



Luxembourg, 12 May 2017

Dr Konrad Mizzi
Auberge de Castille
Valletta VLT 2000
Malta

Ref.: 0208-E17

Dear Chair,
Dear Konrad,

Energy efficiency is a milestone of the energy transition that all member states of the EU are gradually experiencing. Energy efficiency has a social impact by alleviating household energy invoice and fighting against energy poverty, energy efficiency has the capacity to reinforce our energy independence towards fossil fuel imports and decrease the EU trade unbalance in energy sector and diminishing the national fiscal burden for the next generations.

Energy efficiency is therefore rightly at the heart of the legislative package proposed by the European Commission and now on the table of the Council.

In the run of the negotiations on the EED recast in the Council, it is seemly now proposed that the EU-wide energy efficiency target of 30% should not be binding, as suggested by the European Commission, but rather indicative.

In my opinion, it is necessary for the EU to avoid softening the efforts and slow down the momentum launched ten years ago by the EU Heads of State and Government. We need at horizon 2030 to consolidate the rules that guarantee clarity and security for planning certainty and encouraging market participants to permanently act in an efficiency-oriented manner.

As part of the current negotiations on the recast of the Energy Efficiency Directive, I therefore call for a binding EU-wide energy efficiency target of 30% for the period up to 2030 based on the EU's 2007 PRIMES Baseline reference forecast. In this context, it is also of high importance to agree on rules that take into account the measures taken by Member States before 2005 ('early action').

Looking forward to exchange with you on this matter in Malta next week.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'E' followed by a horizontal line and a vertical line that curves downwards and to the right.

Étienne Schneider
Deputy Prime Minister,
Minister of the Economy

Cc: EU Commissioner Miguel Arias Cañete for Climate Action and Energy