

Meeting with Confindustria

22 March 2021

Participants:

[redacted] Confindustria – Delegation to the EU; [redacted] Confindustria –
Delegation to the EU; [redacted] Confindustria – Delegation to the EU; [redacted] Confindustria
– Delegation to the EU; [redacted] Confindustria – Delegation to the EU; [redacted]
Confindustria – Delegation to the EU, Associations/companies; [redacted] Federchimica;
[redacted] Assolatte; [redacted] Ferrari; [redacted] Federalimentare; [redacted]
ASSICA; [redacted] CNH Industrial; [redacted] Stellantis

Cabinet Breton (Joan Canton), DG GROW

Summary

The meeting was organised at the request of Confindustria and discussed three main issues: EURO7 for the automotive sector, the farm to fork strategy and the chemicals strategy

1. Automotive sector

Confindustria insisted on the industrial diversity in Italy in the sector and argued for a holistic approach to be followed when regulating the sector. They notably insisted on the large number of regulations affecting the sector. On EURO7 in particular, they asked for a separate proposal on HDV. They also insisted on the need to promote technological neutrality.

They also mentioned the industry's request to postpone the application of the NRMM on transition motors, due to the COVID pandemic and its implications on supply chains.

2. Farm to Fork strategy

Confindustria recalled the impact of the pandemic on the single market and competitiveness. They also argued against considering some sectors as unsustainable per se and strongly hope and ask for non discrimination. They also questioned some of the national programmes being put in place, which would be discriminating according to them from a single market point of view.

In answer to a question from the Commission, the industry confirmed their involvement in the Code of conduct. There are initiatives ongoing, which need to be done in coordination with Member States.

3. Chemicals industry

The indispensable role of the chemicals industry was also recalled, from the product design phase to the end. The industry argued for fostering the development and scaling up of technologies, while working on stronger enforcement of the policies. There is a need to make sure that imported articles are safe and that they fully comply with EU legislation. The industry shared concerns of the possible revision of REACH and CLP regulation. They do not share the views of the broader application to risk management as envisaged in the chemicals strategy. they asked for clarity regarding essential uses.

The Commission took note of all the comments formulated and presented the state of play on each file.