ENERGY CHARTER SECRETARIAT

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Brussels, 3-4 December 1998

Related documents:
CC 128, CC 136, CC 137, RD 1 (ECC of 03-04 12 1998)

DECISION OF THE ENERGY CHARTER CONFERENCE

Subject: **Reports submitted to the 2nd Meeting of the Energy Charter Conference held on 3-4 December 1998**

- The Conference approved the Budget Committee's recommendation to discharge the Secretary-General from his management and administrative responsibilities in respect of the 1997 Budget.

- Progress on Ratification

  The Secretary-General informed the Conference that 38 Charter Signatories had deposited their instruments of ratification/accession to the Treaty with the Depositary and 36 Charter Signatories had done so regarding the Protocol. In four Charter Signatories the Treaty and the Protocol are already before the respective Parliaments pending ratification (Belarus, France, the Russian Federation and Turkey). The Conference invited Signatories which have not yet ratified the Treaty and the Protocol to take measures to accelerate ratification procedures.

  Three delegations made statements indicating their expectations regarding the completion of ratification in their respective cases (France and Poland - first quarter of 1999, Ireland - early in 1999).

- Transparency (Room Document 1)

  The Secretariat introduced the document on Transparency with regard to applicable WTO provisions and trade-related notification requirements and procedures. The Conference welcomed this Transparency Document containing the manual of provisions and

Keywords: Ratification Progress, WTO, Transparency

notification obligations, which provide an important tool for implementation of the trade provisions in particular for Signatories/Contracting Parties who are not WTO members.