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Subject: Any other business

- i) Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning measures to safeguard the security of gas supply and repealing Regulation (EU) No 994/2010 (First reading)
- ii) Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council setting a framework for energy efficiency labelling and repealing Directive 2010/30/EU (First reading)

= Information from the Presidency on the state of play

Delegations will find in Annex information from the Presidency on the state of play of the two above-mentioned files.

i) Security of gas supply

The Slovak Presidency held a policy debate on security of gas supply at the Council meeting of 5th December 2016. The meeting was guided by a discussion note and options prepared by the Presidency. At the end of the meeting the Presidency presented its conclusions, accepted by all Ministers, which allowed to break the stalemate and pave the way for the Maltese Presidency to finalise Council's mandate on 1 February, 2017.

The main elements of the mandate are:

Regional cooperation. The Council agreed that reinforced regional cooperation should be focused on risk-based groups of Member States, instead of fixed regions.

Solidarity. The Council agreed that solidarity should be a last resort mechanism after all the emergency measures have been exhausted. New rules for compensations and burden sharing were established.

Information exchange. The Council agreed that long-term gas contracts which provide the equivalent of 40 % or more of annual natural gas consumption in the Member State concerned will be notified to the competent authority. The contracts will be assessed by the competent authority, especially as regards their impact on the security of gas supplies in the Member State and the region. When the competent authority has doubts about the impacts of such contracts, it shall notify the Commission.

The first trilogue took place on 6 February, 2017. Negotiations will continue in February and March. The Maltese Presidency intends to close this file at the beginning of April 2017.

ii) Energy Labelling

In January and February 2017 a number of technical meetings took place between the representatives of the European Parliament and the Council on the energy efficiency labelling Regulation. The exchange of views concentrated on the core issues of rescaling, the database and empowerment. This allowed for the thorough understanding of the co-legislators positions, in particular on the sensitive issue of delegated and implementing acts. Progress has been made and the date of the fourth, final trilogue was set for 21 March 2017.