ENERGY CHARTER SECRETARIAT

CCDEC 2025

14 BUD

Brussels, 5 November 2025

Related documents:
CC 846, Message 2245/25

DECISION OF THE ENERGY CHARTER CONFERENCE

Subject: Adoption by Correspondence – Budget for the Biennium 2026–2027

Following the recommendation of the Budget Committee, by document CC 846, dated 16 October 2025, the Energy Charter Conference (Conference) was invited to approve the Draft Budget for the Biennium 2026–2027.

As specified in Rule 20(c) of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference concerning the adoption of decisions by correspondence, the Contracting Parties were informed that any delegation not in a position to approve the above decision should notify the Secretariat of its position in writing by no later than 5 November 2025.

No notifications were received within the specified time limit. As a result, on 5 November 2025, the Conference approved the Budget for the Biennium 2026–2027, as attached hereto.

Keywords: Budget, 2026, 2027

BUDGET OF THE ENERGY CHARTER SECRETARIAT FOR THE BIENNIUM 2026-2027

EXPLANATORY NOTE ON THE BUDGET FOR 2026-2027

1. This document presents the budget of the Energy Charter Secretariat ("Secretariat") for 2026 and the provisional budget for 2027, in accordance with the Financial Rules and Implementing Instructions ("Financial Rules").

2. In compliance with Article 8(1) of the Financial Rules[1], Part I of the budget for 2026 and the provisional budget for 2027 includes general expenses that are financed from normal resources and from other resources referred to in Article 6(1) and (3) of the Financial Rules, as well as general expenses that are financed from other resources referred to in Article 6(4) to (7) of the Financial Rules, provided, in the latter case, that such resources are available for general use[2].

3. All scenarios for the budget for 2026 and 2027 are based on a maximum assessment rate of 22% per Contracting Party, consistent with the United Nations Regular Budget Scale of Assessment for 2025–2027.

4. Delegates are invited to note that, should annual contributions from Contracting Parties remain at the 2025 level, total annual contributions would decrease from **EUR 1 418 861** in 2025 to **EUR 976 797** in 2026 and **EUR 969 208** in 2027. This would represent a historically low level of contributions.

5. As part of its ongoing cost-containment efforts, the Secretariat has already implemented budgetary reductions across all budget items. These savings were achieved through reduced staffing and scaled-down activity delivery, as well as by moving the Secretariat's office to more economical premises, reflecting a clear institutional commitment to financial prudence, operational streamlining, and strategic use of available resources.

6. In line with the guidance provided by the Budget Committee during its meeting on 1 July 2025, the Secretariat has developed a **minimum operating budget scenario** for the 2026–2027 biennium with two funding options. Both options prioritise functions mandated under the Energy Charter Treaty ("ECT").

---

[1] Article 8 of the Financial Rules states that the budget "shall be divided into two Parts and each Part into items," and states in paragraph (1) therein that "Part I shall include general expenses that are financed from normal resources and from other resources referred to in Article 6(1) and (3) above, as well as general expenses that are financed from other resources referred to in Article 6(4) to (7) above, provided, in the latter case, that such resources are available for general use".

[2] Under Article 6 of the Financial Rules, "Other resources" of the Secretariat include:"(1) contributions to the cost of negotiations and relevant Working Groups of any signatory to the European Energy Charter or the International Energy Charter, as the case may be, which has not signed the Treaty and which participates in such negotiations (in accordance with rule 7(b) of the Rules of Procedure); (2) contributions to supplementary Budgets; (3) draw(s) from the General Reserve Fund; (4) voluntary contributions and in-kind voluntary contributions from Signatories; (5) voluntary contributions and in-kind voluntary contributions from observers to the Conference or from other sources (6) subsidies, gifts, participation fees, publication revenues and legacies of any nature; (7) miscellaneous income, including without limitation income which has not previously been taken into account, balances recoverable and any adjustments in respect of estimated income previously credited."

7. The funding options under consideration include covering the gap between the income and expenditures for Budget Part I:
(a) **exclusively** through **draws from the General Reserve Fund** ("GRF");
(b) by pursuing a **hybrid** approach, whereby a modest increase in annual contributions complements a limited draw from the GRF.

   The increase in annual contributions under (b) above could be achieved by raising the absolute Euro amount of contributions from each individual country relative to the 2025 level.

8. While reliance on the GRF may provide a viable short-term solution, it is not sustainable over the medium to long term. Although the Secretariat succeeded in achieving savings in 2024, allowing for a reversion of some funds to the GRF, such savings are not anticipated in 2026 and 2027 due to the limited margin within the overall budget and the absence of further cost-saving opportunities. As a result, the capacity to replenish the GRF in future years is expected to be minimal.

9. To ensure the continued and effective functioning of the Secretariat, a sustainable path forward would require an increase in annual contributions to meet the minimum funding requirements.

BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 2026-2027

BUDGET PART I – SOURCES OF FINANCING

The available resources to finance the budget of the Secretariat for 2026 and 2027 consist of

A. Income of the year:

- National contributions: EUR 976 797 (2026); EUR 969 208 (2027)
- voluntary contributions: EUR 0
- subsidies, gifts, legacies or miscellaneous income: EUR 0

B. Use of reserves:

- General Reserve Fund[3]: A draw of 10% of the total value of the GRF at the end of 31 December 2024 will be required in 2026 and 2027, respectively.
- Working Capital Funds (unused voluntary contributions or miscellaneous income of the previous years)

Table 1
Sources of Financing - Budget Part I

All figures in Euros

Budget Part I	***Option A***	
	2026	**2027**
Income of the year		
Annual Contributions	*976 797*	*969 208*
Use of reserves		
General Reserve Fund – Draw	*251 746*	*251 746*
Total Budget Part I	***1 228 543***	***1 220 954***

[3] The amount of the GRF (EUR 2 517 462) is based on its projected value as of 31 December 2024.

BUDGET PART I – ESTIMATED USE OF RESOURCES 2026

The Secretariat plans to use the available resources in 2026 to finance the following items in Budget Part I:

Table 2
Budget Part I – Estimated use of resources

All figures in Euros

Budget Items	***Option A***	
	2026	**2027**
1 Salaries and Allowances	*574 000*	*574 000*
2 Benefits and Grants	*146 000*	*146 000*
3 Removals, Travel and Missions	*40 000*	*40 000*
4 Meetings and Events	*46 500*	*46 500*
5 Representation	*2000*	*2000*
6 Operating Expenditure	*323 000*	*323 000*
7 Capital Expenditure	*72 500*	*72 500*
8 Miscellaneous	*24 543*	*16 954*
Total Budget Part I	***1 228 543***	***1 220 954***

BUDGET PART I – GRADING AND POSTING 2026-2027

Table 3
Budget Part I – Grading

Grade	*2026*	*2027*	*Filled*
A-Grade	*5*	*5*	*4*
B-Grade	*5*	*5*	*1*
C-Grade	*0*	*0*	*0*
Total positions	***10***	***10***	***5***

Table 4
Budget Part I – Posting[4]

Grade	*Title*	*Status*[5]	*Filled*	*Vacant*
A-Grade officials				
A6	*Secretary General*	*E*	*0*	*1*
A5	*Deputy Secretary General*	*E*	*1*	*0*
A1	*General Counsel*	*T*	*1*	*0*
A1	*Heads of Unit for Implementation and External Activities*	*T*	*1*	*0*
A1	*Head of Unit for Administration*	*T*	*1*	*0*
Subtotal A-Grades			***4***	***1***
B-Grade Officials				
B3	*Administrative Officer*	*T*	*1*	*0*
B3	*Finance Officer*	*T*	*0*	*1*
B3	*Programme Officer*	*T*	*0*	*1*
B3	*Programme Officer*	*T*	*0*	*1*
B3	*Programme Officer*	*T*	*0*	*1*
Subtotal B-Grades			***1***	***4***
Total Positions		***E – 2*** ***T – 8***	***5***	***5***

[4] Due to financial constraints, recruitment for five vacant posts is not planned for the 2026-2027 biennium. The five currently filled positions are maintained to ensure continuity of operations and preserve institutional knowledge within the Secretariat.

[5] Establishment table (E) and Temporary Officials (T) positions.

Monthly basic salary scale applicable from 1 January 2025

EUR		STEPS											Value of first step	Increment by step of	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		1 year	2 years
GRADES	C1	3,274.11	3,372.29	3,470.47	3,568.65	3,666.83	3,765.01	3863.19	3,961.37	4,059.55	4,157.73	4,255.91	98.18	98.18	98.18
	C2	3,459.00	3,562.78	3,666.56	3,770.34	3,874.12	3,977.90	4,081.68	4,185.46	4,289.24	4,393.02	4,496.80	103.78	103.78	103.78
	C3	3,616.52	3,724.99	3,833.46	3,941.93	4,050.40	4,158.87	4,267.34	4,375.81	4,484.28	4,592.75	4,701.22	108.47	108.47	108.47
	C4	3,842.03	3,957.23	4,072.43	4,187.63	4,302.83	4,418.03	4,533.23	4,648.43	4,763.63	4,878.83	4,994.03	115.20	115.20	115.20
	C5	4,100.76	4,223.79	4,346.82	4,469.85	4,592.88	4,715.91	4,838.94	4,961.97	5,085.00	5,208.03	5,331.06	123.03	123.03	123.03
	C6	4,487.99	4,622.66	4,757.33	4,892.00	5,026.67	5,161.34	5,296.01	5,430.68	5,565.35	5,700.02	5,834.69	134.67	134.67	134.67
	B1	3,412.99	3,525.61	3,638.23	3,750.85	3,863.47	3,976.09	4,088.71	4,201.33	4,313.95	4,426.57	4,539.19	112.62	112.62	112.62
	B2	3,711.45	3,833.95	3,956.45	4,078.95	4,201.45	4,323.95	4,446.45	4,568.95	4,691.45	4,813.95	4,936.45	122.50	122.50	122.50
	B3	4,121.91	4,257.92	4,393.93	4,529.94	4,665.95	4,801.96	4,937.97	5,073.98	5,209.99	5,346.00	5,482.01	136.01	136.01	136.01
	B4	4,641.01	4,794.17	4,947.33	5,100.49	5,253.65	5,406.81	5,559.97	5,713.13	5,866.29	6,019.45	6,172.61	153.16	153.16	153.16
	B5	5,252.49	5,425.83	5,599.17	5,772.51	5,945.85	6,119.19	6,292.53	6,465.87	6,639.21	6,812.55	6,985.89	173.34	173.34	173.34
	B6	6,001.72	6,199.78	6,397.84	6,595.90	6,793.96	6,992.02	7,190.08	7,388.14	7,586.20	7,784.26	7,982.32	198.06	198.06	198.06
	A1	5,131.50	5,285.89	5,440.28	5,594.67	5,749.06	5,903.45	6,135.04	6,366.63	6,598.22	6,829.81	7,061.40	154.39	154.39	231.59
	A2	6,557.70	6,733.70	6,909.70	7,085.70	7,261.70	7,437.70	7,701.74	7,965.78	8,229.82	8,493.86	8,757.90	176.00	176.00	264.04
	A3	8,091.28	8,319.09	8,546.90	8,774.71	9,002.52	9,230.33	9,572.06	9,913.79	10,255.52	10,597.25	10,938.98	227.81	227.81	341.73
	A4	9,402.67	9,647.42	9,892.17	10,136.92	10,381.67	10,626.42	10,993.55	11,360.68	11,727.81	12,094.94	12,462.07	244.75	244.75	367.13
	A5	10,889.40	11,194.17	11,498.94	11,803.71	12,108.48	12,413.25	12,870.33	13,327.41	13,784.49	14,241.57	14,698.65	304.77	304.77	457.08
	A6	12,869.53	13,225.56	13,581.59	13,937.62	14,471.62	15,005.62	15,539.62	16,073.62				356.03	356.03	534.00
	A7	14,087.17	14,558.99	15,030.81	15,502.63	16,210.32	16,918.01						471.82	471.82	707.69

* *The advancement from one step to the next one is as follows :*
Grades A6 to A7 : each year from step 1 to 5, two years for the higher steps
Grades A1 to A5 : each year from step 1 to 7, two years for the higher steps
Grades B and C : each year from step 1 to 8, two years for the higher steps

\+ *When a grade is suffixed with a +, the basic salary is increased by 5%*
(only applicable to the Secretary General)

Other elements of remuneration	
Dependant Allowance	*368.17*
Household Allowance	*6%*
Expat. All. w/o household	*14%*
Expat. All. w. household	*18%*

1 Salaries and Allowances

All figures in Euros

Sub-items	***Option A***	
	2026	**2027**
1.1 Salaries	***484 000***	***484 000***
1.1.1 Established Officials	*155 000*	*155 000*
1.1.2 Temporary Officials	*329 000*	*329 000*
1.2 Allowances	***90 000***	***90 000***
1.2.1 Established Officials	*35 000*	*35 000*
1.2.2 Temporary Officials	*45 000*	*45 000*
1.2.3 Secondments	*0*	*0*
1.2.4 Internships	*10 000*	*10 000*
1.2.5 Fellowships		
Total	***574 000***	***574 000***

2 Benefits and Grants

All figures in Euros

Sub-items	*Option A*	
	2026	**2027**
2.1 Insurance (incl. bss)	*21 000*	*21 000*
2.2 Terminal Allowances	*125 000*	*125 000*
2.3 Promotions		
2.4 Other		
Total	***146 000***	***146 000***

3 Removals, Travel and Missions

All figures in Euros

Sub-items	*Option A*	
	2026	**2027**
3.1 Removals	***20 000***	***20 000***
3.2 Missions	***20 000***	***20 000***
3.2.1 Travel Expenses		
3.2.2 Allowances		
3.3 Other travel		
3.3.1 Travel Expenses		
3.3.2 Allowances		
Total	***40 000***	***40 000***

4 Meetings and Events

All figures in Euros

Sub-items	*Option A*	
	2026	**2027**
4.1 Energy Charter Conference		
4.1.1 Premises		

4.1.2 Catering		
Speakers, Chairs and Vice Chairs		
4.1.3.1 Travel expenses		
4.1.3.2 Allowances		
4.1.4 Invited Experts		
4.1.4.1 Travel Expenses		
4.1.4.2 Allowances		
4.1.5 Other		
4.2 Subsidiary Bodies Meetings	***1 500***	***1 500***
4.2.1 Premises		
4.2.2 Catering		
4.2.3 Speakers, Chairs and Vice		
4.2.3.1 Travel expenses		
4.2.3.2 Allowances		
4.2.4 Invited Experts		
4.2.4.1 Travel Expenses		
4.2.4.2 Allowances		
4.2.5 Other		
4.3 Translations and Interpretations	***40 000***	***40 000***
4.4 Other Meetings and Events	***5 000***	***5 000***
4.4.1 Premises		
4.4.2 Catering		
4.4.3 Speakers, chairs, and vice-chairs		
4.4.3.1 Travel expenses		
4.4.3.2 Allowances		
4.4.4 Other		
Total	***46 500***	***46 500***

5 Representation

All figures in Euros

Sub-items	***Option A***	
	2026	**2027**
5.1 Translations and Interpretations		
5.2 Other Meetings and Events	***2 000***	***2 000***
Total	***2 000***	***2 000***

6 Operating Expenditure

All figures in Euros

Sub-items	***Option A***	
	2026	**2027**
6.1 Office Space	***125 000***	***125 000***
6.1.1 Office Space Rental		
6.1.2 Office Space Charges, Taxes		
6.2 Communications	***25 000***	***25 000***
6.2.1 Postage and Courier		
6.2.2 Telephone		
6.2.3 Internet Services		
6.2.4 Other		
6.3 Office Supplies	***5 000***	***5 000***
6.4 Library	***20 000***	***20 000***
6.5 Publications	***20 000***	***20 000***
6.6 Consultants	***80 000***	***80 000***
6.6.1 Consultancy Fees		
6.6.2 Travel Expenses		
6.6.3 Other		
6.7 External Auditors	***28 000***	***28 000***
6.8 Fees to Int. Organisations	***10 000***	***10 000***

6.9 Subscription to Specific Services	***5 000***	***5 000***
6.10 Financial Services	***5 000***	***5 000***
6.11 Other	***0***	***0***
Total	***323 000***	***323 000***

7 Capital Expenditure

All figures in Euros

Sub-items	***Option A***	
	2026	**2027**
7.1 Furniture	*2 500*	*2 500*
7.2 IT Equipment and Software	*70 000*	*70 000*
7.3 Other		
Total	***72 500***	***72 500***

8 Miscellaneous

All figures in Euros

Sub-items	***Option A***	
	2026	**2027**
8.1 Unforeseen Activities		
8.2 ILOAT costs		
8.3 Other	*24 543*	*16 954*
Total	***24 543***	***16 954***

COMMITMENT AUTHORITY UNDER BUDGET PART I

The issuance of employment contracts and their renewals does not require the Secretary-General to be conferred with a "commitment authority" as defined under Article 4(1) of the Financial Rules. These contracts are issued for an initial duration of:

- Maximum 1 year for Temporary Officials, to terminate at the latest the last day of the approved budget (thus, the commitment authority does not apply), and are renewable by further periods of no more than one year;
- 5 years for the Secretary-General with a potential renewal of no more than 5 years, in line with Rule XII (Rules for Appointment of Secretary-General) of the Rules of Procedure (CCDEC 2022 17 GEN);
- 4 years for the Deputy Secretary-General with a potential renewal of no more than 4 years, in line with Rule XIII (Rules for Appointment of Deputy Secretary-General) of the Rules of Procedure (CCDEC 2022 17 GEN);
- 3 years for all officials under the Establishment Table that is renewable for further periods of 1 (A-Grades) or 2 years (B and C-Grades) in line with Staff Rule 10.1 (duration of appointment) of the Staff Regulations and Rules.

The Staff Regulations and Rules govern the above-mentioned categories of contracts (with some exceptions for the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General).

The conversion of the Secretariat's accounts to IPSAS standards includes:

- **Provisions for post-employment benefits**: When offering an employment contract, the Secretariat shall already plan for the official's departure and potential payments to be made at the end of his/her employment contract (terminal allowance, removal, travel costs). The Secretariat does not consider the costs involved to fall under the rules on commitment authority.

- **Capitalisation and depreciation/amortisation of assets** (4, 6, 9 or 10 years) could potentially be considered a multi-annual commitment authority. For example, the purchase of IT equipment during year 1 will result in the capitalisation of that asset during year 1 and its depreciation during years 1, 2, 3 and 4. However, the Secretariat considers that the capitalisation/depreciation of assets should not fall under the rules on commitment authority, even though they impact budgets beyond the approved budgets.

In addition to the foregoing contractual obligations, in 2025, the Secretariat was required to relocate its office to new premises. In this regard, a new multi-annual commitment authority for EUR 900,000 was approved by the Conference (CCDEC 2025 04 BUD) for a new nine-year lease agreement entered into by the Secretariat, pursuant to Article 11(1) of the Financial Rules.[6]

[6] Article 11 (1) of the Financial Rules stipulates that: “If it is necessary to undertake commitments to be carried out after the end of the financial year, the Conference may accord the necessary commitment authority.”

Moreover, to enable the Secretariat to enter into a new lease agreement for multifunctional copiers, the Budget Committee has been invited through document BC 474 to recommend to the Conference to approve the multi-annual commitment authority for three years for the budget sub-item 7.2 (IT Equipment and Software), item 7 (Capital Expenditure), in the amount of EUR 18,000.

The Secretariat does not plan to enter into any contractual obligations beyond those mentioned above for 2026-2027.

ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NORMAL RESOURCES OF THE SECRETARIAT UNDER ARTICLE 5 OF THE FINANCIAL RULES

The calculation of annual contributions, collected under Article 37(3) of the ECT and Article 5 of the Financial Rules, is based on the new United Nations Scale of Assessments that became available on 24 December 2024 through the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 79/249 and is valid for 2025, 2026 and 2027. The increase in the absolute Euro amount of each individual country's contributions compared to 2024 is due solely to the new United Nations Scale of Assessments, in accordance with the Financial Rules and in compliance with the maximum assessment rate of 22 per cent for each country.

In accordance with CCDEC 2025 07 BUD in the case of withdrawal of a Contracting Party from the ECT pursuant to its Article 47 or in case of written notification of a signatory's intention not to become a Contracting Party to the ECT pursuant to Article 45(3)(a) of the ECT, such Contracting Party or signatory shall pay the annual contribution under Article 37 of ECT pro rata until the end of the month of the effective date of its withdrawal or of its of termination of the provisional application of the ECT pursuant to Article 45(3)(a), as the case may be.

The calculation of annual contributions is based on updated information regarding notified withdrawals available to the Secretariat.

The annual contributions from Contracting Parties in 2026 and 2027, provided below, are based on the assumption that such contributions will remain at the same level as in 2025.

The calculation of the annual contributions needs to be reviewed regularly to adjust to new information.

The updated annual contributions for 2026 and 2027, as of the date hereof, are as follows:

Country	*2026*	*2027*
Afghanistan	*548*	*548*
Albania	*1.096*	*1.096*
Armenia	*767*	*767*
Austria	*68.626*	*68.626*
Azerbaijan	*3.727*	*3.727*
Belarus	*0*	*0*
Belgium	*84.741*	*84.741*
Bosnia & Herzegovina	*1.535*	*1.535*
Bulgaria	*7.783*	*7.783*

Croatia	*9.647*	*9.647*
Cyprus	*3.837*	*3.837*
Czech Republic	*37.711*	*37.711*
Estonia	*4.933*	*4.933*
Finland	*42.316*	*42.316*
Georgia	*987*	*987*
Greece	*30.695*	*30.695*
Hungary	*24.447*	*24.447*
Iceland	*3.837*	*3.837*
Ireland	*51.743*	*51.743*
Japan	*214.895*	*213.226*
Jordan	*2.302*	*2.302*
Kazakhstan	*14.361*	*14.361*
Kyrgyzstan	*329*	*329*
Latvia	*5.481*	*5.481*
Liechtenstein	*987*	*987*
Lithuania	*5.920*	*0*
Malta	*2.193*	*2.193*
Moldova	*658*	*658*
Mongolia	*439*	*439*
Montenegro	*439*	*439*
North Macedonia	*877*	*877*
Romania	*39.246*	*39.246*
Slovak Republic	*16.334*	*16.334*
Sweden	*90.113*	*90.113*
Switzerland	*112.805*	*112.805*
Tajikistan	*329*	*329*
Türkiye	*75.094*	*75.094*

Turkmenistan	*3.947*	*3.947*
Ukraine	*8.112*	*8.112*
Uzbekistan	*2.631*	*2.631*
Yemen	*329*	*329*
Total Contributions	***976 797***	***969 208***

BUDGET PART II – SOURCES OF FINANCING 2026-2027

Budget Part II of the Secretariat is financed by:

- draws from the General Reserve Fund (for specific purposes);
- voluntary contributions and in-kind voluntary contributions;
- subsidies, gifts, participation fees, publication revenues and legacies;
- miscellaneous income.

Table 1
Sources of Financing – Budget Part II

All figures in Euros

Budget Part II	***2026***	***2027***
VC – Islamic Development Bank (USD 25 000)	*13 391*	*unused 2027*
Working Capital Fund – Ukraine-EU	*20 539*	*unused 2026*
Communication and Research Centre	*4 516*	*unused 2026*
VC Nigeria (2019) – Nigeria-related activities	*2 131*	*unused 2026*
Working Capital Fund – Secretariat	*40 958*	*unused 2026*
Other Resources - Financial Income	*0*	*0*
Total Budget Part II	***81 535***	***unused 2026***

Voluntary Contributions (at hand)

For 2026, the following funds are available by way of previously received voluntary contributions:

Voluntary Contribution	***2026***	***2027***
VC – Islamic Development Bank (USD 25 000)	*13 391*	*unused 2026*
Working Capital Fund – Ukraine-EU	*20 539*	*unused 2026*
Communication and Research Centre	*4 516*	*unused 2026*
VC Nigeria (2019) – Nigeria-related activities	*2 131*	*unused 2026*
Total Budget Part II	***40 577***	***unused 2026***

BUDGET PART II - COMMITMENT AUTHORITY

The Secretariat does not plan to enter into any contractual obligation requiring a commitment authority under Budget Part II in 2026-2027