

Working Meeting on Critical Raw Materials between Cabinet von der Leyen and Conseil de coopération économique (CCE)

March 1st 2023

Participants:

European Commission

Anthony Whelan, Digital Advisor, Cabinet von der Leyen

[REDACTED]

CCE

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Other participants

[REDACTED]

CONSTELLIUM

[REDACTED], SANOFI

[REDACTED]

LITHIUM DE FRANCE

[REDACTED]

BMW

[REDACTED]

VALEO

[REDACTED]

, BOUYGUES EUROPE

[REDACTED]

SOLVAY

[REDACTED]

ORSTED

[REDACTED]

EQUINOR

[REDACTED]

PRYSMIAN

[REDACTED]

ENEL

[REDACTED]

SUEZ

[REDACTED]

IEMENS GAMESA

[REDACTED]

UMICORE

Summary of the meeting:

A meeting took place between Cabinet von der Leyen and CCE.

Parties exchanged views on the upcoming Critical Raw Materials Act (CRMs Act). The participants to the meeting expressed their support for this initiative.

A number of topics were discussed such as how to strengthen the CRMs value chain, how to assess the criticality of raw materials, how to achieve a common CRMs European strategy and address dependencies etc.

The participants have also underscored the importance of circularity and recycling of the CRMs and the importance of the secondary raw materials. They also identified as a bottleneck the current permitting procedure.

Cabinet von der Leyen stated that recycling and streamlining permitting procedure in Europe will be part of the CRMs Act and confirmed that indeed circularity will be at the core of the proposal.

The parties agreed that a common European approach should be focused on engaging with likeminded partners and negotiating international partnerships on raw materials should remain a priority for the Commission.

The parties also agreed that maintaining the highest environmental standards – in the EU but also abroad – is of utmost importance. Cabinet von der Leyen clarified that the upcoming CRMs Act will not in any way lower the existing environmental standards.

The participants to the meeting thanked Cabinet von der Leyen for the discussion.