Annex 1:

National Approaches on implementation of the goals of the Export Finance for Future

Country: **AUSTRIA**			
1) General **description of the method** or approach on which the integration of the COP26 Statement into national policies is based	At the end of 2023, the sustainability strategy for the export promotion procedure was published on the website of the Austrian Ministry of Finance. To promote efforts to combat climate change an approach based on two pillars was chosen: on the one hand, incentivising sustainable projects and, on the other hand, phasing out projects in the fossil fuel energy sector. The phase-out strategy for export guarantees in the area of fossil fuels involves a gradual withdrawal from energy projects, starting with coal, followed by oil and finally natural gas. This plan also contributes to achieving the Austrian climate targets and neutrality by 2040. The phase-out strategy is intended to help achieve the 1.5°C target of the Paris Climate Agreement and contribute to the fulfilment of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The Austrian approach and strategy will be reviewed periodically.		
2) Exclusion policies/ phase out plans			
Description of exclusion policies / phase out plans for the unabated fossil fuel energy sector	Exploration, production	Coal	No new support from January 2025
		Oil	No new support from January 2026
		Gas	No new support from January 2030
	Transportation	Coal	No new support from January 2025
		Oil	No new support from January 2026
		Gas	No new support from January 2030
	Storage	Coal	No new support from January 2025
		Oil	No new support from January 2026
		Gas	No new support from January 2030

	Refining	Coal	No new support from January 2025
		Oil	No new support from January 2026
		Gas	No new support from January 2030
	Distribution	Coal	No new support from January 2025
		Oil	No new support from January 2026
		Gas	No new support from January 2030
	Unabated power generation	Coal	No new support from January 2025
		Oil	No new support from January 2026
		Gas	No new support from January 2030
Rationale for exclusion policy / phase out plans and related measures	The phase-out plan provides a roadmap for the structured termination of export guarantees and offers affected export companies legal and planning certainty in the handling of their existing project pipeline. At the same time, the phase-out strategy is intended to motivate, and support affected companies to adapt their products for sustainable use or to keep existing products viable as bridging technologies until they can be used sustainably. Since natural gas is also considered an important transitional technology by the European Union (according to EU taxonomy), the phase-out began with coal and oil, followed by natural gas.		
3) Exceptions			
Description of exceptions from the exclusions / phase out for the unabated fossil fuel energy sector	Exploration, production	Coal	Few exceptions.
		Oil	Few exceptions.
		Gas	Few exceptions.
	Transportation	Coal	Few exceptions.
		Oil	Few exceptions.
		Gas	Few exceptions.
	Storage	Coal	Few exceptions.

		Oil	Few exceptions.
		Gas	Few exceptions.
	Refining	Coal	Few exceptions.
		Oil	Few exceptions.
		Gas	Few exceptions.
	Distribution	Coal	Few exceptions.
		Oil	Few exceptions.
		Gas	Few exceptions.
	Unabated power generation	Coal	No exceptions.
		Oil	Few exceptions.
		Gas	Few exceptions.
Rationale for exceptions and related measures	Under certain limited circumstances, exemptions may be granted in accordance with the Council Conclusions (Council of the European Union, *Council Conclusions on export credits*, 7101/22, March 2022). Measures that contribute to improvements in efficiency, health, safety, or social and environmental standards are not affected by the termination. If a measure leads to increased efficiency and thus greater climate relevance, cover may still be provided, provided that the improvements are significant and neither the capacity nor the lifetime of the plant is extended. In individual cases, guarantees may continue to be issued for projects that are essential to safeguarding national energy or resource security, the energy and resource security of the destination country, or for cases involving overriding national geostrategic interests. Projects in the coal, oil, or natural gas sectors that are associated with carbon capture and storage or utilization facilities (CCU or CCS) and demonstrably avoid additional carbon dioxide emissions are likewise excluded from the scope of this strategy. The applicability of these specific exceptions is subject to their compatibility with the 1.5°C target and the objectives of the Paris Agreement, which must be substantiated by the applicant—beyond demonstrating the relevance for energy and resource security or geostrategic interest. The applicability of exemptions is part of the technical assessment and must be documented in the project sheets. The termination of guarantees applies to new transactions and significant extensions or increases in liability. Guarantees already approved are not affected and will mature in accordance with the agreed financing plan. If projects allow for dual use (fossil and		

	renewable fuels), guarantees may be provided as long as the predominant use is for renewable fuels. Cover for the conversion of fossil to non-fossil energy infrastructure remains possible. Guarantees may also continue to be provided for the dismantling of plants in the fossil fuel sector. Where no viable alternatives exist, transactions related to the refinement of metallurgical coal may continue to receive support until further notice. For development policy reasons, guarantees for oil or gas projects in least developed countries (LDCs) for cooking and heating purposes remain permissible, as do projects related to emergency power supply, including in developed countries. Projects involving existing fossil pipeline infrastructure remain eligible for cover if the network or storage facility is suitable for the transport and storage of renewable gases and if the objective of achieving climate neutrality by 2040 is not compromised. For projects in the oil and natural gas sectors with potential hybrid usage, a mixed deadline of 1 January 2028 applies.