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NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations

Subject: European Court of Auditors' Special Report No 11/2020 entitled "Energy efficiency in buildings: greater focus on cost-effectiveness still needed "
- Discussion of Council Conclusions

Following the tasking by the Permanent Representatives Committee, the Energy Working Party will discuss at its meeting of 3 June 2020 the European Court of Auditors' Special Report 11/2020¹ entitled "Energy efficiency in buildings: greater focus on cost-effectiveness still needed".

In view of these discussions, the Presidency prepared draft Council conclusions as set out in the Annex.

Following the delegations' agreement on the text of the draft Council conclusions, in accordance with the Council conclusions of 8 May 2000 on improving the examination of special reports drawn up by the Court of Auditors², the Permanent Representatives Committee will be invited to suggest to the Council to adopt, under the "A" items of a forthcoming session, the Council conclusions.

¹ <https://www.eca.europa.eu/en/Pages/DocItem.aspx?did=53483>

² 7515/00 + COR 1

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Council conclusions on European Court of Auditors' Special Report 11/2020 entitled "Energy efficiency in buildings: greater focus on cost-effectiveness still needed"

RECALLING the 'Clean Energy for all Europeans' legislative package, setting the framework for the implementation of the Union's 2030 climate and energy targets on greenhouse gas reductions, renewable energy increases, energy efficiency improvement and electricity interconnections,

RECALLING in particular the amending Directive on Energy Efficiency 2018/2002/EU,

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION:

1. THANKS the European Court of Auditors for the Special Report 11/2020 entitled "Energy efficiency in buildings: greater focus on cost-effectiveness still needed",
2. ACKNOWLEDGES that improving energy efficiency of buildings is a key tool to achieving the Union's 2030 headline energy efficiency target of at least 32,5%,
3. TAKES note of the conclusions and recommendations in the Special Report and encourages the Commission to follow those recommendations.

In particular:

4. ENCOURAGES the Commission to further develop planning and targeting of investments on energy efficiency measures before approving programmes for the spending of Cohesion policy funds. Commission's analysis should allow to put in place financial instruments to meet specific market conditions, also assessing whether the programmes regarding the Cohesion policy funds are in line with the National Energy and Climate Plans and the National Long-Term Renovations Strategies;
5. ENCOURAGES the Commission to define the energy saving resulting from the use of EU funds;

6. CALLS on the Commission to improve project selection procedures in time for the 2021-2027 cohesion policy programmes, setting, together with the Member States' managing authorities, minimum and/or maximum thresholds for key parameters and assessing the relative costs and benefits of the projects.
 7. ENCOURAGES the Commission to make the performance framework more result-oriented to better monitor the progress toward Union's energy efficiency targets, also taking into account the cost-effectiveness of the investments and improving accountability.
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