Cabinet of Commissioner Kadri SIMSON - Minutes of VideoConference

VIDEOCONFERENCE CONCLUSIONS

Title	Online meeting with CEPI Representatives
Date	15-4-2021
Participants	Ext: (CEPI) COM: Kadri Simson, Thor-Sten Vertmann (CAB SIMSON), (ENER A1)
	Ares initial request :
	Disclosure authorization : ⊠ YES - □ NO - □ Partial (pls highlight unauthorized parts)
Issues raised & follow-up	CEPI highlighted that the pulp & paper industry has already reduce their GHG emissions by 48% since 1990 and only represent 0,7% of EU emissions, while being an important employer, in particular in remote rural areas. They highlighted the key points of their manifesto (attached), in particular the need for affordable and accessible green energy sources and ensuring the competitiveness of EU producers. In particular they emphasised the challenge of the distribution of renewable energy sources, such as green electricity & hydrogen to rural areas, to be able to contribute to the transition. They highlighted several points in ongoing files (RED sustainability criteria, ETS, investment support) were specific issues of the pulp & paper industry should be considered.
	The Commissioner highlighted that in 2020, the Commission proposed a number of important strategies to deliver the European Green Deal: the energy system integration, hydrogen, renovation wave, and offshore renewable energy strategies and the revision of the TEN-E Regulation. In addition a lot of key work is underway to meet the objectives of the Green Deal (notably RED/EED), with extensive consultation, but the outcomes cannot be prejudged at this stage. Emphasized that many funding opportunities are available, in particular the just transition fund / innovation fund. CEPI indicated that they would send more targeted positions on the legislative files under preparation.