ENERGY CHARTER SECRETARIAT

CCDEC 2025

15 BUD

Brussels, 5 November 2025

Related documents:
CC 847, Message 2246/25

DECISION OF THE ENERGY CHARTER CONFERENCE

Subject: Adoption by Correspondence – Programme of Work for the Biennium 2026–2027

Following the recommendation of the Budget Committee, by document CC 847, dated 16 October 2025, the Energy Charter Conference (Conference) was invited to approve the Draft Programme of Work 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 Programme of Work for the Biennium 2026–2027, as attached hereto.

Keywords: Programme of Work, 2026, 2027

PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE SECRETARIAT FOR THE BIENNIUM 2026–2027

1. In accordance with Article 9 of the Financial Rules and Implementing Instructions[1], the Secretariat proposes the Programme of Work of the Energy Charter Secretariat for 2026 and 2027 ("PoW") , bearing in mind the requirement of Article 35(1) of the Energy Charter Treaty ("ECT") that in carrying out its duties, the Energy Charter Conference ("Conference") shall have a Secretariat comprising "such staff as are the minimum consistent with efficient performance."

2. To maintain the most critical operations of the Secretariat, Activity A - Administration and Management has been allocated 71% of the human resources and 70.1% of the total budget (EUR 861 651 out of a total budget of EUR 1 228 543 in 2026[2]). At the same time, the Secretariat has retained only the most essential programmes and activities under Activity B- Programmes, with the aim of ensuring the continued delivery of the ECT's core mandate within current resource constraints. As a result, Activity B- Programmes accounts for only 29% of the human resources and 29.9% of the total budget (EUR 366 892 out of EUR 1 228 543 in 2026).

3. Activity B - Programmes will be subject to further consideration by the Strategy and Implementation Group in the context of a broader, continual discussion on the prioritisation of programmes and activities for the 2026–2027 biennium in line with the Conclusions of the Review under Article 34(7) of the Energy Charter Treaty (CCDEC 2024 20 STR).

4. The Secretariat has provided separate tables outlining the estimated allocation of human resources by position and activity, as well as the estimated financial resource requirements.

5. It should be noted that the activities allocated to the Secretary-General have been removed from the estimated human resources, as the position is currently vacant, and under the assumption that the Deputy Secretary-General continues to cover the position of the Secretary-General in the capacity of Acting Secretary-General.

6. The Policy on Consolidation, Expansion and Outreach ("CONEXO Policy") has remained inactive in recent years, following a pause on accessions to the ECT in 2019 due to the commencement of negotiations on the "modernisation" of the ECT. Moreover, a separate programme on "Promotion and Cooperation" also focuses on external outreach. Both programmes primarily aim to promote the ECT and encourage engagement from prospective Members. In the current context, and following the adoption of amendments to "modernise" the ECT in December 2024, the Secretariat proposes a more resource-conservative "Institutional Cooperation and

[1] Article 9 of the Financial Rules and Implementing Instructions states as follows: "Secretary-General shall prepare the draft Programme of Work over the biennium not later than 6 months before the start of the biennium as well as the initial Budget for the first year of that biennium and the provisional Budget for the second year in conformity with the provisions of these Rules and with the procedures laid down by the Conference."

[2] This represents the total budget under funding option A proposed in the document BC 47 5.

Member-Led Engagement" Programme (Activity B3) to support strategic planning. This Programme will aim to facilitate a structured, member-led dialogue within the Strategy and Implementation Group on possible modalities for engagement with observer countries, should Contracting Parties wish to pursue such discussions. Such dialogue would not involve any promotional activity or outreach by the Secretariat. A modest level of human resources has been allocated to facilitate internal coordination and preparatory support, which will be adjusted based on the evolution of discussions within the Strategy and Implementation Group.

7. Pursuant to Article 34(4) of the ECT[3], the Secretariat will continue to cooperate with relevant international organisations and institutions whose activities are consistent with the ECT's objectives, as well as engage with Contracting Parties through participation in institutional or thematic activities relevant to implementing the PoW for 2026-2027. All such cooperation will be conducted with full regard to the principles of economy, efficiency, and complementarity.

[3] Article 34(4) of the ECT provides as follows: "In the performance of its duties, the Charter Conference, through the Secretariat, shall cooperate with and make as full a use as possible, consistently with economy and efficiency, of the services and programmes of other institutions and organisations with established competence in matters related to the objectives of this Treaty."

HUMAN RESOURCES ALLOCATED FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK 2026-2027

Table 1
Estimated use of human resources per position and activity in 2026 and 2027

-	*Posts*	*A1*	*A2*	*A3*	*A4*	*B1*	*B21*	*B22*	*B23*	*B24*	*B3*
Secretary General's Office	**1**	**0.05**	**0.35**		**0.20**	**0.20**			**0.20**		
Secretary-General											
General Counsel	1	0.05	0.35		0.20	0.20			0.20		
Deputy Secretary General's Office	**4**	**0.65**	**0.10**	**1.95**	**0.25**	**0.10**	**0.18**	**0.30**	**0.05**	**0.30**	**0.12**
Deputy Secretary General	1	0.15	0.10	0.25	0.10	0.10	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.10
Head of Unit for Implementation and External Activities	1	0.30		0.05			0.13	0.25		0.25	0.02
Programme Officer 1											
Programme Officer 2											
Programme Officer 3											
Head of Unit for Administration	1	0.10		0.85	0.05						
Finance Officer											
Administrative Officer	1	0.10		0.80	0.10						
Total	**5**	**0.70**	**0.45**	**1.95**	**0.45**	**0.30**	**0.18**	**0.30**	**0.25**	**0.30**	**0.12**

Establishment Table (green) and Temporary Officials (orange)

FINANCIAL RESOURCES ALLOCATED FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK 2026-2027

Table 3
Estimated use of financial resources for the implementation of the Programme of Work in 2026

All amounts in EUR

Activities	*Posts Estab. Off.*	*Posts Temp. Off.*	*Total Posts*	*%*	*Total Estimated costs EUR*	*Total Estimated costs %*
A Administration and Management	**0.60**	**2.95**	**3.55**	**71%**	**861 651**	**70.1%**
A1 Support to the Conference and its subsidiary and consultative bodies	0.15	0.55	0.70	14%	172 961	14.1%
A2 Legal Support	0.10	0.35	0.45	9%	111 534	9.1%
A3 Financial and Administrative Support	0.25	1.70	1.95	39%	465 622	37.9%
A4 Depository	0.10	0.35	0.45	9%	111 534	9.1%
B Programmes	**0.40**	**1.05**	**1.45**	**29%**	**366 892**	**29.9%**
B1 Modernisation of the Energy Charter Treaty	0.10	0.20	0.30	6%	77 573	6.3%
B2 Implementation of the Energy Charter Treaty	0.20	0.83	1.03	20.6%	252 501	20.6%
B21 Implementation – Transit	*0.05*	*0.13*	*0.18*	*3.6%*	*45 579*	*3.7%*
B22 Implementation – Investment	*0.05*	*0.25*	*0.30*	*6%*	*72 748*	*5.9%*
B23 Implementation – Dispute Settlement	*0.05*	*0.20*	*0.25*	*5%*	*61 427*	*5.0%*
B24 Implementation – Energy Efficiency	*0.05*	*0.25*	*0.30*	*6%*	*72 748*	*5.9%*
B3 Institutional Cooperation and Member-Led Engagement	0.10	0.02	0.12	2.4%	36 819	3.0%
Provision for ILOAT					0	0
Total	**1**	**4**	**5**	**100%**	**1 228 543**[4]	**100%**

[4] This represents the total budget under funding option A proposed in the document BC 475.

Table 4
Estimated use of financial resources for the implementation of the Programme of Work in 2027

All amounts in EUR

Activities	*Posts Estab. Off.*	*Posts Temp. Off.*	*Total Posts*	*%*	*Total Estimated costs EUR*	*Total Estimated costs %*
A Administration and Management	**0.60**	**2.95**	**3.55**	**71%**	**856 262**	**70.1%**
A1 Support to the Conference and its subsidiary and consultative bodies	0.15	0.55	0.70	14%	171 899	14.1%
A2 Legal Support	0.10	0.35	0.45	9%	110 851	9.1%
A3 Financial and Administrative Support	0.25	1.70	1.95	39%	462 662	37.9%
A4 Depository	0.10	0.35	0.45	9%	110 851	9.1%
B Programmes	**0.40**	**1.05**	**1.45**	**29%**	**364 692**	**29.9%**
B1 Modernisation of the Energy Charter Treaty	0.10	0.20	0.30	6%	77 117	6.3%
B2 Implementation of the Energy Charter Treaty	0.20	0.83	1.03	20.6%	250 938	20.6%
B21 Implementation – Transit	0.05	0.13	0.18	3.6%	45 305	3.7%
B22 Implementation – Investment	0.05	0.25	0.30	6%	72 292	5.9%
B23 Implementation – Dispute Settlement	0.05	0.20	0.25	5%	61 048	5.0%
B24 Implementation – Energy Efficiency	0.05	0.25	0.30	6%	72 292	5.9%
B3 Institutional Cooperation and Member-Led Engagement	0.10	0.02	0.12	2.4%	36 637	3.0%
Provision for ILOAT					0	0
Total	**1**	**4**	**5**	**100%**	**1 220 954**[5]	**100%**

[5] This represents the total budget under funding option A proposed in the document BC 475.

BUDGET PART I

A Management and Administration
A1 Support to the Conference and its subsidiary and consultative bodies

Description

In line with Article 35(4) of the ECT, the Secretariat shall provide the Conference with all necessary assistance for the performance of its duties. It shall carry out the functions assigned to it in the ECT or in any Protocol and any other functions assigned to it by the Conference (Article 34 of the ECT).

Deliverables

1. Organise the meetings of the Conference as mandated under Articles 34(1) and 34(2) of the ECT, including coordination with the Conference Chairmanship, its Chairperson and Vice Chairperson;

2. Support the Conference and its subsidiary bodies in developing the Programme of Work and annual budget with a view to advancing the implementation of the Conclusions of the Review under Article 34(7) of the ECT (CCDEC 2024 20 STR) in relation to the prioritisation of the Secretariat's activities, ensuring that ongoing and proposed activities reflect the core mandate of the ECT and operational capacity of the Secretariat, address the review conclusions, and comply with the relevant decisions of the Conference;

3. Provide technical and procedural support to the Conference and its subsidiary bodies by preparing working documents, conclusions, summary records, and following up on adopted outcomes. Specifically, prepare reporting and implementation updates for consideration by the Conference and its subsidiary bodies, with reference to specific ECT provisions, review outcomes, and Secretariat commitments;

4. In accordance with the conclusions of the review conducted in 2024 under Article 34(7) of the ECT, support consultative mechanisms such as the Industry Advisory Panel ("IAP") where such engagement is formally requested by the Conference or aligned with institutional mandates;

5. Manage the organisation's archives and library.

Bodies involved

- Energy Charter Conference
- Subsidiary bodies of the Conference
- Consultative bodies of the Conference, including the IAP
- Management Committee

Units involved – with human resources

- DSG
- General Counsel
- Unit for Implementation and External Activities
- Unit for Administration

Planning

- Recurring activity
- Deadline: 31 December 2027

Estimated Resources[6]

	2026	2027
Established Officials	0.15	0.15
Temporary Officials	0.55	0.55
Estimated Costs (EUR)	172 961	171 899

A Management and Administration
A2 Legal Support

Description

In line with Article 35(4) of the ECT, the Secretariat shall provide substantive and procedural legal support to the Conference, its subsidiary bodies, and the Management Committee, and upon request – to Members and Observers to the Conference, – on the interpretation and application of the ECT, the Protocol on Energy Efficiency and Related Environmental Aspects (PEEREA), other related instruments, and other decisions adopted by the Conference. The Secretariat will also provide legal advice on institutional matters, including the application of the Rules of Procedure, the Headquarters Agreement, the Staff Regulations and Rules, and on administrative and contractual arrangements entered into by the Secretariat, pursuant to Article 35(5) of the ECT, for the effective discharge of its functions.

Deliverables

1. Provide substantive and procedural legal support to the Conference, its subsidiary bodies, including the Legal Advisory Committee sub-group, the Management Committee, and, upon request, to the Members and Observers of the Conference, on the interpretation and application of the ECT, the PEEREA, and other related instruments;

2. Provide substantive and procedural legal support to the Conference, its subsidiary bodies, including the Legal Advisory Committee sub-group, the Management Committee, and, upon request – to the Members and Observers of the Conference, – in developing, interpreting and applying legal instruments governing the Conference's and the Secretariat's operations, including the Rules of Procedure, the Headquarters Agreement, terms of reference of subsidiary bodies and the Management Committee, the Staff Regulations and Rules, other decisions adopted by the Conference, and other internal rules and policies;

3. Provide substantive and procedural legal support to the Secretariat in interpreting and applying legal instruments governing its operations, the Headquarters Agreement, the Staff Regulations and Rules, other decisions adopted by the Conference, and other internal rules and policies;

4. Provide legal advice to the Secretariat on administrative and contractual arrangements entered into by the Secretariat under Article 35(5) of the ECT, as well as on developing

[6] Based on the budget under funding option A proposed in the document BC 475.

Memoranda of Understanding to advance the implementation of the objectives and provisions of the ECT;

5. Provide substantive and procedural legal support to the Conference and its subsidiary bodies in implementing the conclusions of the review under Article 34(7) of the ECT, including developing and revising legal instruments governing the Conference's and the Secretariat's operations as requested by the Conference and its subsidiary bodies;

6. Respond to inquiries and maintain liaison with Members and Observers of the Conference, as well as third parties and other stakeholders, on the aforementioned legal matters, as appropriate and upon request; and

7. Manage the ECT website and the associated databases.

Bodies involved

- Energy Charter Conference
- Subsidiary bodies of the Conference, including the Legal Advisory Committee sub-group
- Management Committee

Units involved – with human resources

- DSG
- General Counsel

Planning

- Recurring activity
- Deadline: 31 December 2027

Estimated Resources

	2026	2027
Established Officials	0.10	0.10
Temporary Officials	0.35	0.35
• Estimated Costs (EUR)	111 534	110 851

A Management and Administration
A3 Financial and Administrative Support

Description

The Secretariat shall undertake administrative and financial tasks, as required and in compliance with the Financial Rules and their Implementing Instructions adopted by the Conference through CCDEC 2022 14 BUD, including but not limited to budget planning, control, and administration; financial control; contracts and contract procedures; payroll; personnel management; information technology and communications; and premises and support services.

Deliverables

1. Administer the budget for the Secretariat in compliance with the Financial Rules and Implementing Instructions;

2. Administer and manage the Secretariat's transactions, accounts, and subsidiary records in compliance with the Financial Rules and Implementing Instructions;

3. Report to the Conference and its subsidiary bodies on the status of the implementation of the budget, the calculation and collection of the Secretariat's income, as well as all other relevant financial and administrative matters in a form and time stipulated under the Financial Rules and Implementing Instructions;

4. Prepare the financial statements of the Secretariat's net equity and financial position at the end of 2025 and 2026 and of its income and expenditure for the relevant year in accordance with the Financial Rules and Implementing Instructions, International Public Sector Accounting Standards ("IPSAS") and the accounting policies of the Secretariat;

5. Provide the External Auditors with all necessary support and documentation that they request to facilitate them in conducting financial audits in accordance with their Terms of Reference and the Financial Rules and Implementing Instructions;

6. Provide financial and administrative support to the Secretariat in the performance of its Depositary functions (Activity A4);

7. Undertake all human resources-related tasks concerning recruitment, posting, advancement, benefits, contracts and other personnel matters;

8. Manage and administer all information technology and communications-related matters of the Secretariat, including dissemination to the Conference and its subsidiary bodies all information and documents as required under the Rules of Procedure;

9. Manage the Secretariat and the ECT websites as well as maintain all relevant databases and subscriptions; and

10. Manage the administrative and financial aspects of the Secretariat's office premises, as well as any remaining matters arising from the expiry of its previous lease at the end of 2025.

Bodies involved
- Energy Charter Conference
- Budget Committee
- Management Committee

Units involved
- DSG
- Unit for Administration
- Unit for Implementation and External Activities

Planning
- Recurring activity
- Deadline: 31 December 2027

Estimated Resources

	2026	2027
Established Officials	0.25	0.25
Temporary Officials	1.70	1.70
• Estimated Costs (EUR)	465 622	462 662

A Management and Administration
A4 Depository

Description

In line with the decisions of the Conference CCDEC 2024 16 GEN and CCDEC 2025 01 GEN, the Secretariat has officially assumed, on an interim basis, the role of the Depositary of the ECT and the PEEREA, effective as of 2 February 2025. The role of the Secretariat as the Depositary will become permanent following the entry into force of the amendments to the ECT and PEEREA pursuant to Article 42 and Article 17, respectively. As the Depositary, the Secretariat receives and processes all notifications, declarations, and other instruments related to the ECT and the PEEREA and performs other functions in accordance with the 1969 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties ("VCLT").

Deliverables

1. Perform any depositary functions provided for in international law, and particularly Articles 76–80 of the VCLT, including keeping custody of the original texts of the ECT and the PEEREA, full powers delivered, any instruments, notifications and communications related to the ECT and the PEEREA;

2. Perform specific functions as mandated by the ECT and the PEEREA:
   - Keep custody of the instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval of the ECT (Article 39) and the PEEREA (Article 15).
   - Receive and keep custody of declarations and notifications on the territorial application of the ECT to Contracting Parties (Article 40(1)–(3)).
   - Receive and keep custody of the instruments of accession to the ECT (Article 41) and the PEEREA (Article 16).
   - Submit approved amendments to the ECT (Article 42(3)) and the PEEREA (Article 17(3)) to all Contracting Parties for ratification, acceptance or approval.
   - Receive and keep custody of the instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval of amendments to the ECT (Article 42(4)) and the PEEREA Article 17(4)).
   - Keep custody of declarations and notifications on provisional application of the ECT (Article 45(2)–(3)).
   - Receive and keep custody of written notifications of the withdrawal from the ECT (Article 47(1)) and the PEEREA (Article 20(1)).

3. Receive and keep custody of the declarations and notifications pursuant to Conference Decision CCDEC 2024 16 GEN;

4. Perform any other depositary functions assigned by the Conference;

5. Provide general legal advice on treaty law and practice at the request of the Conference and its subsidiary bodies and specific legal advice to Contracting Parties to the ECT and the PEEREA and third parties in relation to any treaty action, including any instruments, notifications and communications, ensuring proper execution of such actions;

6. Provide regular updates on the performance of the depositary functions to the Strategy and Implementation Group; and

7. Participate in and/or organise events, training, seminars, and technical assistance workshops on topics of direct relevance to the depositary functions.

Bodies involved	**Units involved**
• Energy Charter Conference • Strategy and Implementation Group	• DSG • General Counsel • Unit for Administration

Planning
- Recurring activity
- Deadline: 31 December 2027

Estimated Resources

	2026	**2027**
Established Officials	0.10	0.10
Temporary Officials	0.35	0.35
Estimated Costs (EUR)	111 534	110 851

B Programmes
B1 Modernisation of the ECT

Description

On 3 December 2024, the Conference adopted and approved decisions on the modernisation of the ECT, necessitating the Secretariat to provide further programmatic support in this regard, including support related to the provisional application of the amendments from 3 September 2025 and the ratification process, and awareness-raising efforts targeting Members and Observers to the Conference and other stakeholders.

Deliverables

1. Provide general information on the decisions on the modernisation of the ECT to the Conference, its subsidiary bodies, the Management Committee, the Members and Observers of the Conference, third parties and other stakeholders;

2. Provide specific information, legal support and technical assistance in relation to the decisions on the modernisation of the ECT upon request of the Contracting Parties,

including in relation to the provisional application of the amendments from 3 September 2025 and the ratification process;

3. Raise awareness about the decisions on the modernisation of the ECT amongst the Members and Observers of the Conference as well as relevant external stakeholders through participation in and/or organisation of events, training, seminars, and technical assistance workshops on topics related to the provisional application of the amendments from 3 September 2025, the ratification process, and the "main achievements" of the modernised ECT as endorsed by the Conference (CCDEC 2022 10 GEN); and

4. Providing regular updates on the present sub-activity to the Strategy and Implementation Group.

Bodies involved	**Units involved**
• Energy Charter Conference • Strategy and Implementation Group	• DSG • General Counsel

Planning	**Estimated Resources**		
• Ongoing activity • Deadline: 31 December 2027		**2026**	**2027**
	Established Officials	0.10	0.10
	Temporary Officials	0.20	0.20
	5. Estimated Costs (EUR)	77 573	77 117

B Programmes
B2 Implementation of the ECT
B21 Energy Transit

Description

As per Article 34(3), the functions of the Conference include reviewing and facilitating the implementation of the provisions of the ECT and its Protocols. In line with Article 35(4) of the ECT, the Secretariat shall assist the Conference through Activity B21 in facilitating the implementation of the provisions on energy transit (Article 7 of the ECT).

Deliverables

1. Maintain institutional readiness to support the implementation of the ECT's provisions on transit (Articles 7–10), including technical input or analysis, if requested by Contracting Parties;

2. Provide technical and procedural support to the Conference and its subsidiary bodies on ECT provisions concerning energy transit, including the preparation of documentation, should such engagement be initiated;

3. Monitor developments in energy transit frameworks within the ECT constituency and report to the Conference and its subsidiary bodies on the implementation of the energy transit provisions in the ECT in accordance with Article 34(3) of the ECT;

4. Raise awareness about the transit provisions of the ECT amongst Members and Observers of the Conference as well as relevant external stakeholders through participation in and/or organisation of events, training, seminars, and technical assistance workshops on related topics; and

5. Explore synergies with other international organisations and work with them through MoUs, joint forums, technical studies, and reports on matters of direct relevance to the above.

Bodies involved	**Units involved**
• Strategy and Implementation Group	• DSG • Unit for Implementation and External Activities

Planning
- Recurring activity
- Deadline: 31 December 2027

Estimated Resources

	2026	**2027**
Established Officials	0.05	0.05
Temporary Officials	0.13	0.13
1. Estimated Costs (EUR)	45 579	45 305

B Programmes
B2 Implementation of the ECT
B22 Investment

Description

As per Article 34(3), the functions of the Conference include reviewing and facilitating the implementation of the provisions of the ECT and its Protocols. In line with Article 35(4) of the ECT, the Secretariat shall assist the Conference through Activity B22 in facilitating the implementation of the provisions concerning investments under the ECT.

Deliverables

1. Develop and publish the Energy Investment Risk Assessment (EIRA) report for 2026 and 2027 (up to 4 country reports annually) in support of the implementation of Part III of the ECT on investment promotion and protection;

2. Update and maintain the web resource of regulatory documents relevant to the energy investment climate for upload on the EIRA website to support member states in implementing transparency functions under Article 20 of the ECT;

3. Provide technical and procedural support to the Conference and its subsidiary bodies on the implementation and review of the ECT's investment provisions, including the preparation of documentation requested by such bodies;

4. Report to the Conference and its subsidiary bodies on the implementation of the investment-related provisions in the ECT;

5. Raise awareness about the investment protection and promotion provisions of the ECT, as well as its Article 19 and 19 bis modernised ECT, amongst Members and Observers of the Conference, as well as relevant external stakeholders through participation in and/or organisation of events, training, seminars, and technical assistance workshops on related topics; and

6. Explore synergies with other international organisations and work with them through MoUs, joint forums, technical studies, and reports on matters of direct relevance to the above.

Bodies involved
- Strategy and Implementation Group

Units involved
- DSG
- Unit for Implementation and External Activities

Planning
- Recurring activity
- Deadline: 31 December 2027

Estimated Resources

	2026	2027
Established Officials	0.05	0.05
Temporary Officials	0.25	0.25
Estimated Costs (EUR)	72 748	72 292

B Programmes
B2 Implementation of the ECT
B23 Dispute Settlement

Description

As per Article 34(3), the functions of the Conference include reviewing and facilitating the implementation of the principles of the European Energy Charter and the provisions of the ECT and its Protocols. In line with Article 35(4) of the ECT, the Secretariat shall assist the Conference through Activity B23 in facilitating the implementation of the provisions on dispute settlement.

Deliverables

1. Assist with good offices, mediation and conciliation upon request of the disputing parties, provide neutral, independent legal advice and assistance in dispute settlement under the auspices of the Secretariat's Conflict Resolutions Centre in relation to state-to-state and investment dispute settlement procedures under the ECT upon request of the disputing parties, and provide other technical assistance, if requested, including:
    a. assistance with good offices, mediation and conciliation neutral and independent legal advice and assistance in dispute settlement procedures under the ECT (CCDEC 2014 06 GEN);

b. assistance with good offices and mediation in investment disputes under the ECT (CCDEC 2016 12 INV);
c. administrative or technical assistance to conciliators in transit disputes under Article 7(10) (Ex 7)[7] of the ECT and the Transit Conciliation Rules (CCDEC 2015 11 TTG);
d. assistance in dispute settlement procedures under the Model Energy Charter Early Warning Mechanism to prevent and overcome emergency situations in transit (CCDEC 2014 14 TTG);
e. participation in pre-trial proceedings between Contracting Parties in state-to-state disputes under Article 30 (Ex 27)[8] of the ECT and trade disputes under Annex D to the ECT before they revert to the mechanisms contained in these provisions (CCDEC 2014 06 GEN);
f. assistance in the consultation process between the Contracting Parties in trade disputes (Annex D of the ECT);
g. assistance in conciliation procedures in state-to-state disputes on the sustainable development provisions (Article 19 and Article 19 bis)[9] of the ECT (Article 30 bis of the ECT)[10]; and
h. technical assistance in implementing the Model Instrument on Investment Dispute Management (CCDEC 2018 26 INV).

2. Assist the Conference in developing the standard provisions concerning the conduct of conciliation and the compensation of conciliators in state-to-state disputes on the sustainable development provisions (Article 19 and Article 19 bis) of the ECT in accordance with Article 30 bis(3);[11]

3. Organise, maintain and facilitate access to the documentary and audio *travaux préparatoires* of the European Energy Charter, the ECT and related protocols, and the Amendment to the Trade-Related Provisions (CCDEC 2016 24 STR);

4. Manage the ECT website and the associated databases;

5. Raise awareness about the dispute avoidance, mitigation, and amicable settlement initiatives amongst Members and Observers of the Conference as well as relevant external stakeholders through participation in and/or organisation of events, training, seminars, and technical assistance workshops on related topics; and

6. Explore synergies with other international organisations and work with them through MoUs, joint forums, technical studies, and reports on matters of direct relevance to the above.

[7] As amended by Conference Decision CCDEC 2024 12 GEN (Amendments to the Energy Charter Treaty) on 3 December 2024.
[8] Ibid.
[9] Ibid n 8.
[10] Ibid.
[11] Ibid.

Bodies involved
- Strategy and Implementation Group

Units involved
- DSG
- General Counsel

Planning
- Recurring activity
- Deadline: 31 December 2027

Estimated Resources

	2026	2027
Established Officials	0.05	0.05
Temporary Officials	0.20	0.20
Estimated Costs (EUR)	61 427	61 048

B Programmes
B2 Implementation of the ECT
B24 Energy Efficiency and the PEEREA

Description

As per Article 34(3), the functions of the Conference include reviewing and facilitating the implementation of the provisions of the ECT and its Protocols. Article 11(1) of the PEEREA mandates the Secretariat to provide the Conference with all necessary assistance for performing its duties under this Protocol and provide such other services in support of the Protocol as may be required from time to time, subject to approval by the Conference. In this context, and in line with Article 35(4) of the ECT, the Secretariat shall assist the Conference through Activity B24 in facilitating the implementation of the provisions in the ECT related to energy efficiency and the PEEREA.

Deliverables

1. Prepare and finalise the In-Depth Energy Efficiency Reviews for Jordan and Mongolia, which operationalise the review function foreseen under Article 10 of the PEEREA and support the implementation of obligations under Article 3 concerning cooperation and mutual assistance; and

2. Provide technical and procedural support to the Conference and its subsidiary in reviewing the implementation of the ECT provisions on energy efficiency and environmental aspects, as well as PEEREA and report to the Conference and its subsidiary bodies on the implementation of these provisions;

3. Raise awareness about the energy efficiency provisions of PEEREA, as well as Article 19 and Article 19 bis of the modernised ECT, amongst Members and Observers of the Conference, as well as relevant external stakeholders through participation in and/or organisation of events, training, seminars, and technical assistance workshops on related topics; and

4. Explore synergies with other international organisations and work with them through MoUs, joint forums, technical studies, and reports on matters of direct relevance to the above.

Bodies involved	**Units involved**
• Strategy and Implementation Group	• DSG • Unit for Implementation and External Activities

Planning	**Estimated Resources**		
• Recurring activity		**2026**	**2027**
• Deadline: 31 December 2027	Established Officials	0.05	0.05
	Temporary Officials	0.25	0.25
	5. Estimated Costs (EUR)	72 748	72 292

B Programmes
B3 Institutional Cooperation and Member-Led Engagement

Description

This Programme aims to facilitate member-led dialogue within the Strategy and Implementation Group on possible modalities for engagement with observer countries, should Contracting Parties wish to pursue such discussions. Such dialogue would not involve any promotional activity or outreach by the Secretariat. A modest level of human resources has been allocated to facilitate internal coordination and preparatory support, which will be adjusted based on the evolution of discussions within the Strategy and Implementation Group. Pursuant to Article 34(4) of the ECT, the Secretariat will continue to cooperate with relevant international organisations and institutions whose activities are consistent with the ECT's objectives, as well as engagement with Contracting Parties through participation in institutional or thematic activities relevant to implementing the PoW for 2026-2027. All such cooperation will be conducted with full regard to the principles of economy, efficiency, and complementarity.

Deliverables

1. Facilitation of member-led discussions, as appropriate, within existing bodies, such as the S&I Group, on future modalities of engagement with observer countries;

2. Preparation of internal documentation or informal background material in support of such discussions upon the request of the Conference and its subsidiary bodies;

3. Maintenance of working-level cooperation with relevant international organisations in line with Article 34(4) of the ECT, with due regard for economy, efficiency, and complementarity; and

4. Participation, at the senior level and where appropriate, in thematic activities convened by Contracting Parties or relevant international organisations, where such engagement

supports the implementation of the PoW and aligns with institutional cooperation functions.

Bodies involved • Strategy and Implementation Group	**Units involved** • DSG • Unit for Implementation and External Activities
Planning • Recurring activity • Deadline: 31 December 2027	**Estimated Resources**

	2026	**2027**
Established Officials	0.10	0.10
Temporary Officials	0.02	0.02
6. Estimated Costs (EUR)	36 819	36 637

BUDGET PART II

The Secretariat invites Members and Observers of the Conference, as well as international organisations, to make voluntary contributions towards programmes and activities of interest to them.

The Secretariat also receives other resources from financial operations (interests received, profit on currency exchange, etc.). These resources will be used to compensate for expenses on financial operations of the same nature.

C Other and Extra Programmes
C1 Implementation of the Treaty
C12 Investment
C12a EIRA country profiles

Description

The Secretariat shall prepare additional EIRA country profiles (regular version) or special editions of the report as requested by a donor country, organisation, or institution.

Deliverables
Special edition of the Joint Energy Charter Secretariat and Islamic Development Bank EIRA report

Bodies involved Strategy and Implementation Group	**Units involved** DSG's Office Unit for Implementation and External Activities
Planning Recurring activity Deadline: 31 December 2027	**Resources available** None **Requested resources** 2022: Voluntary Contribution from the Islamic Development Bank[12] of EUR 22 204 2023: Balance of EUR 22 204 2024: Balance of EUR 22 204 2025: Balance of previous year EUR 16 891) + **Voluntary contributions requested**

C Other and Extra Programmes
C1 Implementation of the ECT
C12 Investment
C12b EIRA extended country profiles

Description

The Secretariat shall develop and publish Extended EIRA country reports examining the policy, legal and regulatory risks for investment in the energy sectors of participating countries. Depending on the specific needs and circumstances of the countries, the profiles shall offer detailed information on the strengths and areas for improvement across the different pre-defined

[12] The amount of the voluntary contribution from the Islamic Development Bank is USD 25 000. The exchange rate used at the time of the agreement gave an amount of EUR 21 660. The actual amount received at the payment is EUR 22 204.

risk areas and performance indicators, and, in comparison to regular EIRA country profiles, give more in-depth and tailored recommendations.

Deliverables

Extended country profile publications, including their presentation.

Bodies involved Strategy and Implementation Group Donor country, organisation or institution	**Units involved** Unit for Implementation and External Activities
Planning One-time activity per financed country Deadline: to be defined	**Resources available** None **Requested resources** **Voluntary contribution of EUR 20 000 requested per Extended EIRA profile**