

To: CANTON Joan (CAB-BRETON); [REDACTED] (CAB-BRETON);
COZIGOU Gwenole (GROW); [REDACTED] (GROW)
Subject: CAB Breton meeting Energy Intensive Industries 14.12.2020 -
report

On 14.12.2020, Joan Canton and [REDACTED], CAB Breton and [REDACTED], GROW C2 met with representatives of the European Energy Intensive Industries Associations: [REDACTED], [REDACTED] of Eurofer, [REDACTED] of Eurometaux and [REDACTED] of FuelsEurope. The meeting took place online, on the initiative of the EIs, who wished to discuss how to raise the profile of the policy debate on energy and climate transition of the EIs.

Regarding the **future role of the High Level Group for Energy Intensive Industries**, the EIs view is that it should primarily be a dialogue between **industry and** government bodies (Commission and Member States) for the purposes of creating and maintaining an effective policy framework. The EIs expect the HLG EIs to monitor the implementation of the policy recommendations embedded in the EIs' 2050 Masterplan adopted in November 2019. More granular supporting work on key policies and regulations should be done between Industries and Commission at a subject matter expert level.

Concerning **the Industrial Strategy update**, the EIs emphasised the value of the collaborative work when developing the EIs' 2050 Masterplan in 2019. They presented their list of actions proposed for the updated industrial strategy: 1) market creation for green products, 2) temporary risk-sharing mechanisms, 3) access to competitive energy and feedstock sources and 4) development of pan-EU infrastructure supporting industry's decarbonisation.

[REDACTED], Eurofer gave an update on the **possible low-carbon industries alliance**, that has been developed by steel, chemicals and cement industries, based on the work conducted under the Strategic Forum. The Commission has previously signalled a need for better inclusion of other stakeholders of the EI ecosystem. [REDACTED] stated that they have widened the approach accordingly. However, there is no common view yet among the EIs and thus a need to see if an IPCEI would be a better way to progress.

The EIs expressed their concern on **the use of the recovery funds**, fearing that these will not be made available for Industry. They consider that recovery funds should be earmarked for industry to partially compensate the significantly reduced demand in 2020, impacting ability to embark on high capex investments and long-term commitments necessary for the low-carbon transition. However, the MS don't seem to be interested to discuss these kinds of actions with the industry.

The Commission took note of the EIs' messages and invited them to be more clear on what should be the concrete deliverables of the HLG EI as well as what they want to achieve with a possible industrial alliance or IPCEI. The Commission announced its availability to continue exchanges on these matters.

[REDACTED]