



**Brussels, 7 December 2018
(OR. en)**

15140/18

**ENER 420
CLIMA 241
ENV 847
TRANS 611
SUSTDEV 20
AGRI 612
ECOFIN 1165
COMPET 844
MI 946**

NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

No. Cion doc.: 15011/18

Subject: COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION A Clean Planet for all A
European strategic long-term vision for a prosperous, modern, competitive
and climate neutral economy
- Presentation by the Commission and exchange of views

At the TTE (Energy) Council meeting on 19 December, the Commission will present the abovementioned Communication. Subsequently, Ministers will be invited to hold an exchange views on the Communication, on the basis of the questions set out in this Note.

Background

In its Communication “A Clean Planet for All”, the European Commission sets out its vision for a prosperous, modern, competitive and climate neutral Europe by 2050. On the basis of eight different pathways to achieve GHG emissions reductions between -80% up to net zero GHG emissions by 2050, the Communication identifies strategic areas, in which joint action is needed to achieve climate neutrality in 2050: Energy efficiency, renewables deployment, clean, safe and connected mobility, competitive industry and circular economy, infrastructure and interconnections as well as bio-economy, natural carbon sinks and CCS.

In this context, energy will play the central role in decarbonising the European economy. All analysed scenarios show that it will require a significant expansion of renewables deployment, sectorial integration, electrification, increased energy efficiency as well as innovative technologies, demand-side measures and expansion of energy infrastructure including storage facilities.

In this regard, a holistic framework, in line with the five dimensions of the Energy Union, is needed to create a flexible and efficient energy system of the future, which ensures integration of innovative technologies and enables sufficient investments. As outlined in the Communication, a broad set of policies in all sectors of the economy will be necessary for the EU to make a long-term contribution to achieving the Paris Agreement objectives.

Questions for the exchange of views

1. Do Ministers consider the Commission Communication “A Clean Planet for all” to set the right direction for the EU’s long-term contribution to achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement ? In this regard, where do Ministers see the most urgent need for action in energy policy at Union level ?
2. Which framework conditions need to be in place to ensure expansion and integration of intermittent renewable energy in particular with regard to long-term storage, market design and deployment of different innovative energy technologies ?