main takeaways:

- Brief introduction of the CEI by JUST. OUTLined their 2 relevant initiatives, Empowering consumers on the green transition and the revision of the SGD towards the end of 2022 – recognizing the directive’s limitations in regards to the R2R – and intention for a horizontal right to repair along with SGD revision.

- Contractor team appears very capable with a diverse selection of competences, covering all areas required (legal, technical, economic/business-side, practical).
  - Lots of experience between them, in particular on circularity. Have been/is involved in Ecodesign studies/IAs, French Sustainability law etc.

- Excellent presentation, clear structure and showing a high level of understanding of the subject matter and potential risks/barriers (see slides).
  - Contractors highlighted that they would take a ‘pragmatic approach’, keeping an open mind and exploring options without prejudice.
  - Notable potential issues/barriers raised by the contractor (which we have not previously considered), marked for further study, included:
    - **Non-viability**: when despite being technically feasible it is not advisable (e.g. because the appliance is likely to fail again) and it is technically advisable to dispose of the appliance
    - Software related issues: many types of potential challenges here, mainly reliability, reparable ability and upgradability (e.g. security/privacy, apps, diagnostics, pairing (calibration) etc.)
    - **Intellectual Property Rights.** Access to source codes can be prevented and locked through DRM (Digital Rights Management). and is needed to perform certain repairs, in particular replacement of components, which the underlying firmware may need adjustment to ‘recognise’ and function with.

- Questions from other DGs were few and answered very well by the contractors:
  - DG ENER: What can be done about devices where everything is more and more included as SoC (System on Chip – e.g. CPU, GPU, memory)? Contractor reply was that 80% of repairs are battery and screen, SoC could prove a challenge, which they would consider.
    - On scope of the study, why include laptops, which are regulated along with desktop computers? These are not as straightforward as smartphones and tablets. Answer: reparability is not as big a problem for desktop computers as for laptops. If you want to replace the hardware for a desktop, you can take it to a shop. The Commission’s focus is on products that are very difficult to repair.
    - ENER has doubts about including laptops in the study, said Ecodesign measures for these are currently a “negative priority” pending staff reinforcement. Agreed to discuss further bilaterally.
  - JRC: There are some horizontal issues that concern all electronic devices. Will you focus on mobile electronics that have more issues of failures, or will you also look at data centres? A: we are focusing on these three product groups at this stage – we had to draw the line somewhere for this study. Also, different electronic devices can have very different business models (e.g. white goods, that require home visits for repairs).
DG ENV: How will the reparability index be used in the study (they are working on this in ENV). Will it be a policy option? A: Work done in France on reparability index can be used as an information tool for us to model impacts on the market.