



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Cabinet of President Ursula von der Leyen
Member of Cabinet

Brussels, 3 May 2022
CA.1.CAB STAFF/KS

SHORT NOTES OF A MEETING

Subject: Minutes BDI meeting President 30 March 2022

Attendees:

EC: President, Björn Seibert, Anthony Whelan

BDI: [REDACTED], Brussels representative [REDACTED]

The BDI delegation made the following points:

1) Russian invasion of Ukraine, geopolitical situation :

- need for careful and rational approach to energy sanctions and to emergency measures under energy rules in case of counter-sanctions;
- need to advance interconnection & LNG infrastructure, incl connection of industrial centres :
- accelerate & simplify permits, avoid counter-signals in industrial emissions proposal;
- heightened awareness of critical raw material dependencies, work with partners (finalise CETA);
- CN needs EU as much as the reverse, this gives leverage for negotiating supply continuity, modus vivendi;
- implementation of sanctions going relatively well in DE, sometimes clearer guidance needed.

2) Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence :

- (i) regulation of individual pay, bonuses is unhelpful;
- (ii) opening up civil liability for failings of suppliers creates uncertainty;
- (iii) SMEs are caught, even if out of direct scope, due to supply chain obligations;
- (iii) CSRD / CSDD obligations normally cost personal time of SME owners / managers, hence very badly received in light of perceived limited added value;
- (iv) a supervisory body of MS & businesses (Beirat) should monitor the rules and influence third country developments.

e-signed -
Anthony WHELAN