

STATEMENT BY BELGIUM, FRANCE, GERMANY, IRELAND, LUXEMBOURG, THE NETHERLAND

An ambitious European energy performance of building policy is of paramount importance to deliver the commitments undertaken by all EU Member States under the European Green Deal.

Today the Council adopted, at a qualified majority and after numerous rounds of negotiations, a compromise position on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the energy performance of buildings (recast).

Belgium, France, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, underline that the ambition of the minimum energy performance standards still need to be substantially increased in the further steps to come. The decarbonisation of the building stock is indeed key in order to pave the way to reach our climate objectives. In this regard, we underline that the minimum energy performance standards need to be reinforced in order to be more effective and to align the directive with our common 2050 climate ambition. In particular, for non-residential buildings, exemptions should be narrowed down and exempted buildings should be addressed under the scope of the trajectory approach in article 9.2. For residential buildings, it is important to strengthen the trajectory approach for the whole residential building stock without linking it to the EPC towards a linear progress to make sure that every Member States is on track to achieve the goals of the directive.

We call the co-legislator to follow this principle during the trilogue in the follow-up of the negotiations and we stand ready to pursue the negotiations with a view to improve the ambition of the directive.