



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ENERGY AND TRANSPORT

DIRECTORATE D - New and renewable sources of energy, demand management & sustainable development  
**Promotion and dissemination of programme results**

Brussels, 15 December 2005  
TREN/D3/SK D(2005)

## **MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY ENERGY STAR BOARD (ECESB) 2 DECEMBER 2005, BRUSSELS**

### **DRAFT MINUTES**

Chairman: André BRISAER, TREN D3

#### **1 Adoption of the Agenda**

The agenda was adopted. Sweden requested to address the issue of data quality of the EU ENERGY STAR database under AOB. The Netherlands requested to include a discussion on servers under AOB.

#### **2 Adoption of the minutes of the meeting of 03 December 2004**

On request of the Netherlands, the minutes of the ECESB meeting of 03 December 2004 are modified as follows: “**8 AOB** – The chairman confirmed that the data published in the website and in particular from the EU database are public domain.”

#### **3 Preparation of the renewal of the Agreement with the U.S.A. on the Energy Star programme: views of the members of the ECESB**

The Commission staff presented the document “The EC ENERGY STAR Programme – Period 2001 to 2005” summarizing the experiences gained during the first period of implementation of the ENERGY STAR programme and explaining the rationale for the general line of the proposal to continue the EC ENERGY STAR programme. The chairman pointed out that objections on the principle to renewing the Agreement are to be expressed during this meeting since the procedures for renewing the Agreement have to be launched without delay. However, comments on the detailed provision of the Agreement and the corresponding modifications to the regulation implementing the ENERGY STAR programme in the EC (currently Regulation No EC 2422/2001) may still be submitted at a later stage.

The representatives of the Member states and of the interested parties (EICTA) supported the principle to continue the EC ENERGY STAR programme for a second period of five years and the general baseline to simplify the procedures for revising technical products

specifications and the reporting duties both of the Commission and of the ECESB. Several delegations underlined the importance of consistency of policy measures, in particular in respect to ecodesign measures (i.e. in the framework of Directive 2005/32/EC) and mandatory labelling (i.e. in the framework of Directive 92/75/EC).

The chairman remarked that the ENERGY STAR programme and ecodesign measures are complementary and that coordination of the efforts will be ensured. In particular, the results of the ENERGY STAR programme will – where appropriate (e.g. measurement methods) – be considered when developing ecodesign measures for those product categories being covered by the ENERGY STAR programme and therefore synergies will be exploited.

The United Kingdom remarked that it may become necessary to cover office equipment by mandatory labelling measures in the framework of Directive 92/75/EC. The chairman pointed out that for those product categories being covered by the ENERGY STAR programme additional initiatives in the framework of Directive No 92/75/EC – though legally not being excluded – are not being planned by the Commission services.

The Commission staff presented the changes proposed for a new Agreement (see presentation distributed together with these draft minutes) for discussion:

- It was suggested to foresee a mechanism triggering the revision of technical specifications when a certain part of the models on the market comply with the ENERGY STAR criteria: some delegations remarked that such a mechanism may be less flexible, create uncertainty and hamper innovation since industry may be reluctant to further improve the energy efficiency.
- It was suggested to retain some elements for promotion of the ENERGY STAR programme since e.g. the ENERGY STAR conference (Frankfurt am Main, 2004) has been a useful platform for stakeholder networking. The Commission staff shared this view and confirmed the continuation of the EC ENERGY STAR internet portal, including the database.

#### **4 Preparation of the revision of Regulation EC No 2422/2001: views of the members of the ECESB**

The Commission staff presented the changes proposed for amending the Regulation implementing the ENERGY STAR programme in the EC (see presentation distributed together with these draft minutes) for discussion:

- EICTA accepted the proposal to abolish promotion obligations for Commission and Member States. The Commission pointed out that – although no legal obligations are foreseen – efforts of the industry on improving energy efficiency could be acknowledged in the context of further Commission activities promoting energy efficiency.
- Mandatory public procurement provisions in the framework of the ENERGY STAR regulation should be consistent with obligations stemming from other legislation, in particular the proposed directive on energy services and end-use energy efficiency. Some delegations welcomed to foresee a provision for mandatory energy efficiency targets in public procurement since mandatory targets have been successful in the U.S.A. and offer a reward for efforts to improve energy efficiency by providing an advantage in the market. On the other hand, some delegations expressed their concern that difficulties may arise for the implementation. Finland, Germany and Italy will seek legal advice on the

acceptability of this provision. However, it was pointed out that the suggested wording of the provision (“... without prejudice to national law and economic criteria ...”) readily takes into account the concerns expressed.

- For policy decision making – launching and carrying out the process of renewing technical specifications – market survey (estimate of the number of complying models on the market) is a prerequisite. EICTA will make a proposal on how reporting of companies which has been unsatisfactory so far on the relevant data may be improved in the future.
- As far as possible data measurement methods should be coordinated and published on the EC ENERGY STAR internet portal. However, it is in practice not possible to associate a particular measurement method with every set of data contained in the database since measurement methods are subject to change depending on the measurement method in force when a particular model was registered.

## **5 State of play of the revision of the technical specifications for imaging equipment**

The Commission reported on the current state of play of revising the technical specifications for imaging equipment. The European experts discussed the revision during the two meetings of the technical subgroup of the ECESB in February and May 2005. The “operational mode” and “typical energy consumption” test procedures have been developed and the test conditions have been worked out. A “Draft 1” version of the ENERGY STAR programme requirements for imaging equipment not containing values for the energy consumption levels has been released. Currently data is being collected and analysed in order to define the energy consumption levels. A second draft version of the programme requirements including energy consumption levels is expected to be released in December 2005. It will be discussed during a stakeholder meeting in Washington D.C. on 14 February 2006.

## **6 State of play of the revision of the technical specifications for computers**

The Commission reported on the current state of play of revising the technical specifications for computers. The European experts discussed the revision during the two meetings of the technical subgroup of the ECESB in February and May 2005. A framework document defining the scope of the revised technical specifications has been developed. The framework document contains suggestions for the energy consumption levels for some of the relevant modes. Currently data is being collected and analysed, in particular regarding the definition of energy consumption levels in the “idle-on” mode. Issues still to be clarified are the definition of product categories (in particular including workstations, servers in the desktop category), a possible power allowance for the “wake on LAN” functionality and the level of the requirements on the power supply efficiency. It is expected that a “Draft 1” version of the technical specifications will be released in December 2005.

## **7 Updated working plan**

The Commission staff presented the revised working plan (version of 15 November 2005) addressing in particular the foreseen schedules for a possible renewal of the Agreement with the U.S.A. on the ENERGY STAR programme and the revision of the technical specifications for imaging equipment and computers. It was underlined that the website is updated regularly, e.g. as regards the inclusion of newly registered products in the database and the downloadable “pdf” list of registered products. The Commission expressed its confidence that the new agreement on the ENERGY STAR programme with the U.S.A. could be signed by June 2006. Contractual procedures are under way for the Commission to be supported by a consultant in carrying out the tasks related to the revision of technical specifications.

## **8 AOB**

Data quality of the ENERGY STAR database:

Some delegations expressed their concern that the ENERGY STAR database contains data of models which are not on sale any more. The Commission pointed out that in 2003 old models have been expelled from the database and suggested to repeat the cleaning of the database in early 2006. EICTA remarked that this should be done in co-ordination with the manufacturers.

Some delegations expressed their concern that data in the EU ENERGY STAR database not always reflects the values for the energy consumption as being relevant for Europe. This was usually due to varying test conditions (US/EU) when the data is produced. However, manufacturers will be required to measure and declare the energy consumption for the grid characteristics of the market where the model is sold. A corresponding provision is contained e.g. in the “draft 1” revised technical specifications for imaging equipment.

Servers:

The NL pointed out that recent studies underline that it is important to consider the energy performance of servers. The chairman remarked that the European stakeholders may consider contributing to the development of technical specifications for servers.

### **Participants:**

Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom

Norway, EFTA, EICTA, GEEA