EUROCHAMBRES

I Press Release

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Chambers call for a pro-competitive energy and climate policy framework for 2030

Ahead of the European Council meeting of 26-27 June, EUROCHAMBRES members reiterated the need for a balanced and **business-friendly 2030 framework on energy and climate policy**.

Speaking at the 5th Innovative Economy Congress in Warsaw, Andrzej Arendarski, President of the Polish Chamber of Commerce and Chairman of EUROCHAMBRES' energy committee stated:

"In its current form, the proposed 2030 framework is too much 'business as usual' and risks to repeat the mistakes of the past. First and foremost, the EU has to abandon the idea of saving the global climate on its own. Over 90% of global emissions are emitted abroad and unilateralism will simply drive energy-intensive industries out of Europe, damaging both, the EU's entire economy and the climate. Therefore, a new CO_2*-target must reflect to what extent a binding international climate agreement is reached in 2015 and ratified by all of its signatories. The new 2030 framework must also ensure affordable and competitive energy prices and security of supply, taking into consideration that indigenous energy sources can potentially contribute to reducing energy prices and import dependencies."*

Philippe Dutruc, the Committee's Vice-Chair, President of Deux-Sèvres Chamber and Vice-President of CCI France, expressed concerns on the compatibility of future EU strategies:

"The EU must apply a holistic approach that does not run counter to other strategic EU objectives, like the 20% GDP target for industrial production or general growth and employment objectives. Minimising energy costs is one of the keys to a more competitive Europe. However, energy efficiency can most-effectively be encouraged through practical support measures, rather than by new legislation or compulsory ceilings."

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In particular, EUROCHAMBRES called on the heads of state and government to:

- Set a **realistic and conditional greenhouse gas reduction target**, whereas the level of ambition should depend on the conclusion of a legally-binding international climate change agreement in December 2015, which must include similar CO_2 reduction targets for all major emitters such as China, the US, India and Russia.
- Prevent measures undermining the **market-based characteristics** of the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS).

- Put in place more **cost-effective support schemes for renewable energies** which should be temporary and degressive, rather than guaranteed over a long period of time.
- Swiftly **complete the internal energy market** and provide adequate infrastructure to strengthen security of energy supply in the EU and to cope with the increased uptake of renewables.
- **Refrain** from proposing a separate **energy efficiency target** for 2030 and instead, provide the right framework conditions, in order to promote the use of energy management tools and practices.
- Invite the new Commission to urgently bring forth **concrete proposals** for boosting the re-industrialisation of Europe and stimulating investments in the EU.

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