DECISION OF THE ENERGY CHARTER CONFERENCE

Subject: Reports and Notes considered by the 3rd Meeting of the Provisional Energy Charter Conference

- Financial Situation

The Secretary-General reported that expenditure in 1995 so far, almost wholly met by the European Commission on the Secretariat’s behalf, amounted to about 700,000 ECU. Once the necessary decisions to establish the Secretariat were made […] expenditure would accelerate and might reach 2 MECU by the end of the year, as against a budget of 2.7 MECU. This underspending resulted from the delays in the Work Programme brought about by the Conference’s decision in April to freeze staff recruitment. Contributions so far received in respect of the 1995 budget amounted to about 750,000 ECU.

The Conference noted with approval that the European Commission had agreed to negotiate an interest-free loan facility with the Secretariat providing for 1 MECU of short-term financing, reimbursable to the Commission at a later date. This loan would help to bridge the inevitable continuing gap between expenditure and receipt of budgetary contributions. A commercial loan would otherwise be required. For longer term financing the Secretariat would make proposals to the Budget Committee in the context of the 1996 budget preparation.

- Progress on Ratification

The Chairman informed the Conference that the representative of the Depositary had confirmed that the Republic of Georgia had deposited its instruments of ratification to the Treaty with the Depositary on 12 July 1995.

It was likely that the European Community would ratify the Treaty early next year.

Keywords: Financial Situation, Secretariat Expenditure, Progress on Ratification, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Secretary-General, Russian Federation Statement, Notification Requirements, Budget Contributions
Latvia stated that the Latvian Parliament had ratified the Treaty and that the instruments of ratification would be submitted to the Depositary within the next month. Informal contacts between the Secretariat and delegations indicated generally satisfactory progress towards ratification.

The Chairman stressed that delegations should give high priority to ratification so that the Treaty could enter into force by the middle of next year.

- The Conference noted the application of former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia of 3 May 1995 to sign the Charter and become a party to the Energy Charter Treaty and the Energy Efficiency Protocol (Message 19/95) and the decision by the Conference Chairman to put this issue on the agenda of the next Conference meeting.

- The Chairman referred to the Secretary-General’s decision not to seek extension of his present appointment beyond the end of 1995 (doc. CC 38), and suggested that nominations for that post should be sent to the Chairman, through the Secretariat, before the end of October this year. The Conference agreed with this recommendation.

- The Conference noted that the Russian Federation had made the following notification to the Secretariat in accordance with paragraph (3) of Decision 3 with respect to the Energy Charter Treaty (CC 29):

  “The Government of the Russian Federation notifies hereby that in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (3) of Decision 3 with respect to Article 14 of the Energy Charter Treaty, it elects to be eligible to apply restrictions in accordance with paragraph (3) of this Decision and related documents.”

- The Chairman drew delegations’ attention to the implementation of the Treaty, and in particular to notification requirements embodied in some Treaty provisions. He asked relevant delegations, identified in Room Document 5 of 21 September 1995, to make necessary notifications as soon as possible.

- The Chairman asked delegations which had not yet done so to pay their contributions to the 1995 budget as soon as possible (Message 16/95 Corrigendum).