

To: JORNA Kerstin (GROW); CAUDET Lucia (CAB-BRETON); TOKARSKI Slawomir (GROW); [REDACTED] (GROW); [REDACTED] (CAB-BRETON); BATTA Eszter (CAB-BRETON); [REDACTED] (GROW); [REDACTED] (GROW)
Cc: GROW 01 BRIEFING REQUESTS; [REDACTED] (GROW)
Subject: Meeting with Hydrogen Europe, 13 October 2020

Meeting between Kerstin Jorna, Lucia Caudet and [REDACTED] Hydrogen Europe
13 October 2020

GROW: Kerstin Jorna, [REDACTED]
CAB-Breton: Lucia Caudet
Hydrogen Europe: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

The following issues were discussed:

- Ambition to be the world leader in clean hydrogen deployment; Political momentum through the hydrogen strategy and kick-off of the Clean Hydrogen Alliance extremely important signalling effect.
- Role of digital technologies – novel approach to clean hydrogen traceability:
 - o Digital technologies, like blockchain, essential to prove renewable hydrogen in the supply chain; carbon content as the new currency –traceability, trackability, transparency, tradability, trust
 - o Strong cooperation with renewable energy producers on certification (ENEL-lead)
 - o Follow-up meeting with DG GROW will be organised (relationship to taxonomy,international role of the euro etc.)
- Hydrogen Europe made a presentation recapping and setting the scene of activities so far
- On the Clean Hydrogen Alliance, important elements were raised/discussed:
 - o The alliance as such – with regard to its ambition and size – is an innovative process, and important lessons learnt have been learnt in the last months
 - o Governance and process must be set up right. This means:
 - Important to include all relevant stakeholders; important key principles to be followed: openness, diversity, transparency, inclusiveness, participation.
 - Civil society and science-based community must have a role and place in the governance.
 - No secretariat as such but a flexible organisation
 - The round-tables are the heart of the alliance, which is administering itself, under the guiding principles of openness, transparency, diversity, inclusiveness and participation
 - The Commission’s role is that of a stock-taker and of ensuring adherence to these guiding principles, with the high-level progress and plenary meetings as important events to check in on progress made so far under balanced representation
 - EIT Innoenergy and Gates Ventures are working on specific scale-up projects, which the Commission considers as complementary
 - [REDACTED] cautions to give financial actors a too prominent role in the alliance, but to leave the investment decisions to industrial actors. Ms Jorna sees their roles as complementary.

- Agreement on the following next steps:
 - o Ms. Jorna will send a letter to Hydrogen Europe detailing the key principles and modes of operation for the Clean Hydrogen Alliance
 - o The call for expression of interest for the thematic round-tables will be launched shortly
 - o Hydrogen Europe and the Commission to work on a 'vitrine' for flagship hydrogen projects
 - o The role of the European Parliament in the Alliance will be looked at

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