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CPMR Climate Task Force - Save the date & Update



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Climate Task Force UPDATE

Dear colleagues,

Just before we all leave for a well-deserved summer break, we would like to share some updates on the CPMR Climate Task Force working activities, as well as on climate and energy related issues.

Next Climate Task Force meeting – 17 September

The next meeting of the CPMR Climate Task Force will take place on **17 September 2019 from 9:00 to 13:00** in Brussels at the 8th floor of the CPMR premises (Rond-point Schuman, 14). We will soon send a draft agenda, but you can already register for the meeting [HERE](#).

The half-day meeting will focus on:

- Preparation of a meeting between a delegation of politicians from CPMR Member regions and Members of the European Parliament. The meeting will probably take place in November;
- Draft CPMR policy position on carbon neutrality, to be presented at the CPMR General Assembly in October 2019;
- Update on the CPMR Analysis on the NECPs;
- Update on the CPMR participation to COP25.

The meeting will aim at an active participation by the attendees to prepare the meeting between CPMR Members and Members of the European Parliament and to fine-tune the policy position on carbon neutrality to be presented at the CPMR General Assembly in Palermo (October 2019).

Climate Task Force Working Plan

The CPMR Climate Task Force work in the next months will focus on the following items:

- Preparation of a **policy position on carbon neutrality** to be presented at the CPMR General Assembly in Palermo;
- Conclusion of the **CPMR analysis on the National Energy and Climate Plans** (it is still possible to contribute to the questionnaire, that can be found [HERE](#));
- Preparation of a **meeting with relevant MEPs** on climate and energy issues in November 2019;
- Participation to **COP25** in Chile (2-13 December 2019) and fostering of **cooperation** with other organisations.

Ursula Von der Leyen proposes a European Green Deal

President-elect Von der Leyen, in her [speech](#) in Strasbourg and in her [political guidelines](#) for the next Commission, established climate change as a main priority. She proposed a Green Deal in her first 100 days in office that comprises more than 20 policy proposals. Among her proposals, the following are of great interests to the CPMR:

- A climate neutral Europe by 2050;
- A just transition for all and the creation of a new Just Transition Fund;
- A European Climate Pact that would not only bring together regions, local communities, civil society, industry and schools but also include them into the design of the pledges;
- A strategy for green financing and a Sustainable Europe Investment Plan that would unlock € 1 trillion in the next decade;
- More ambitious targets for 2030, with a plan to increase the EU's target for 2030 from 40% to 50% if not 55% emissions reduction;
- Lead international negotiations to increase the level of ambition of other large emitters by 2021;
- A New Circular Economy Action Plan.

Such proposals reflect the CPMR messages to the newly elected European Parliament and to the future European Commission. **Find out the CPMR key messages in climate and energy in our latest twitter campaign [HERE](#) and do not hesitate to share and like it.**

The European Parliament elects Chairs and Vice-Chairs of its Committees

The ENVI-Environment, Public Health and Safety Food Committee elected as

- Chair: Pascal Canfin (RE, FR)
- 1st Vice-Chair: Bas Eickhout (Greens/EFA, NL)
- 2nd Vice-Chair: Seb Dance (S&D, UK)
- 3rd Vice-Chair: Cristian-Silviu Buşoi (EPP, RO)
- 4th Vice-Chair: Anja Hazekamp (GUE/NGL, NL)

The ITRE – Industry, Research and Energy Committee elected as

- Chair: Adina-Ioana Vălean (EPP, RO)
- 1st Vice-Chair: Zdzisław Krasnodębski (ECR, PL)
- 2nd Vice-Chair: Morten Petersen, (RE, DK)
- 3rd Vice-Chair: Patrizia Toia (S&D, IT)
- 4th Vice-Chair: Lina Galvez Muñoz (S&D, ES)

Climate Neutrality - where are we?

The European Council in its last meeting on the 20th of June failed to agree on climate neutrality by 2050, although a large majority of Member States stated to support it as reported in a footnote of the Council conclusions. The [Council conclusions](#) set no date for carbon neutrality but rather invite the European Commission and Council to continue to carry out further work to ensure “a transition to a climate-neutral EU in accordance with the Paris Agreement”. In its conclusions, the Council still intends to wrap up talks by the end of the year and that there will be a final deal in early 2020.

Since EU leaders failed to endorse the 2050 net zero target in June, it remains to be seen what the EU will bring to the crucial UN Climate Summit in September, where countries are expected to show increased commitments and more ambition. However, the issue will probably be on the agenda of an EU Summit in October, as the Finnish presidency of the Council of the EU has climate high on the agenda, after having set a carbon neutrality target for 2035.

Climate Action Call: CPMR joins the largest ever alliance of stakeholders

The CPMR supports a transition towards carbon neutrality by 2050, but such transition to zero emission needs to be just, orderly and fair, based on the strengths of the territories, benefiting everyone and leaving no one behind. The CPMR with other stakeholders joined the Climate Action Call asking the new European Parliament and European Commission - among other messages - to ensure a just and fair transition to carbon neutrality, where “Regions that are still highly depend on fossil fuels, as well as regions highly affected by climate change, such as maritime regions, should be supported” - [Read more here](#)

NECPs: are the Regions in the loop?

The European Commission published its recommendations on the draft Integrated National Energy Climate Plans on 18 June and they are in line with CPMR preliminary analysis’ results. The general objectives in the NECPs are considered positively and some regions do even push for more ambitious policies. However, the lack of policy detail on how to reach the objectives might pose a problem. Furthermore, regions have already policies and strategies that could inspire their NECPs... - [Read more here](#)

Kind regards.

On behalf of the CPMR Secretariat and the Climate Task Force Coordination Team

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