From: CAB-JOUROVA) on behalf of CONSTANTIN Simona (CAB-JOUROVA)

To:

Cc: NIKOLAY Renate (CAB-JOUROVA); (CAB-JOUROVA); CONSTANTIN

Simona (CAB-JOUROVA); (CAB-JOUROVA)

Subject: RE: Meeting request: role of industry schemes & industry initiatives in EU mandatory due diligence

legislation (SGC)

**Date:** mercredi 14 juillet 2021 10:55:45

Attachments: image001.png

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Dear ,

Thank you for your email of 2 July requesting an exchange of views with Vice-President Jourová on the role of industry schemes & industry initiatives in EU mandatory due diligence legislation (SGC).

The Vice-President has asked me to thank you for your input and suggestions on this important topic. I have read them and we take due note of the ideas you are putting forward.

Unfortunately, due to calendar constraints Ms Jourová will not be able to meet you, but our Head of Cabinet and I, as the Cabinet Member in charge of the ongoing work on this initiative, remain available to organise a meeting and exchange views. Let us know should you find this opportune so we can make arrangements with a view to a meeting.

Many thanks in advance for your understanding and feedback, best regards, Simona Contantin



**European Commission** 

Cabinet of Vice-President Věra Jourová

Values and Transparency

**⊠** BERL

BE-1049 Brussels



@ec.europa.eu

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From: responsiblebusiness.org>

Sent: Friday, July 2, 2021 9:06 AM
To: NIKOLAY Renate (CAB-JOUROVA)

@ec.europa.eu>

Cc: CONSTANTIN Simona (CAB-JOUROVA)

< @ec.europa.eu>

**Subject:** Meeting request: role of industry schemes & industry initiatives in EU mandatory due diligence legislation (SGC)

**Importance:** High Dear Ms. Nikolay,

Please find attached a communication from the

Responsible Business Alliance (RBA), to Vice

President Ms. Věra Jourová.

As one of the biggest global industry coalitions dedicated to due diligence and corporate responsibility, we support the development of an EU legal framework mandating corporate due diligence, cfr. the RBA Roadmap for EU

<u>Due Diligence</u> and our contribution to the stakeholder consultation ran by the services of Commissioner Reynders. We have in the past had the pleasure of exchanging views with Commissioner Reynders on several occasions, incl. during his participation in the RBA 2020 and 2021 annual conferences.

There are different RBA proposals with regards to the legislative proposal under development (need for effective harmonization, need for inserting reference to existing industry due diligence approaches, tools, standards, etc.) which we believe are not only critical for an impactful, effective and efficient, legislation, but also to ensure that the legislation builds on and scales existing industry due diligence efforts. After all, industry schemes and initiatives serve as communities of practice, communities of expertise, and invaluable toolboxes full of tools / standards / programs, the availability of which is critical in enabling companies to implement and comply with future mandatory due diligence legal requirements. Also, it is a plain reality of present due diligence efforts that, although the legal responsibility lays with the individual company, true impact and scale in qualitive due diligence efforts is achieved when companies leverage shared standards, shared risk assessment and identification tools, cooperation on providing remediation and grievance, etc. Together, the RBA and its Responsible Minerals, Labor and Factory Initiatives have over 400 members with combined annual revenues greater than \$7.7 trillion, directly employing over 21.5 million people, with products manufactured in more than 120 countries (covering electronics industry as well as automotive, retail, toy, and others). For nearly two decades, the RBA has been working at the forefront of business and human rights, enabling member companies from around the world to implement human rights and environmental due diligence both in their operations and supply chains. We work in close collaboration with governments, including the European Commission (EC) in the context

As set out in attached letter, the Responsible Business Alliance would like to request a meeting with Vice President Ms. Jourová for an exchange of views on this crucial topic.

From the side of the Responsible Business Alliance would participate in the meeting, alongside myself:

• Chief Executive Officer

of the EU Conflict Minerals Regulation.

Global Policy Director

• If desired, we can involve senior representatives of RBA member companies.

I thank you in advance for your time and interest. Kind regards,

