Flash report meeting with FuelsEurope 23 May 2017

Participants: [DG MOVE] FuelsEurope

Two main topics were discussed: Renewables / vehicle CO2 standards post-2020 & Marine fuels: implementation of IMO low-sulphur fuel decision. FuelsEurope presentation is attached.

FuelsEurope argued for a balanced approach to vehicle CO2 standards, not creating very high implicit subsidies for electric vehicles and properly accounting fuel improvement / biofuels GHG emissions savings (all biofuels should count if they meet the sustainability criteria).

They also cautioned against unneeded accelerated phase-out of diesel for air quality reasons, and that electric vehicles would not decrease import dependency, as dependency of fossil fuels would be replaced by dependency on battery cells.

In the medium to long term, vehicle CO2 standards should integrate life cycle considerations, and the link between vehicle and fuels legislation should be strengthened.

DG MOVE emphasized that we are committed to our decarbonisation goals, but at the same it is clear that we need a balanced and predictable policy, and we will still need a large variety of fuels for different modes and uses of transport, including electricity, but also traditional fuels, gas and hydrogen.

FuelsEurope emphasized the need for global compliance with the IMO low-sulphur fuel decision to ensure a level-playing field. There should be consistent implementation and effective enforcement globally, otherwise there are severe risks for unfair competition and reputational damage.

DG MOVE acknowledged the severity of these concerns and emphasized its commitment to monitor this both at EU and global level.

Kind regards,

[DG MOVE] FuelsEurope

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