

DECLARATION

by Austria, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Luxembourg, Portugal, Spain

CONSEIL TRANSPORT, TELECOMMUNICATION ET ENERGIE,

Brussels, 19 December 2022

Directive (EU) 2018/2001 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources, Directive 2010/31/EU on the energy performance of buildings and Directive 2012/27/EU on energy efficiency

We the undersigned Member States,

Support the 2030 renewables target of 45% as proposed by the Commission in its REPowerEU proposal amending Directive (EU) 2018/2001 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources.

Given the current energy crisis and the need for a swift reduction of the EU's dependency on fossil sources, in particular from Russia, while increasing security of supply, we think that an increase of the renewables target to 45% is indispensable.

To this end, we call for an increase in ambition during the tripartite meetings ('trilogues') between the Council, Parliament and the Commission in order to strengthen the EU's aspiration and ability to rapidly scale-up renewables.

We also acknowledge the need to improve permitting procedures for large-scale renewable energy projects. To this end we encourage the Commission to evaluate the effectiveness of the framework in due time, and if necessary submit proposals before 2024.

It is a requisite to regain control over energy prices rendering them affordable again for our consumers, to ensure Europe remains on track with its commitment under the Paris Agreement to protect our climate.