

PRESS RELEASE - Brussels, 11th October 2017

Strong stance on building renovation from Parliament ahead of talks with Council

EuroACE warmly welcomes the adoption of the BENDTSEN Report on the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) by the Industry and Energy Committee of the European Parliament (ITRE). Good news! The Parliament takes a strong stance on building renovation and energy efficiency, ahead of talks with the Council.

This morning, **MEPs of the ITRE Committee overwhelmingly voted for more and better energy renovations of buildings across Europe with 51 votes in favour**, 1 against, and 11 abstentions. *“The Parliament, especially the Rapporteur Bendt BENDTSEN and the Shadow Rapporteurs, have done a great job improving the Commission proposal on the EPBD”*, commented Adrian JOYCE, Secretary General of EuroACE, the European Alliance of Companies for Energy Efficiency in Buildings. *“We are very happy to see that so many MEPs backed the excellent work done by Rapporteur Bendt BENDTSEN, which shows the broad support from Parliament for a strengthened EPBD”*, he added.

The report paves the way towards **maximising the impact of the buildings sector** on the overall energy efficiency target, notably through **reinforced national long-term renovation strategies**. Those now include milestones and progress indicators for the buildings sector, allowing for better implementation. Other positive elements are the creation of national structured **stakeholder platforms**, a boost for skills in the construction sector, more information and **guidance for consumers** (notably through Building Renovation Passports), and better access to **financing**.

The report also gives a **strong 2050 vision for the buildings sector to become highly energy efficient, nearly-zero energy and maximise renewable energy supply (nZEB concept)**. This safeguards the Energy Efficiency First principle, while respecting subsidiarity. Given the scale of the renovation challenge, this is crucial for industry which needs a clear goal from the start and for the next 30 years. Finally, the report allows for **Technical Building Systems¹ to be better optimized**, which is fundamental for maintaining the energy performance of buildings over the years. Realising savings with relatively short payback periods **allows to generate additional savings over longer periods**, which can then be re-invested in the next stage of renovation. This allows for **holistic renovations** to take place, and to save money which can then be spent on other key aspects of life.

The Rapporteur Bendt BENDTSEN (EPP, DK) will soon enter inter-institutional negotiations with the Council, with the aim to have the EPBD adopted by the end of the year. *“We strongly support the Rapporteur in his upcoming work in trilogues, and call on the Estonian Council Presidency to duly take into account the Parliament’s strong position”*, said Céline CARRE, EuroACE President. *“It is crucial if the EPBD is to make an impact on the ground, whether in terms of local jobs created, increased markets for our businesses, more comfortable homes, and healthier buildings for all Europeans”*, she added.

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¹ Technical equipment for space heating, space cooling, ventilation, management of indoor air quality, domestic hot water, built-in indoor and outdoor lighting systems, solar shading, elevators and escalators, building automation and control, on-site electricity generation and storage, on-site infrastructure for electro-mobility, or a combination of such systems.

EuroACE

THE EUROPEAN ALLIANCE OF COMPANIES
FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN BUILDINGS

For further information

Adrian JOYCE
EuroACE Secretary General
+32 (0) 2 639 10 10
adrian.joyce@euroace.org
www.euroace.org

About EuroACE

EuroACE represents Europe's leading companies involved with the manufacture, distribution and installation of energy saving goods and services for buildings. EuroACE members employ over 280,000 people in these activities in Europe, and have around 900 production facilities and office locations. The mission of EuroACE is to work together with the EU institutions to help Europe move towards a more efficient use of energy in buildings, thereby contributing to Europe's commitments on climate change, energy security and economic growth.

EuroACE Members (October 2017) are

