



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 6 February 2012

**6103/12
ADD 1**

**ENER 43
ENV 79
POLGEN 18**

NOTE

from: General Secretariat of the Council
to: Council

No. Cion prop.: 17229/11 ECOFIN 804 SOC 1017 COMPET 534 EDUC 274 ENV 891
RECH 380 ENER 376 FISC 151 + ADD 1

Subject: Europe 2020 Strategy
- Policy debate
= Contribution from the Swedish delegation

Delegations will find attached a contribution from Sweden on the above.

SE contribution to the policy debate on Europe 2020-strategy (TTE-council 14 February 2012)

The Danish presidency has suggested the following two questions for the policy debate on the Europe 2020-strategy at the TTE council on the 14th of February:

1. *In light of the Annual Growth Survey 2012 what do you see as main obstacles to the achievement of the Europe 2020 energy objectives ?*
2. *In your view, which measures in the field of energy efficiency and renewable energy have the biggest potential to contribute to growth and job creation and should thus be prioritised ?*

On the first question Sweden is of the opinion that the RED directive is a powerful tool for achieving the target on renewable energy and does not see a need for additional measures. The existing mechanisms for cooperation between Member States could however be more actively used, and the joint green certificate scheme in Sweden and Norway is one recent example.

It is important with a long term perspective as regards support schemes for renewable energy in order to give clear signals to investors. For this reason Sweden does not see a need for a harmonization of the existing support schemes within the EU. Sweden is in favour of market based and technology neutral support schemes for renewable energy.

The expected growth in renewable energy creates a need for additional infrastructure in order to integrate large shares of intermittent renewable energy such as wind energy. In this context the new proposal for a regulation on infrastructure priorities should prioritize infrastructure related to renewable energy before infrastructure for fossil energy. It is also imperative that existing subsidies for fossil energy within the EU are phased out.

When it comes to energy efficiency the Commission's analysis is that the indicative target on European level will not be met without additional measures. In this context, Sweden supports the ambitions of the Danish presidency to reach an early agreement on the proposal for a new energy efficiency directive as long as enough flexibility is given to individual Member States, for instance in setting the national indicative energy efficiency target. Sweden believes that additional measures such as a CO₂-price for all sectors, also the sectors outside the ETS are needed.

On the second question Sweden would in addition to the points mentioned above like to stress the need for full implementation of the third internal market package in all Member States, rapid agreement on an ambitious energy taxation directive with a CO₂-component, ambitious work programs for the ecodesign and labeling directives and continued efforts on the implementation and financing of the SET plan and other energy-related research within the framework of Horizon 2020.