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**NOTE**

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From: Presidency  
To: Delegations

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Subject: Background Note of the Italian Presidency - 2030 framework for climate and energy policies

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Delegations will find attached a Presidency background note on the 2030 framework for climate and energy policies intended to serve as a basis for the ECOFIN discussion on 14 October 2014.



## Background Note of the Italian Presidency

### 2030 framework for climate and energy policies

*(Ecofin, Luxembourg, 14 October 2014)*

At the European Council of March this year it was established that an agreement on the 2030 framework for climate and energy policies be reached at the European Council of 23-24 October. This agreement should encompass an overall EU objective declined into national objectives regarding emissions reductions and EU objectives for renewable energy and energy efficiency. The framework that will guide climate and energy policies up to 2030 will have an impact on growth and employment, energy prices, costs and security, competitiveness and public finances. Securing agreement on the framework is thus crucial to create a stable environment for investment, growth and employment. These aspects should not be lost from sight as we approach an agreement on the overall framework. Indeed, reaching climate and energy goals will require significant investments, both at the EU and national level. Public financing will need to provide leveraging for private financing and it is imperative that policies be both cost efficient and coherent. Greater integration of the European energy market can be seen as a key element of the overall framework to reduce costs, increase efficiency and security, ensure coherency between various objectives.

The roadmap toward agreement at the October European Council involves a series of bilateral meetings at Sherpa level. At the same time, informal discussions at single Council meetings can provide additional input into the October European Council. Given the economic and financial implications of the 2030 proposals, the Italian Presidency supports a contribution of the Ecofin council on the 2030 package. This contribution is backed by the EPC and the EFC in the form of a draft letter that, if endorsed by Ministers, will be sent to the President of the European Council.

#### Questions for discussion

1. Do Ministers agree with the major elements highlighted in the letter (i.e., investments, cost efficiency, fair burden sharing, market based instruments, competitiveness, energy costs and security, the internal market)? What elements should Ecofin continue to focus on, assuming agreement at the October European Council?
2. How can Member States and the EU ensure that 2030 objectives be better integrated as part of their overall policy framework and, in particular, how can they make the 2030 Package more effective in terms of promoting investments, competitiveness and economic growth? Given significant investment needs going forward, what financial instruments and policies could be best activated to meet the challenge?