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Uachtaránacht na hÉireann ar
Chomhairle an Aontais Eorpaigh
An Ghné Pharlaiminteach

Irish Presidency of the
Council of the European Union
Parliamentary Dimension

Mr. Mogens Lykketoft,
President of the Danish Parliament,
Foltinget,
Christiansborg,
DK-1240 Coprnagen K,
DENMARK

MODTAGET
LEDELSESSEKRETARIATET

Dato 02.04.13 kl.

27 March 2013

**Invitation to the Meeting of Chairpersons of Environment and Energy Committees,
12-13 May 2013**

Dear Colleague,

On behalf of the Houses of the Oireachtas, we are pleased to invite representatives of your parliament to the Meeting of Chairpersons of Environment and Energy Committees, which will take place in Dublin on 12-13 May 2013. The meeting is being organised as part of the parliamentary dimension of Ireland's Presidency of the Council of the European Union, during the first half of 2013.

Therefore, we kindly ask you to pass on the enclosed invitation from the Chairpersons of the Oireachtas Joint Committee on the Environment, Culture and the Gaeltacht and the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Transport and Communications to the relevant committees in your Parliament.

Yours sincerely,

Sean Barrett TD
Ceann Comhairle
Dáil Éireann

Senator Paddy Burke
Cathaoirleach
Seanad Éireann



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27 March 2013

**Invitation to the Meeting of Chairpersons of Environment and Energy Committees,
12-13 May, 2013**

Dear Colleague,

As Chairpersons of the Oireachtas Joint Committee on the Environment, Culture and the Gaeltacht and the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Transport and Communications, it gives us great pleasure to invite you to the Meeting of Chairpersons of Environment and Energy Committees, to be held in Dublin as part of the parliamentary dimension of Ireland's EU Presidency.

The meeting will take place on Monday 13 May 2013 in the historic surroundings of Dublin Castle, preceded by a dinner in the Botanic Gardens hosted by the Houses of the Oireachtas on the evening of Sunday 12 May 2013.

The draft agenda and a registration form for the meeting are enclosed. Hotel reservations may be made online via the website:

http://cms.ihfhousingbureau.com/ENG/event81_12May13.html

Please ensure that hotel reservations and registrations are made as soon as possible and by 17 April 2013 at the latest.

We look forward to seeing you in Dublin.

Yours sincerely,

Michael McCarthy, T.D.
Cathaoirleach
Oireachtas Joint Committee on
the Environment, Culture and
the Gaeltacht

Tom Hayes, T.D.
Chairman
Oireachtas Joint Committee on
Transport and Communications



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MEETING OF CHAIRPERSONS OF ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY COMMITTEES

The Conference Centre, Dublin Castle, 12 - 13 May 2013

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Sunday, 12 May 2013

- 16:00 - 18:15 Registration desk open at the Herbert Park Hotel, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4.
- 18.30 Departure by bus from the Hotel to Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin 9
- 19.00 Welcome reception/tour of Botanic Gardens (optional)
- 20.00 Dinner co-hosted by Mr Michael McCarthy, TD, Cathaoirleach, Joint Committee on Environment, Culture and the Gaeltacht and Mr. Tom Hayes, TD, Chairman, Joint Committee on Transport and Communications
- 22:30 Return by bus to Hotel

Monday, 13 May 2013

08:15 Departure by bus from Hotel to the Conference Centre, Dublin Castle

09:00 **Opening address**

Mr. Michael McCarthy, TD, Cathaoirleach, Joint Committee on Environment, Culture and the Gaeltacht

Theme of meeting: Clean energy for the future

09.10 **Session 1**

Topic: The sustainable production of energy within the EU

Chair: Mr. Tom Hayes, TD, Chairman, Joint Committee on Transport and Communications

Address by:

- (i) Mr. Gunther Oettinger, EU Commissioner for Energy (15 mins)
- (ii) Mr. Pat Rabbitte, TD, Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources (15 mins)

Debate



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10.45 **Family Photo/Coffee break**

11:15 **Session 2**

Topic: Protecting our environment for a sustainable future

Chair: Mr. Michael McCarthy, TD, Cathaoirleach, Joint Committee on Environment, Culture and the Gaeltacht

Address by:

(i) Ms. Laura Burke, Director General, Environmental Protection Agency (15 mins)

(ii) Ms. Astrid Schomaker, European Commission, Head of Unit D 2 - Marine, Environment and Water Industry (15 mins)

Debate

12.45 **Buffet Lunch**

Venue: Castle Hall, Dublin Castle

14:15 **Session 3**

Topic: Towards our Climate Change goals

Chair: Mr. Michael McCarthy, TD, Cathaoirleach, Joint Committee on Environment, Culture and the Gaeltacht

Address by:

(i) Ms. Connie Hedegaard, EU Commissioner for Climate Action (15 mins)

(ii) Ms. Jan O'Sullivan, TD, Minister of State at the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government with special responsibility for Housing and Planning (10 mins)

(iii) Dr. Brian Motherway, Chief Executive, Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (10 mins)

Debate

15.45 **Closing Address**

Mr. Michael McCarthy, TD, Cathaoirleach, Joint Committee on Environment, Culture and the Gaeltacht

16.00 Departure by bus from Dublin Castle to Hotel