Meeting at the request of BusinessEurope

02/03/20 between Kurt Vandenberghe and BusinessEurope on policy makers/business dialogue concerning the green deal

Main messages:

- BusinessEurope generally supports the European Green Deal and will be a constructive partner, but points to a number of conditions that will need to be put in place.
- It is developing a 'progress tracker' (draft handed and attached) to track progress on framework conditions and required actions.
- It advocates stability and predictability in ETS.
- On the carbon border adjustment mechanism: the impact assessment will need to be done transparently; the availability of free allowances is a sensitive point; it will likely only work for a few simple sectors; compensation for higher energy (electricity) prices will be required (link with the ETS state aid guidelines).
- There is risk of carbon and investment leakage which will not only be addressed with a carbon border adjustment mechanism.
- There should be a level playing field internally and externally to the EU. Distorting state subsidies should be tackled. The EU should have a corollary to the US 301 section of the Trade Act.
- In the context of the Industry Strategy, BusinessEurope would be keen to have a kind of sounding board with industry personalities to track progress on the basis of a simple set of indicators (e.g. share of exports in manufactured goods).