



EUROPEAN ALLIANCE TO
SAVE ENERGY
Creating an Energy-Efficient Europe

Press Release

For immediate Release

40 companies meet Vice-President Šefčovič to call for an ambitious revision of the EU energy efficiency regulatory framework in 2016



Brussels, 15 January 2016: Yesterday evening 40 business representatives called Maroš Šefčovič, the Vice-President of the European Commission for the Energy Union, to ensure a correct and timely implementation of existing legislation and support an ambitious revision of the EU energy efficiency regulatory framework in view of an EU binding energy efficiency target at 40% for 2030.

Setting such a target would save households and industry over €239 billion on their energy bills, reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 45-50%, reduce energy imports, bring €64 billion of investment into the EU economy every year creating 13 to 17 jobs for every €1 million invested.

The event follows the Paris Agreement at COP21 and a recent vote of the European Parliament on the Energy Union report that reiterated a call for a European 40% energy efficiency target for 2030. 2016 will be an important year for the energy efficiency agenda with the planned revision of key European directives.

Addressing the audience of business representatives, **Vice-President Šefčovič** affirmed: *“Putting energy efficiency first is simply common sense. It is an essential part of the transition towards a low-carbon society, it leads to more energy security, creates jobs and contributes to growth. The job dimension, or perhaps more precise, the 'skills dimension' of our energy efficiency policies will be an important priority for me in 2016, together with making energy efficiency financing more fit for our cities and communities. I count on the continued support of the business community to drive this agenda forward”.*

At the end of the dinner, **Harry Verhaar**, Head of Global Public & Government Affairs at Philips Lighting and Chairman of the Board of the European Alliance to Save Energy said: *“A significant reduction in energy demand through energy efficiency is key to decarbonisation and leads to improved competitiveness, increased productivity and economic prosperity. Today businesses representing different*

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industrial sectors have delivered to Vice President Šefčovič a clear message in support of the revision of energy efficiency directives planned for the next months. This is a unique opportunity that the European Commission should not miss, and where it can count on support of leading European businesses”.

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Notes to the editor

[EU-ASE](#) was established in December 2010 by some of Europe’s leading multinational companies. The Alliance creates a platform from which our companies (1E, Danfoss, Ingersoll Rand, Kingspan, Knauf Insulation, Opower, Philips, Schneider Electric, Siemens and Veolia) can join with politicians and thought leaders to ensure the voice of energy efficiency is heard from across the business and political community.

EU-ASE members have operations across the 28 Member States of the European Union, employ over 210.000 people in Europe and have an aggregated annual turnover of €90 billion.