Dear Delegates attending the 28th Meeting of the Energy Charter Conference,

Please find attached the Agenda of the Conference.

For your ease of reference, please also be informed that all documents related to the 28th Meeting of the Energy Charter Conference are available on the delegates’ page of our website - [http://www.energycharter.org/Delegate](http://www.energycharter.org/Delegate).

You can have access to them using the following username and password:

We look forward to welcoming you in Ashgabat!

Best regards,

Energy Charter Conference Team

Energy Charter Secretariat
Boulevard de la Woluwe, 46
B-1200 Brussels, Belgium
Tel: [phone number]
Fax: [phone number]
Email: [email address]

2017 - Year of the Turkmenistan Chairmanship
AGENDA

MEETING: 28th MEETING OF THE ENERGY CHARTER CONFERENCE

DATE:
- Tuesday, 28 November 2017 – Statutory Session (Registration from 12:00)
- Wednesday, 29 November 2017 – Ministerial Session (Registration from 8:00)

PLACE: Ashgabat, Turkmenistan

Delegations will find attached a revised draft agenda for the 28th Meeting of the Energy Charter Conference. By kind invitation of the Government of Turkmenistan, the 28th Meeting of the Conference will take place in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan. The Meeting will be comprised of 5 Parts and will be held over one and a half days. On Tuesday 28 November, some parts of the Statutory Session will be open to Members only.

The Ministerial Session will continue on Wednesday, 29 November and will be open to Observers, international organisations and the private sector. The theme of the Ministerial Session will be “Mobilising investment for a sustainable energy future and diversified transportation routes”. In Part IV of the Conference on 29 November, ministers and heads of delegations of Members and Observers of the Energy Charter Conference will address the topic of modernisation of the Energy Charter Treaty. Part V of the Conference will allow for high level representatives of the energy industry as well as international organisations to present their views on diversifying energy resources and transit routes.

Audio-visual equipment and simultaneous interpretation for English and Russian will be provided for this Meeting.

Please contact [insert contact information] at the Energy Charter Secretariat in Brussels should you have any questions with regards to the Conference (e-mail [insert email] or tel.: [insert phone number]).

Important Information: All conference attendees will receive their conference badge and printed programme at the onsite registration desk. For safety and security reasons, photo ID will be required to pick-up conference badges.

You can follow the Ministerial Session of the 28th Meeting of the Energy Charter Conference on Twitter. Please tweet about the conference using the hashtags #28ECC, #28EnergyCharterConference, #IntEnergyCharter. We kindly ask that you silence your electronic devices during the meeting sessions.

There will be press onsite taking photographs and video-recording during the Ministerial Sessions and the Energy Charter Award, as well as throughout the venue of the meeting during coffee breaks and the Gala dinner. Photos and videos taken of attendees may be used in preparation of a video of the conference and future marketing materials. Should you not want to appear in the photos or videos, please kindly inform at [insert contact information] or [insert contact information].
I. BACKGROUND

Energy is not just a vital commodity, it is the lifeblood of our economies and integral to the well-being of our societies. It has become increasingly clear, however, that the world has been witnessing substantial fluctuations, perhaps even structural change, in global energy markets. These trends include the so-called ‘shale revolution’ in the United States, the growth of Asian demand, and the global shift towards wide-scale use of cleaner energy resources in order to deliver commitments relating to the United Nation’s Paris Agreement on greenhouse gases and the Sustainable Development Goals. Such change is expected to continue and therefore attracts the sustained attention of market actors and Governments across the globe.

Fossil fuels, particularly but not only natural gas, will likely remain a vital energy resource fuelling the global economy for many years to come, although their role will no doubt change over time. Strengthening and diversifying energy supply routes in order to distribute important fuels such as natural gas to international markets will likely remain just as high on the energy security agenda as will diversification of energy resources. Both tasks will require stronger effort in the creation of a more adequate enabling environment for energy investment in both the upstream sector, where investment has been down in recent years at the global level, and also downstream, where there is much potential to scale up investment in distributed energy resources, energy efficiency and smart grids.

To achieve energy security objectives, Governments will need to attract investments into cross border energy infrastructure, including new gas and oil pipeline projects, trans-national electricity grids and LNG terminals. Many countries can also be expected to invest heavily in energy efficiency and broader system efficiency given the high net benefits of such investments from a societal perspective. In all jurisdictions, there is high potential for scaling up investment in this area. Further, secure and stable transit of energy resources, particularly gas, across the territories of third countries will need to be adequately addressed within international policy fora in order to balance out the interests of energy producing, consuming and transiting countries. Delivering sufficient and timely investment will require reinforcement of institutional instruments advancing the protection, as well as promotion of energy related investments, taking into account not only the commercial viability of projects, but also their contribution to energy policy goals, including sustainable development.

In a rapidly changing international setting where conventional energy sources may still be relatively abundant and relatively cheap to exploit, Governments may find themselves at a crossroads as large long-term investments could potentially become stranded given the pace and scale of change taking place in energy markets today. Policy choices will therefore need to take full account of current trends and anticipate future change by taking a strategic and longer term view, paying due attention to minimising and managing risk.
To summarise, the parameters of the debate on energy security have changed. The debate is no longer dominated by one particular fuel such as oil or gas as it has been in the past. Our present era is increasingly characterised by diversity where a wide range of highly disparate energy resources – aided by new technologies, policies and market design – will work in unison to deliver energy services at local, national, regional and global levels. Policy making in such a setting requires far greater levels of strategic thinking, as well as prudence in consideration of risk and opportunity presented by change in the global energy sector.

OBJECTIVE

The Ministerial Sessions of the 28th Meeting of the Energy Charter Conference will provide a platform for top-level government decision makers, international organisations and energy company executives to engage in a policy dialogue on how to mobilise investment for a sustainable energy future and to diversify (energy) transportation routes. There will also be a ministerial discussion on the topic of potential modernisation of the Energy Charter Treaty, as well as a special session on diversification of energy resources and transit routes across the constituency of the International Energy Charter.

The Sessions will further provide a global forum for in-depth reflections on how to conduct the pursuit of practical policy objectives with respect to the content of the International Energy Charter, and to aim to formulate consensus in certain policy areas. Some of the key issues and questions guiding the discussions will include:

- How to overcome the ‘investment gap’, and how to help countries ensure that investments better fit both commercial and public objectives?
- What role can investment promotion frameworks such as the Energy Charter Treaty play in building investor confidence and furthering the energy transition?
- What links exist between an attractive enabling environment for foreign investments in the energy sector and actual investments realised?
- Can the ECT help market actors realise investments into new energy transport infrastructure and in which countries is this likely to happen?
- What role does the ECT and the International Energy Charter play in the promotion of diversified energy resources, particularly with a view to building investor confidence and helping to realise new projects?
- How do the principles contained in the Treaty and its accompanying political declarations serve as a benchmark for transit security?
- Can such principles also be extended to countries beyond the current operational scope of the ECT?
- What sort of Treaty will current ECT observers accede to in the future?
- Which provisions of the Treaty could benefit from or require update or clarification?
- Should the rights of investors and the obligations of states be better codified in a modernised version of the ECT?
II. AGENDA

TUESDAY, 28 NOVEMBER 2017

28th MEETING OF THE ENERGY CHARTER CONFERENCE
Hotel “Oguzkent”
Ashgabat, Turkmenistan

12:00-13:30 Registration for Members and Observers of the Energy Charter Conference

13:30-14:00 Part I - Opening Ceremony of the Ministerial Session of the 28th Meeting of the Energy Charter Conference (open to media)
Chair: Mr. Maksat Babayev, Chairman of the Energy Charter Conference, Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan
Welcoming new observers (2017) to the Energy Charter Process under the Chairmanship of Turkmenistan

13:30-13:40 Welcoming Remarks:
• Mr. Maksat Babayev, Chairman of the Energy Charter Conference, Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan

13:40-14:00 High-level addresses:
• Hon. Fafa Sanyang, Minister of Petroleum and Energy of The Gambia;
• Dr. Amina Bello Mohammed Shamaki, Permanent Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology of Nigeria;
• Dr. Matar Al Neyadi, Undersecretary, Ministry of Energy of the United Arab Emirates.

14:00-14:15 Energy Charter Award

14:30-16:00 Part II - Statutory Session (for Members and Observers of the Energy Charter Conference)
Chair: Mr. Charymyrat Purchekov, Vice-Chair of the Energy Charter Conference, Minister of Energy of Turkmenistan

Agenda Items:
1. Approval of the Agenda (Message 1354/17 Rev 4.)
2. Budgetary Issues and Programme of Work
   • Report of the Budget Committee (CC 614)
3. Chairmanships 2018-2020 and Conference Officers
   • Approval of the list of Chairmanships 2018–2020 (Mess. 1382)
   • Designation of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairpersons and other officers of the Conference’s Subsidiary Bodies (CC 611 & Mess. 1381)
4. Provisional Schedule of meetings for 2018 (Mess. 1365 Rev)
5. Presentation on Energy Investment Risk Assessment (EIRA) (RD 1)
   Members and Observers are invited to express their interest to participate in the 2018 edition.
6. **Future outlook and reports on 2017 by the Secretary General, by the Chairs of the Energy Charter Subsidiary Groups and the Industry Advisory Panel:**

   • Report by the Secretary General and progress report on CONEXO Policy (CC 613)
     
     *Observers, in particular those in the accession process, are especially invited to comment on the implementation of the CONEXO policy*

   • Report by the Chairperson of the Strategy Group (CC 606)

   • Report by the Chairperson of the Implementation Group (CC 607)

   • Report by the Chairman of the Industry Advisory Panel (CC 608)


8. **Date and Venue of the next Meeting of the Energy Charter Conference (CC 612)**

16:00-16:30 **Coffee Break**

16:30-18:00 **Cultural Programme (For Observers of the Energy Charter Conference only)**

   Trip to the ancient city of Nisa

16:30-18:30 **Statutory Session (For Members of the Energy Charter Conference only)**

9. **Ashgabat Declaration (CC 605)**

10. **Modernisation of the Energy Charter Treaty (RD 3)**

11. **Any other business**

18:30 **Conclusion of the Statutory Session**

   Transfer to Yildiz Hotel by buses

19:00 **Gala Dinner hosted by Turkmenistan as the Chair of the Energy Charter Conference (Hotel Yildiz)**
**Wednesday, 29 November 2017**

**“Mobilising Investment for a Sustainable Energy Future and Diversified Transportation Routes”**

Hotel “Oguzkent”

Ashgabat, Turkmenistan

8:00-8:30  **Registration and security clearance** (Late arrivals will likely be denied access due to security protocol and will only be able to join the latter part of the programme as of 10:15am)

9:00-10:00  **Grand opening ceremony with the participation of the President of Turkmenistan, H.E. Mr. Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov** (Ceremonial Hall) (Open to all registered delegates. All registered participants need to be present by 8:30 in order to access the room.)

9:00-9:15  **Group photo (Heads of Delegations only).**

9:15-10:00  **Opening addresses:**

- H.E. Mr. Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov, President of Turkmenistan
- Dr. Urban Rusnák, Secretary General of the International Energy Charter

10:15-12:30  **Part III - Ministerial Session** (Conference Hall) (open to media)

**Chair:** Mr. Maksat Babayev, Chairman of the Energy Charter Conference, Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan

**Official address:** Mr. Maksat Babayev, Chairman of the Energy Charter Conference, Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan; Mr. Mikheil Janelidze, Vice Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia

**Keynote address:** Dr. Urban Rusnák, Secretary General of the International Energy Charter

**High-level addresses:**

- Mr. Iulian Robert Tudorache, Secretary of State, Ministry of Energy of Romania (incoming Chairmanship 2018);
- Mr. Manabu Horii, Parliamentary Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (former Chairmanship 2016);
- Ms. Dorina Çinari, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy of Albania (Chairmanship 2019);

(All participating Ministers and Heads of Delegations are welcome to address the Conference. The order of the high-level addresses will be determined by the Chair.)

12:30-14:00  **Lunch**

14:00-15:30  **PART IV: Ministerial session on the modernisation of the Energy Charter Treaty**

**Moderator:** Dr. Urban Rusnák, Secretary General of the International Energy Charter.
Panel discussion:

- Mr. Iulian Robert Tudorache, Secretary of State, Ministry of Energy of Romania;
- Mr. Vadim Zakrevsky, Deputy Minister of Energy of Belarus;
- Ambassador Kazuo Kodama, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the European Union (former Chairmanship 2016);
- Mr. Reza Ardakanian, Minister of Energy of Iran.

With Interventions from:

- Amb. Ignacio Ybáñez Rubio, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Spain to Turkmenistan;
- Mr. Li Fanrong, Deputy Administrator, National Energy Administration of China;

15:30-16:00 Coffee-break

16:00-17:30 PART V: Diversifying energy resources and transit routes in the international energy markets

Moderator: [Name], Chair of the Industry Advisory Panel, Director of Government Affairs at Dow Europe.

With interventions from:

- Mr. Murat Archayev, State Minister, Chairman of State Concern "Turkmengas";
- [Name], Director of Business Development, Gas Value Chains, BP;
- [Name], Adviser, SOCAR;
- [Name], Principal Energy Specialist, Energy Division, Central and West Asia Department, Asian Development Bank;
- [Name], Acting Deputy Minister and Director General for Economic and Investment, Petroleum Ministry of Iran;
- [Name], Advisor to the Prime Minister of Georgia for East-West Energy Corridor.

17:30-17:45 Concluding Remarks:

- Mr. Maksat Babayev, Chairman of the Energy Charter Conference, Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan;
- Dr. Urban Rusnák, Secretary General of the International Energy Charter.

17:45-18:00 Adoption of the Concluding document of the 28th Meeting of the Energy Charter Conference

18:00-18:30 Press Conference (with representatives of Turkmenistan, Japan, Romania Chairmanships and Secretary General of the International Energy Charter)

19:00 Farewell Cocktail Reception

THURSDAY, 30 NOVEMBER 2017

10:00-16:00 Cultural programme