INFORMATION NOTE

from: General Secretariat of the Council

to: Delegations

Subject: Romania’s offer to host the Sustainable Energy Forum

Delegations will find attached an information note from the Romanian delegation.
Romania’s objectives of Energy Strategy are closely linked to the objectives of Energy Policy for Europe (EPE) agreed by the Spring 2007 European Council.

As a member state with relatively high energy intensity but also a large market and potential for improvement, Romania has to increase energy efficiency and the share of renewable energy sources, both from an economic and energy security perspective. Therefore, serious efforts in reviewing legislation, initiating new programs and strengthening the institutional capacity have been made.

Romania is fully committed to contribute to EU efforts in fighting climate change. Improving energy efficiency and increasing the share of renewable energy represents the main instruments. Actions in these areas go hand in hand with priorities related to increasing economic competitiveness and security of supply. These aspects have been recognized and therefore included in the European Council Action Plan (2007-2009), which underlines, among other, the importance of the joint work of the European Commission and Member States for developing renewable energies and exchanges of best practices through an expanded Forum.

In this context, Romania would be honored to continue on the successful line of the Dutch Government by hosting the Sustainable Energy Forum for the next four years in Bucharest. We would, of course, work closely with all Member States, European institutions and relevant European stakeholders in making the Forum an efficient vehicle in achieving the ambitious goals that we share in the area of sustainable energy.