

Brussels, 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021

Frans Timmermans  
Executive Vice-President of the European Commission

Kadri Simson  
Commissioner for Energy

**Subject: Follow-up of the first CCUS Forum**

Dear Executive Vice-President,

Dear Commissioner,

On behalf of the International Association of Oil and Gas Producers (IOGP), I would like to express our gratitude for the organisation of the first high-level Forum on Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage (CCUS). The Forum has clearly showed a large consensus on the need for scaling-up the development of these effective climate mitigation technologies in Europe.

In your concluding remarks, you rightly pointed out that the CCUS technologies are key for us to deliver on the European Green Deal and on the objectives set in the European Climate Law, which is also confirmed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and by the International Energy Agency (IEA). However, at present, only 2 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per year are stored in Europe, while we need to reach a storage capacity of 1.4 Gt by 2050. This constitutes an enormous challenge that no single country or industry can face alone. Such challenge requires to strengthen the collaboration, around a commonly agreed agenda, between the European institutions, Member States, the private sector and the investor community.

The inauguration of the CCUS Forum was highly appreciated and helped to create the so-much needed political momentum. Building on this success, we need to step up our efforts and ensure a proper follow-up in terms of establishing working groups on key issues, such as improvement of carbon capture technologies, CO<sub>2</sub> transport infrastructures, industrial hubs decarbonization, project financing and international cooperation (R&I, standardization), among others. Composed by representatives of all relevant stakeholders, these working groups will seek solutions and help to turn the shared vision that has emerged at the Forum into concrete result-oriented actions and quantitative objectives over time.

Moreover, with a view of identifying existing obstacles and bottlenecks for the CCUS deployment, we would appreciate the launch of an open public consultation. The outcome of this consultation will pave the way for the definition of a genuine European CCUS strategy, outlining a clear set of objectives, milestones, and implementation tools.

We look forward to working with the European Commission on laying out - under your leadership - the foundations of a brand new CCUS industry in Europe.

Sincerely yours,



**Cc:** Mechthild Wörsdörfer  
Deputy Director-General of DG ENER  
Catharina Sikow-Magny  
Director of Directorate ENER.C "Green transition and Energy system integration"