Dear colleagues,

Please see the notes from yesterday’s meeting with Volkswagen. If ok with you, I will also share with B4.

Participants:

VW:

[Redacted]

DG MOVE:

Magda Kopczynska

Kristian Schmidt

- VW started with their concerns over charging infrastructure in the EU, noting huge differences between good infrastructure in Western Europe, while less developed in Eastern Europe. Asked how can AFIR support these Member States to improve the infrastructure.
- MOVE reiterated how availability is necessary for the transition and how AFIR will play a role, noting that the final compromise was the best the MS could accept and that we have tried pushing Member States already with AFID years ago. In addition, AFIR is not end, there will be a review by the end of 2026 and we would like to additionally focus on heavy-duty vehicles, as for light-duty the case is clearer. Finally, we have substantial AFIF funds that are focused on building up charging infrastructure all across the EU, especially focusing on Eastern and Southern Europe in the last calls.
- On heavy-duty mobility, through their TRATON business (MAN and Scania), they see HDV electric as feasible, market will develop and vehicles will come.

Discussion turned to incentives, as there are different situations across EU – Germany recently scrapped all subsidies for EVs, while the French scheme for low cost leasing of electric vehicles was many times oversubscribed. VW noted a patchwork and the effect on sales (often consumers wait for subsidies to be reinstated).

MOVE highlighted that these precious fuels need to be used in sectors where there are no alternatives for decarbonisation, such as aviation and maritime.
• VW asked about the prospects of upholding the Green Deal in the next Commission, DG MOVE stated that the implementation of the Green Deal is important and that best support is that EU industry says it needs the predictability. For instance, in the US, IRA will stay under any administration.
• Finally, MOVE mentioned that there are still proposal pending such as the Weights&Dimensions, where our proposal is a market driven support for electric or hydrogen trucks.