STUDY ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW DIRECTIVE ON RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES

- Presentation on the State of Play -

I. BACKGROUND

As reflected in the Conclusions no.8 of the 6th Ministerial Council meeting in June 2009, the Secretariat considers necessary to focus the attention of the PHLG on the undertaken and envisaged steps in relation to the contracted “Study on the implementation of the new Renewable Energy Directive in the Energy Community” (the Study).

The development of the Study is formally based on Ministerial Council Decision (Conclusion 5, 5th MC Meeting, 11 December 2008), requesting to identify how the new directive on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources could be valuable for the Contracting Parties and Candidate Contracting Parties (Moldova, Ukraine and Turkey) of the Energy Community and to propose the modalities for a possible further adoption in the Energy Community Treaty. Therefore, a dedicated study has been launched to identify the approaches the Contracting Parties could benefit from the new Renewables’ EU Directive 1.

In March 2009, in addition to the proposal for the establishment of Renewable Energy Task Force, the Energy Community Secretariat launched the “Study on the implementation of the new Renewable Energy Directive in the Energy Community”.

This report presents the current state-of-play on the Study, the critical issues that require special considerations and the next steps towards its successful completion.

INCEPTION REPORT

On 29 April 2009, the contract for the Study was signed with a consortium led by IPA Energy and Water Economics and EPU-NTUA, following evaluation procedure of the received offers.

According to the contractual specifications, the Consultant had to submit an Inception Report one month after the signature of the Contract. Within this report the consultant describes the working concept and provides a draft time schedule for performing all necessary tasks including all relevant milestones.

On 22 May 2009, the Secretariat invited the Consultant for the kick-off meeting of the project to discuss the project approach, the work plan and the important milestones and the deliverables. As the project relies significantly on data collection from Contracting Parties and candidate Contracting Parties, the Consultant elaborated an initial Data Request Form

that has been sent to all PHLG representatives for its internal dissemination and data collection.

The deadline for data collection has been initially set for 24 June and extended until mid July. However, as of 1 September 2009, Croatia, Moldova and Turkey haven’t sent their data to the Consultant yet.

Along with the Data Request Form, request for nomination of contact persons was also issued. The contact persons shall stay in communication with the Consultant if specific questions occur – unfortunately, so, far only few Parties sent their nominations. Therefore, the issue is still open for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia, Moldova, Ukraine and Turkey which are invited to nominate the persons to stay in contact with the Consultant. These persons could be the nominated Renewable Energy Task Force members, if indicated by the Parties.

The Secretariat would like to underline that for the modelling part of the Study, the Consultant needs a significant amount of data collected from various economic areas and therefore, good outcomes can be registered only with the in-depth involvement of each Party along the requested information.

For these reasons, the Consultant prepared a “Data Gathering Sheet” for each Party, a more extensive spreadsheet filled out partially using the data provided by Contracting Parties and available from secondary sources. This sheet has been sent for completion and validation by the Parties on 21 August 2009. Where not available, the Consultant will have to make assumptions based on the best available information at the time of decision.

Draft Inception Report has been submitted by the Consultant at the beginning of June 2009, including the minutes of the kick–off meeting, the initial Data Request Form and the revised work plan. A draft Interim Report prepared for the 14th PHLG meeting (presented in the Annex) has been also developed. Further, the Consultant is developing an outline of a presentation to the 1st meeting of the Renewable Energy Task Force, scheduled for 8 October 2009 in Vienna.

The Final Inception Report has been formally approved, distributed to all Parties and it is now available on Energy Community website.

The Interim Report for the PHLG and the presentation to the 1st meeting of the Renewable Energy Task Force will highlight concrete problems in performing the study, particularly regarding data quality and acquisition. The Report is expected to be delivered in several days.

II. RENEWABLE ENERGY TASK FORCE

The 6th Ministerial Council meeting in June 2009 approved the establishment of the Renewable Energy Task Force, nominating Mr. Paul Hodson from the European Commission as its Chair.

All the Parties to the Treaty have been invited to submit their nominations for members in the Renewable Energy Task Force and the process is on-going. The date for the 1st meeting of the RE TF has been already agreed with the RE TF Chairman and is planed for 8th of October 2009. The draft agenda has been approved by the RE TF Chairman and it is published on our website. Following the nominations in the RE Task Force we will send the invitation to the 1st RE TF meeting in due time to allow the participants to register and to proceed with the logistical aspects (travel arrangements, visa etc)
The Renewable Energy Task Force will have a very important role in relation to the “Study for the Implementation of the new Renewable Energy Directive” as it is expected to comment, propose and give opinion on the outcomes reflected in the Final Report of the Study expected by mid of November 2009.

According to the contractual provisions with the consultant, a workshop is planned beginning of December 2009 in Vienna (most probably in the first week of December), to present the Draft Final Report including the calculation of 2020 renewable targets for the Contracting Parties and candidate Contracting Parties.

Based on the comments and proposals from the Renewable Energy Task Force received during or after the workshop, the Consultant will amend the Draft Final Report and submit it to the Secretariat no later than 15 December 2009.

III. **NEXT STEPS**

The most important milestones in relation to the “Study for the Implementation of the new Renewable Energy Directive” until its finalisation are:

8 October 2009 – 1st Renewable Energy Task Force meeting – IPA presentation on the Interim Results;
1st week of December 2009 – Workshop to present the Draft Final Report – opened for comments;

Based on the study outcomes, the Renewable Energy Task Force will prepare a final report that includes recommendations concerning the modalities for further adoption of the new renewable directive in the Energy Community. The report shall be presented at the Ministerial Council meeting in 2010.

IV. **CONCLUSIONS**

Cooperation with the consultant for data collection and validation is crucial for the key outcomes as the 2020 energy consumption forecast and calculation of 2020 renewable targets depend extensively on the inputs from Contracting Parties and candidate Contracting Parties.

Involvement of Renewable Energy Task Force members as strategic experts in the communication with the Consultant will be of great importance to define the perspective for successful assessment of each Party current status and future perspectives in relation to the renewable energy sources.

It is on this ground that the Secretariat invites those Contracting Parties and Observers, which have not provided the needed information so far (related to membership in the Task Force and filling in the Data Gathering Sheet) to do so by 4th September 2009 and to ensure full support to the Consultant during the performance of the Study.

ANNEXES:

- IPA Energy and Water Economics and EPU-NTUA - **Interim Report** prepared for the 14th PHLG meeting