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Meeting Kerstin Jorna + Marco Mensink (CEFIC)

4 June 2020, 12h00 – 12h30

DG GROW: Kerstin Jorna, Carlo Pettinelli, [REDACTED]

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CEFIC: Marco Mensink, [REDACTED]

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An introductory call took place between Kerstin Jorna and Marco Mensink, who addressed the following topics:

- A general presentation of CEFIC and the chemicals industry, the state of the industry during COVID-19-times;
- Recovery package: industry views are positive so far – European solutions, specific support to the renovation wave and hydrogen;
- Revision of EU ETS state aid guidelines: indirect compensation calculation and its process of key concern; request for assessment of all the data and a due process including qualitative data;
- EII carbon neutrality process: industry is fully committed and important mapping ongoing; CEFIC is part of the batteries alliance, upcoming hydrogen work and circular plastics alliance (recycling);
- On chemicals design and recycling: CEFIC agrees that what can be recycled should be recycled, what can be avoided by design, should be avoided; illegal imports pose a major problem, so enforcement is a major task; European waste management will be more essential (Basel convention); establishment of chemicals recycling plants (lower grades); technologies still to be developed (first commercialisation in the US).
- Electrolysers: where to buy and produce them (chlorine)? Technology development ongoing; chemicals industry will most likely build themselves; critical for green hydrogen capability/decarbonisation of industries like transport and energy-intensives;
- Sustainability Chemicals strategy: should also be a strategy for the future of chemicals; request to make it a comprehensive strategy; regular dialogues with the industry and stakeholders to be foreseen; industry is part of the solution and not the problem.

- Investment: there is a great case to attract investment for the chemicals industry that is transitioning green and circular; many investors look for a 'purpose'; appeal to CEFIC to identify the right projects in this respect; CEFIC addresses regulatory inconsistencies which currently prevent important investment in the EU (details to follow).

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