

**ENERGY CHARTER  
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Brussels, 17-18 December 1997

Related documents: CC 103, CC 112 Corr., RD 1 (ECC of 17-18 12 1997), RD 2 (ECC of 17-18 12 1997)
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**DECISION OF THE ENERGY CHARTER CONFERENCE**

**Subject: Reports and Notes considered by the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Provisional Energy Charter Conference**

- Progress on Ratification (RD 1) and on Accession to the ECT (RD 2)
  - (a) The Conference noted that since the November Conference 3 further Signatories have completed their national ratification procedures thus increasing the number of such Signatories to 32.

The Portuguese Delegate informed the Conference that the 12 Member States of the European Union and the EC had deposited their instruments of ratification on 16 December in Lisbon. This brought the total number of Signatories which have deposited their ratification instruments to 28. The representatives of 2 countries (Azerbaijan, Armenia) stated that within short notice their ratification instruments would be deposited with the Depositary.

Commissioner Papoutsis reiterated the EU's support to the whole process of the Energy Charter Treaty and urged all Member States to ratify without further delay. The Chairman concluded that it was realistic to assume that the Treaty and the Protocol would enter into force in April 1998 (90 days after the date of deposit of the thirtieth instrument of ratification), bringing the whole Charter process to a new stage. He stressed that this important turning point should enhance motivation for other Signatories to speed up their ratification process and join those Parties which had already deposited.

Keywords: Ratification Progress, Accession Progress, Conciliation Rules

- b) The Conference took note of the progress on Mongolia's accession to the Treaty through the information provided in RD 2; in particular that Mongolia has established an Accession Working Group, that the first consultation with the Secretariat took place in November 1997, that work is underway on the preparation of relevant documents and that the Mongolian Government is planning, in conjunction with the Secretariat, to organise a two-day seminar in Ulaanbaatar, tentatively scheduled for the May or June 1998.
- Conciliation Rules for Transit Disputes (CC 103)

The Chairman introduced CC 103. The Secretariat explained the structure of the draft rules and the Chairman invited Delegations to submit their comments to the Secretariat by 31 January 1998, possibly in writing. The Secretariat may then invite a working group before submitting the Rules to the Conference for approval.