



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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ADDENDUM TO "I/A" ITEM NOTE

from: General Secretariat of the Council
to: PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE/COUNCIL

No Cion. prop.: 13043/07 ENER 221 CODEC 948

Subject : Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2003/54/EC concerning common rules for the internal market in electricity [**second reading**]
– Adoption of the legislative act (**LA + S**)
Statements

Declaration of the Republic of Austria

Austria welcomes the adoption of the Directive which will, *inter alia*, enhance both security of supply as well as market integration and which will, as a result thereof, contribute to the competitiveness of the electricity industry in Europe.

Bearing in mind the instrumental role which regions or, respectively, regional markets play in enhancing competition and security of supply as stipulated by the Directive, Austria is of the opinion that Member States should consider the characteristics and specificities of their regions and make use of adequate and proportionate measures when implementing the Directive into their national law. Given the fact that the “economies of scale principle” most notably applies to them, it is particularly important not to overstrain the burden on small transmission systems.

Austria is therefore of the opinion that, while fully respecting the legal framework of the Directive, small transmission system operators should be able to cooperate with other transmission system operators and to bring in certain transmission functions into such regional cooperation.

Declaration by the Commission

According to Annex A of the Directive, in the case an economic assessment of the long-term costs and benefits has been made, at least 80% of those consumers which have been assessed positively have to be equipped with intelligent metering systems by 2020.

It is understood that in the case no economic assessment of the long-term costs and benefits is made, at least 80% of all consumers have to be equipped with intelligent metering systems by 2020.
