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Joint initiative – Green budgeting

Following the roundtable “*Green budgeting: a tool for the green transition*”, organised in Paris on March 9th, France, Italy, Spain, Lithuania, Slovenia, Austria, Denmark, Latvia, Ireland, Finland, Portugal, Belgium, Malta, Greece and the European Commission express their support to the following joint initiative on green budgeting.

Five years after the launch of the “*Paris collaborative on green budgeting*” by the OECD, we intend to reaffirm our commitment to work together, with all willing Member states, to promote green budgeting in Europe. Green budgeting can be pursued through several tools, including green budget tagging, environmental impact assessments as well as green spending reviews, in order to have the greatest effect on green objective per euro.

To this end, we wish to strengthen cooperation, both between administrative services and at a political level, by organizing regular meetings and fostering mobility opportunities for civil servants on this topic. We support the creation of an exchange programme between EU and national civil servants to share each administration’s good practices. In addition, France recalls its commitment, particularly through “Expertise France”, co-financed by the EU’s Technical Support Instrument Programme, to support Member States interested in developing green budgeting practices.

We also wish to encourage the emergence of common practices at the European level, through the identification and dissemination of good practices regarding green budgeting, in order to improve the clarity and consistency of budgetary information for European citizens. Finally, the European Commission is currently working on a revised methodology for climate mainstreaming, which should be presented to Member states along with its next draft budget. The Commission is ready to involve Member states in its future reflections on its methodology. The Commission also intends to reinforce cooperation with Member states, and allow them to estimate the green share of their annual contribution to the EU budget. The Commission, through the Technical Support Instrument Programme, reaffirms its commitment to help Member states in developing their administrative capacity on green budgeting.

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