of Decision 2018/03/MC-EnC	The Secretariat shall monitor and review the implementation of the Delegated Regulations in the Contracting Parties. Reporting frequency: annually (part of annual Implementation Report)

<p>DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2015/1187 of 27 April 2015 supplementing Directive 2010/30/EU with regard to energy labelling of solid fuel boilers and packages of a solid fuel boiler, supplementary heaters, temperature controls and solar devices</p>	<p>Article 1(4) of Decision 2018/03/MC-EnC</p>	<p>The Secretariat shall monitor and review the implementation of the Delegated Regulations in the Contracting Parties.</p> <p>Reporting frequency: annually (part of annual Implementation Report)</p>
<p>DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 1254/2014 of 11 July 2014 supplementing Directive 2010/30/EU with regard to energy labelling of residential ventilation units</p>	<p>Article 1(4) of Decision 2018/03/MC-EnC</p>	<p>The Secretariat shall monitor and review the implementation of the Delegated Regulations in the Contracting Parties.</p> <p>Reporting frequency: annually (part of annual Implementation Report)</p>
<p>DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 518/2014 of 5 March 2014 amending Delegated Regulations (EU) 1059/2010, (EU) 1060/2010, (EU) 1061/2010, (EU) 1062/2010, (EU) 626/2011, (EU) 392/2012, (EU) 874/2012, (EU) 665/2013, (EU) 811/2013 and (EU) 812/2013 with regard to labelling of energy-related products on the internet</p>	<p>Article 2(3) of Decision 2014/02/MC-EnC</p>	<p>The Secretariat shall monitor and review the implementation of the Delegated Regulations in the Contracting Parties.</p> <p>Reporting frequency: annually (part of annual Implementation Report)</p>
<p>DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 65/2014 of 1 October 2013 supplementing Directive 2010/30/EU with regard to the energy labelling of domestic ovens and range hoods</p>	<p>Article 2(3) of Decision 2014/02/MC-EnC</p>	<p>The Secretariat shall monitor and review the implementation of the Delegated Regulations in the Contracting Parties.</p> <p>Reporting frequency: annually (part of annual Implementation Report)</p>
<p>DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 665/2013 with regard to energy labelling of vacuum cleaners</p>	<p>Article 2(3) of Decision 2014/02/MC-EnC</p>	<p>The Secretariat shall monitor and review the implementation of the Delegated Regulations in the Contracting Parties.</p> <p>Reporting frequency: annually (part of annual Implementation Report)</p>
<p>DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 812/2013 of 18 February 2013 supplementing Directive 2010/30/EU with regard to the energy labelling of water heaters, hot water storage tanks and packages of water heater and solar device</p>	<p>Article 2(3) of Decision 2014/02/MC-EnC</p>	<p>The Secretariat shall monitor and review the implementation of the Delegated Regulations in the Contracting Parties.</p> <p>Reporting frequency: annually (part of annual Implementation Report)</p>
<p>DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 811/2013 of 18 February 2013 supplementing Directive 2010/30/EU with regard to the energy labelling of space heaters, combination heaters, packages of space heater, temperature control and solar device and packages of combination heater, temperature control and solar device</p>	<p>Article 2(3) of Decision 2014/02/MC-EnC</p>	<p>The Secretariat shall monitor and review the implementation of the Delegated Regulations in the Contracting Parties.</p> <p>Reporting frequency: annually (part of annual Implementation Report)</p>

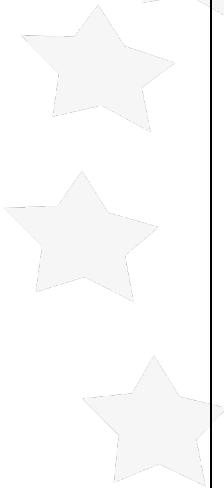

DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 392/2012 of 1 March 2012 supplementing Directive 2010/30/EU with regard to energy labelling of household tumble driers	Article 2(3) of Decision 2014/02/MC-EnC	The Secretariat shall monitor and review the implementation of the Delegated Regulations in the Contracting Parties. Reporting frequency: annually (part of annual Implementation Report)
DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 626/2011 of 4 May 2011 supplementing Directive 2010/30/EU with regard to energy labelling of air conditioners	Article 2(5) of Decision 2011/03/MC-EnC	The Secretariat shall monitor and review the implementation of the Delegated Regulation and shall submit a progress report to the Permanent High Level Group by 1 October 2013. Reporting frequency: annually (part of annual Implementation Report)
DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 1062/2010 of 28 September 2010 supplementing Directive 2010/30/EU with regard to energy labelling of televisions	Article 2(5) of Decision 2011/03/MC-EnC	The Secretariat shall monitor and review the implementation of the Delegated Regulation and shall submit a progress report to the Permanent High Level Group by 1 October 2013. Reporting frequency: annually (part of annual Implementation Report)

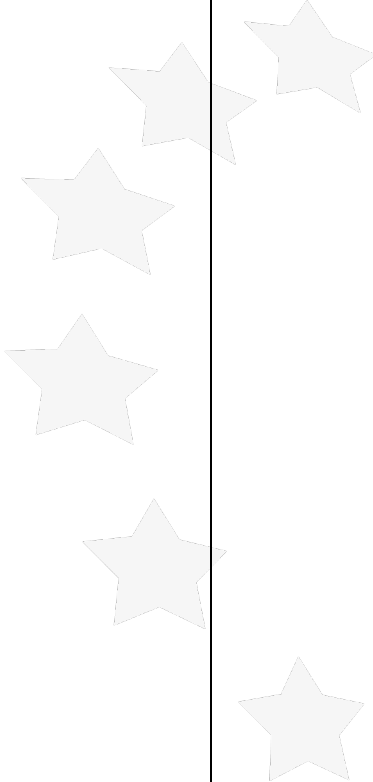
IV. ENVIRONMENT DIRECTIVES, DECISIONS	ARTICLE	REPORTING (what / when)
DIRECTIVE 2011/92/EU of 13 December 2011 on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment	Article 12(1)	1. The Contracting Parties and the Secretariat shall exchange information on the experience gained in applying this Directive.
DIRECTIVE (EU) 2016/802 of 11 May 2016 relating to a reduction in the sulphur content of certain liquid fuels (codification)	Article 14(1)	Each year by 30 June, Contracting Parties shall, on the basis of the results of the sampling, analysis and inspections carried out in accordance with Article 13, submit a report to the Secretariat on the compliance with the sulphur standards set out in this Directive for the preceding year. On the basis of the reports received in accordance with the first subparagraph of this paragraph and the notifications regarding the non-availability of marine fuel which complies with this Directive submitted by Contracting Parties in accordance with the fifth subparagraph of Article 6(8), the Secretariat shall, within 12 months of the date referred to in the first subparagraph of this paragraph, draw up and publish a report on the implementation of this Directive. The Secretariat shall evaluate the need for further strengthening of the relevant provisions of this

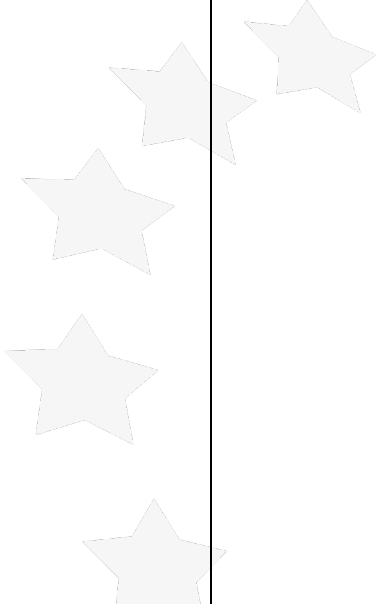

		Directive and make any appropriate legislative proposals to that effect.
DIRECTIVE 2001/80/EC of 23 October 2001 on the limitation of emissions of certain pollutants into the air from large combustion plants	Annex VIII. B	Contracting Parties shall establish, starting in 2004 and for each subsequent year, an inventory of SO ₂ , NO _x and dust emissions from all combustion plants with a rated thermal input of 50 MW or more. The competent authority shall obtain for each plant operated under the control of one operator at a given location the following data: — the total annual emissions of SO ₂ , NO _x and dust (as total suspended particles). — the total annual amount of energy input, related to the net calorific value, broken down in terms of the five categories of fuel: biomass, other solid fuels, liquid fuels, natural gas, other gases.
DIRECTIVE 2010/75/EU of 24 November 2010 on industrial emissions (integrated pollution prevention and control)	Articles 72(3), (4)	3. For all combustion plants covered by Chapter III of this Directive, Member States shall, from 1 January 2018, establish an annual inventory of the sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides and dust emissions and energy input. Taking into account the aggregation rules set out in Article 29, the competent authority shall obtain the following data for each combustion plant: (a) the total rated thermal input (MW) of the combustion plant; (b) the type of combustion plant: boiler, gas turbine, gas engine, diesel engine, other (specifying the type) (c) the date of the start of operation of the combustion plant; (d) the total annual emissions (tonnes per year) of sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides and dust (as total suspended particles); (e) the number of operating hours of the combustion plant; (f) the total annual amount of energy input, related to the net calorific value (TJ per year), broken down in terms of the following categories of fuel: coal, lignite, biomass, peat, other solid fuels (specifying the type), liquid fuels, natural gas, other gases (specifying the

		<p>type).</p> <p>The annual plant-by-plant data contained in these inventories shall be made available to the Commission upon request. A summary of the inventories shall be made available to the Commission every 3 years within 12 months from the end of the three-year period considered. This summary shall show separately the data for combustion plants within refineries. The Commission shall make available to the Member States and to the public a summary of the comparison and evaluation of those inventories.</p> <p>4. Member States shall, from 1 January 2018, report the following data annually to the Commission:</p> <p>(a) for combustion plants to which Article 31 applies, the sulphur content of the indigenous solid fuel used and the rate of desulphurisation achieved, averaged over each month. For the first year where Article 31 is applied, the technical justification of the non-feasibility of complying with the emission limit values referred to in Article 30(2) and (3) shall also be reported; and</p> <p>(b) for combustion plants which do not operate more than 1 500 operating hours per year as a rolling average over a period of 5 years, the number of operating hours per year.</p>
<p>DIRECTIVE 2004/35/EC of 21 April 2004 on environmental liability with regard to the prevention and remedying of environmental damage</p>	<p>Article 18(1)</p> 	<p>Contracting Parties shall report to the Secretariat on the experience gained in the application of this Directive by 31 December 2026 at the latest. The reports shall include the information and data set out in Annex VI</p>
<p>DIRECTIVE 2001/42/EC of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment</p>	<p>Article 12(1)</p>	<p>Contracting Parties and the Secretariat shall exchange information on the experience gained in applying this Directive.</p>

<p>V. REMIT, INFRASTRUCTURE AND STATISTICS DIRECTIVES AND REGULATIONS.</p>	<p>ARTICLE</p>	<p>REPORTING (what / when)</p>
<p>REGULATION (EU) 1227/2011 of 25 October 2011 on wholesale energy market integrity and transparency</p>	<p>Articles 7(2), (3), (4)</p>	<p>2. National regulatory authorities shall cooperate at regional level via the Energy Community Regulatory Board in carrying out the monitoring of wholesale energy markets referred to in paragraph 1.</p>

		<p>3. National regulatory authorities shall at least on an annual basis submit a report to the Secretariat on their activities under this Regulation and make this report publicly available.</p> <p>4. The Secretariat shall report to the Ministerial Council on an annual basis including but not limited to the information provided under paragraph (3).</p>
	<p>Article 9(1), (3)</p> 	<p>1. Market participants entering into transactions with wholesale energy products or expressing interest to enter into such transactions through orders to trade <...> shall register with the national regulatory authority in the Contracting Party where the delivery of the wholesale energy products takes or will take place. For the purpose of registration, national regulatory authorities shall apply the registration format developed by the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators under Regulation No 1227/2011. The Energy Community Regulatory Board shall make available an online compilation of all national registrations in the Contracting Parties.</p> <p>3. National regulatory authorities shall transmit the information in their national registers to the Energy Community Regulatory Board. Based on the information provided by national regulatory authorities, the Energy Community Regulatory Board shall establish a central register of market participants. National regulatory authorities and other relevant authorities shall have access to this register. Subject to Article 17, the Energy Community Regulatory Board may decide to make the central register, or extracts thereof, publicly available, provided that commercially sensitive information on individual market participants is not disclosed.</p>
	<p>Article 16 (1) – (6)</p>	<p>1. The Energy Community Regulatory Board shall facilitate that national regulatory authorities carry out their tasks under this Regulation in a coordinated and consistent way. National regulatory authorities shall cooperate <...> with each other, including at regional level via the Energy Community Regulatory Board for the purpose of carrying out their duties in accordance with this Regulation. National regulatory authorities <...> and the national competition authority in a Contracting Party may establish appropriate forms of cooperation in order to</p>

	<p>ensure effective and efficient investigation and enforcement and to contribute to a coherent and consistent approach to investigation, judicial proceedings and to the enforcement of this Regulation and relevant financial and competition law.</p> <p>2. National regulatory authorities shall without delay inform the Energy Community Regulatory Board and the Secretariat in as specific a manner as possible where they have reasonable grounds to suspect that acts in breach of this Regulation are being, or have been, carried out either in that Contracting Party or in another Contracting Party. Where a national regulatory authority suspects that acts which affect wholesale energy markets or the price of wholesale energy products in that Contracting Party are being carried out in another Contracting Party, it may request the Energy Community Regulatory Board and the Secretariat to ensure that the requirements of this Regulation are implemented in such Contracting Party.</p> <p>3. In order to ensure a coordinated and consistent approach to market abuse on wholesale energy markets national regulatory authorities shall inform the national competition authority of their Contracting Party, the Secretariat and the Energy Community Regulatory Board where they have reasonable grounds to suspect that acts are being, or have been, carried out on wholesale energy market which are likely to constitute a breach of competition law.</p> <p>4. In order to carry out its functions under paragraph 1, where, inter alia, on the basis of initial assessments or analysis, the Energy Community Regulatory Board suspects that there has been a breach of this Regulation, it shall be entitled: (a) To request one or more national regulatory authorities to supply any information related to the suspected breach; (b) To request one or more national regulatory authorities to commence an investigation of the suspected breach, and to take appropriate action to remedy any breach found; (c) Where it considers that the possible breach has, or has had, a cross-border impact, to establish and coordinate an investigatory group consisting of representatives of concerned national regulatory authorities to investigate whether this Regulation has been breached and in</p>
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		<p>which Contracting Party the breach took place. Where appropriate, the Energy Community Regulatory Board may also seek the participation of representatives of the Agency or other relevant authority of one or more Contracting Parties and/or Member States in the investigatory group.</p> <p>5. A national regulatory authority receiving a request for information under point (a) of paragraph 4, or receiving a request to commence an investigation of a suspected breach under point (b) of paragraph 4, shall immediately take the necessary measures to comply with that request. If that national regulatory authority is not able to supply the required information immediately, it shall without further delay notify the Energy Community Regulatory Board of the reasons.</p> <p>6. National regulatory authorities shall participate in an investigatory group convened in accordance with point (c) of paragraph 4, rendering all necessary assistance. The investigatory group shall be subject to coordination by the Energy Community Regulatory Board.</p>
<p>REGULATION (EU) 2022/869 of 30 May 2022 on guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure</p>	<p>Article 3(3)(b)</p> 	<p>The Energy Community Secretariat advises the Groups on a manageable total number of projects on the Energy Community list (every two years).</p>
	<p>Article 5(3)</p>	<p>The Energy Community Regulatory Board, assisted by the Energy Community Secretariat, and the Groups concerned shall monitor the progress achieved in implementing the projects on the Energy Community list and, where necessary, make recommendations to facilitate their implementation (every two years).</p>
	<p>Article 5(6)</p>	<p>By 30 April of each year in which a new Energy Community list should be adopted, the Energy Community Regulatory Board, assisted by the Energy Community Secretariat, shall submit to the Groups a consolidated report for the projects on the Energy Community list that are subject to the competence of national regulatory authorities, evaluating the progress achieved and expected changes in project costs, and, where appropriate, make recommendations on how to overcome the</p>

		delays and difficulties encountered (every two years).
	Article 6 (1) and 6(2)(e)	Energy Community Secretariat may propose, and Permanent High Level Group may designate, in agreement with the Contracting Parties concerned, a PECE coordinator for a period of up to one year, renewable twice.....The Energy Community Secretariat shall transmit the report of the PECE coordinator referred to in point (e) to the Ministerial Council and the Groups concerned (every year, depending on the nomination of the PECE coordinator).
	Article 21	By 30 June 2029, the Energy Community Secretariat shall publish a report on the implementation of projects on the Energy Community list, and submit it to the Ministerial Council.
	Article 23	The Energy Community Secretariat shall establish and maintain a transparency platform easily accessible to the general public through the internet.
	Annex III (7)	As regards the meetings of the Groups, the Energy Community Secretariat shall publish, on a platform accessible to stakeholders, the internal rules, an updated list of member organisations, regularly updated information on the progress of work, meeting agendas, as well as meeting minutes, where available.
REGULATION (EU) 2016/1952 of 26 October 2016 on European statistics on natural gas and electricity prices	Article 4(2), (3)	(2) Contracting Parties shall not be obliged to transmit data on natural gas prices for household customers if the consumption of natural gas in the household sector accounts for less than 1,5% of national final energy consumption in the household sector. (3) At least every three years, the Energy Community Secretariat shall review which Contracting Parties are not obliged to transmit data pursuant to paragraph 2. Verification upon request, so far no CP has asked for exemption.
REGULATION (EC) 1099/2008 of 22 October 2008 on energy statistics	Article 12	The Secretariat shall monitor and review the preparation of the implementation of Regulation (EC) 1099/2008 and Regulation EU

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	2016/1952 [2018/1/MC-EnC] in the Contracting Parties and shall submit an annual progress report to the Ministerial Council, the first of which shall be submitted in 2013.
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