Subject: Headquarters Agreement: Tax Position on Secretariat Officials

The Conference, as recommended by the Budget Committee, adopted the following decision on the tax position of Secretariat officials:

“The Energy Charter Secretariat's officials’ remuneration is net of Belgian tax. Any Belgian tax claims in relation to that remuneration against officials arising under the agreed administrative procedure will be met by the Conference. No provisions for contingent liability in this respect will be made in the Secretariat's budget.”

and noted the following statement from Belgium:

“Belgium reaffirms that it has taken the necessary measures in agreement with the Energy Charter Secretariat to allow the provisional suspension of the collection of taxes owed on remuneration paid by the Secretariat to its personnel.”