



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

Cabinet of Executive Vice-President Mr Frans Timmermans

**Head of Cabinet**

Brussels, 22/03/2022

Ares (2022) 444000

Dear [REDACTED].

Thank you for your letter of 19 January 2022 to President von der Leyen on the engagement of the CEO Alliance for Europe's Recovery, Reform and Resilience.

I am replying on behalf of the President and on behalf of Executive Vice-President Timmermans, Executive Vice-President Dombrovskis, Commissioner Breton, Commissioner Hahn, Commissioner Simson, Commissioner Sinkevičius and Commissioner Vălean.

We welcome the purpose of the Alliance, the joint initiatives undertaken by your companies and your trustworthy commitment to contribute to Europe's green recovery.

We share the same objectives and agree that the time to act is now.

By enshrining the climate neutrality goal into law, the EU has embarked on a historical journey that will involve all parts of the society.

The Commission is committed to developing the regulatory frameworks that will enable the transition. The Fit for 55 Package adopted in July 2021 translates the ambitious climate target into concrete policy actions. The Commission has put on the table ambitious yet realistic proposals, which aim to make all sectors of the economy fit for the transition. On the one hand, a strong carbon price will set a clear signal for decarbonisation; on the other hand, financing of climate-friendly technologies and a new Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism will help to address the risk of carbon leakage. The files are now in the hand of the co-legislators and we hope for successful negotiations and timely implementation.

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[REDACTED]  
CEO

Alliance for Europe

E-mail: [REDACTED]

We very much welcome your projects to produce renewable hydrogen to enable green steel production at scale. Decarbonisation of steel manufacturing is at the core of the EU Industry Strategy and the EU Green Deal.

The Commission is committed to supporting the transition of the steel sector towards the development and production of 'green steel' via facilitating investments and financing. A number of tools are available for this purpose – e.g. the ETS Innovation Fund, the Clean Steel Partnership under Horizon Europe, State aid frameworks and IPCEI.

The development of a value chain for renewable and low-carbon hydrogen is a key building block of our strategy for decarbonising industry and other sectors of the economy. Both renewable and low-carbon hydrogen and ammonia will be necessary inputs to decarbonise energy intensive value chains.

We are also aware of the challenges our industry faces today, such as the availability of sufficient and affordable decarbonised electricity. We welcome the investments undertaken by your companies in this respect and are ready to support further deployment of renewable energies via the right framework conditions and the toolbox the EU has adopted.

We welcome, once again, the commitment and contribution of your companies to our common goal – building a sustainable future.

We look forward to continuing the dialogue with you throughout 2022 to make the Green Deal a reality and a common success.

Yours sincerely,



Diederik Samsom