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**From:** [REDACTED] (EEAS)  
**Sent:** 10 November 2017 18:42  
**To:** [REDACTED] (EEAS); [REDACTED] (EEAS); [REDACTED] (EEAS); [REDACTED] (EEAS)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] (EEAS); [REDACTED] (EEAS); [REDACTED] (EEAS); [REDACTED] (EEAS); [REDACTED] (CLIMA); [REDACTED] (CLIMA); [REDACTED] (CLIMA); [REDACTED] (ENER); [REDACTED] (ENER); [REDACTED] (ENV); [REDACTED] (ENV); [REDACTED] (EEAS-WASHINGTON); [REDACTED] (EEAS-WASHINGTON); [REDACTED] (EEAS-WASHINGTON); [REDACTED] (EEAS); [REDACTED] (EEAS); [REDACTED] (EEAS); [REDACTED] (EEAS)  
**Subject:** Report of the visit of Gov. Jerry Brown to Brussels - 7-9 Nov  
**Attachments:** Report\_Gov J Brown\_Brussels Visit\_Nov 2017.docx

Dear colleagues,

Please find below a report of the visit of California Governor Jerry Brown to Brussels this week. Details on the individual events at the European Parliament (7 and 8 Nov) and at the German Marshall Fund (9 Nov), plus very brief initial readouts from the bilateral meetings with VP Sefcovic and Commissioners Arias Cañete and Vella can be found in the attached Word document.

### Summary

**Governor of California, Edmund G. "Jerry" Brown** (Democrat), visited Brussels as part of a 10-day European tour, including later stops in Oslo and then Bonn for the COP23 UN climate conference. Highlights of his Brussels stop include high profile public events, meetings at the European Parliament and bilateral meetings with **Vice President Šešćović and Commissioners Arias Cañete and Vella**.

As the governor of the world's 6<sup>th</sup> largest economy by GDP, he has driven California's impressive record on climate mitigation actions (including on fuel economy standards, a cap-and-trade system and electric vehicle-friendly policies) and ambitious targets, including 50% electricity generation from renewables by 2030. He is a co-founder of the US Climate Alliance, comprising so far of 15 US states committing to engage in climate action, as well as a co-founder, with Michael Bloomberg, of the "America's Pledge" movement" to compile and quantify the actions of states, cities and enterprises towards Paris Agreement implementation. California is a co-originator, together with Baden-Wurttemberg, of the "Under2 Coalition", now co-signed by 188 local jurisdictions around the world.

During his appearances in public and at the European Parliament, Gov. Brown emphasised the urgent and existential nature of the climate change threat and its effects on California (referring to the droughts and wildfires) and worldwide. He drew the connections between climate, environment, biodiversity, health, security and migration issues. Notably, he stressed the need for vision and the change of values by all countries and at all levels of society that will be needed to drive the energy transition and implementation of the Paris Agreement on climate change.

**His visit is notable for the 7 November announcement of an EU-California agreement to step up cooperation on emissions trading and zero-carbon transportation**, following a bilateral meeting with Commissioner Arias Cañete. On carbon markets, the EU and California will hold regular political and technical dialogues on the design and implementation of their carbon markets, including cooperation with other carbon markets, such as those in China.

### Comment

Following the US announcement of withdrawal from the Paris Agreement, this charismatic four-term Democratic governor is **becoming an important climate action rallying point for state-level and other sub-federal administrations in the US, and also much further afield**.

Gov. Brown was also named **Special Advisor for States and Regions** ahead of this year's COP23 in Bonn by **Fijian Prime Minister (and COP23 President) Frank Bainimarama** and he is expected to attend **President Macron's** climate mobilisation summit in Paris on 12 December 2017. In September 2018, reportedly with UN sponsorship, the State of California will convene the Global Climate Action Summit in San Francisco, which will bring together representatives from subnational governments, business and civil society in support of the Paris Agreement.

**This development might constitute an opportunity for a welcome coalescence of the multitude of climate-related initiatives** at state/provincial and municipal level, with business and civil society. In addition to those named above, these include "We Are Still In", the Climate Mayors coalition, Global Covenant of Mayors, C-40, and many more.

Jerry Brown's role at the centre of these developments makes him **a powerful ally in the US for EU climate diplomacy**. Moreover, the **potential linking of the emissions trading schemes of the EU, China and N. America** (California, Quebec and possibly Ontario and others) would constitute an important advance in the global fight against climate change.

Best regards,

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