



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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ENER	68
RECH	75
ENV	153

NOTE

from: General Secretariat of the Council

to: Delegations

No. Cion prop.: 5526/14 ENER 19 RECH 24 ENV 48 + ADD 1 - 2

Subject: Blue Energy : Action needed to deliver on the potential of ocean energy in European seas and oceans by 2020 and beyond
- *Outcome of proceedings*

The Commission presented the above Communication on 4 February in the Energy Working Party. On 18 February, an exchange of views took place. Delegations welcomed the Communication, and expressed general support for the establishment of the Ocean Forum.

Delegations stressed that existing initiatives should be taken into account in the Blue Energy strategy, and in particular in the Ocean Forum to be established, in order to avoid overlaps; the Commission assured delegations that this is indeed the intention of the Forum. The Commission announced that the first meeting of the Forum is scheduled for 4 April.

Furthermore, it was stated that the Blue Energy strategy must be reflected in all relevant overarching strategies on technology and renewable energies, including the overall integrated roadmap on energy technologies and innovation, and various action plans. The importance of technology neutrality, a focus on technology and future commercial viability were underlined. In the context of state aid, the Commission underlined that the Communication focuses on emerging, pre-commercial technologies, so this does not appear to be a source of concern.