



Council of the
European Union

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INFORMATION NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Council
Subject: Work programme of the incoming Presidency
- Presentation by the Slovak delegation

Delegations will find attached an information note from the Slovak delegation.

WORK PROGRAMME OF THE INCOMING SLOVAK PRESIDENCY

One of the Slovak Presidency's top priorities is to make progress in building a secure and competitive Energy Union with a forward-looking climate policy. The Slovak Presidency will follow-up on the ongoing legislative work within the Council and initiate discussion on the files to be presented, in line with the European Commission's work programme in the second half of 2016.

Security of energy supply is of utmost importance to the EU and the Slovak Presidency. The Slovak Presidency will continue work on the review of the regulation concerning measures to safeguard security of gas supply (994/2010) and on the review of the decision to set up an information exchange mechanism on intergovernmental agreements (994/2012). On the basis of progress achieved in the Council and the European Parliament, the Slovak Presidency will open negotiations with the European Parliament and the Commission with a view to bringing positions closer together in order to achieve a workable compromise. The Presidency will conduct negotiations with the European Parliament on the draft regulation on energy labelling in order to secure a final agreement. The Slovak Republic will open discussions on the revision of the energy efficiency directive (27/2012) and the energy performance of buildings directive (31/2010), which are expected to be presented by the Commission in the early autumn. It will also closely follow developments in international relations in the energy field.

A joint informal meeting of the EU energy and environment ministers will take place on 12 July 2016 in Bratislava. The meeting will be devoted to the important issues of new governance and the financing framework needed to achieve the EU Climate and Energy objectives. The joint informal meeting will be followed by an informal meeting of energy ministers in Bratislava on 13 July 2016. The energy ministers will discuss energy prices and costs in the EU mainly in the context of industrial competitiveness. They will also discuss the current issues relating to the future challenges of EU energy security in the context of the EU LNG and Storage Strategy.

The Energy Council on 5 December 2016 will take stock of the state of play on the aforementioned legislative dossiers, and provide political guidance where appropriate. In addition, ministers will be informed of the 2nd State of the Energy Union and will review developments in the external dimension of the EU energy policy.
