

FRIDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2010, Budapest

09.15 – 11.00h

**Round Table – European Energy and Industrial Policy after
Copenhagen and the crisis**
(Working Group 3)
(Ballroom I) (EN, FR)

Chairwoman:

- *Pilar del Castillo MEP, Member of EP Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, Chairwoman of the EIN 'Energy and Environment' Working Group*

Guest speaker:

- *Péter Olajos, Secretary of State Responsible for Renewable Energy, former Member of the EPP Group in the European Parliament (H)*

Panellists:

- *Gordon Moffat, Director General of EUROFER*
- *Roland-Jan Meijer, VP Environmental Affairs at Holcim*
- *William C Ramsay, IFRI, senior Fellow, Director of the Energy Program*
 - *Maria Da Graça Carvalho MEP, Member of the EP Committee on Industry, Research and Energy*

Rapporteur:

- *Ranier Fsadni, Director-Operations, European Commission-League of Arab States Liaison Office, EIN Working Group 3*

Chairwoman Mrs del Castillo welcomed the participants and briefly introduced the topic of the round table on European Energy and Industrial Policy after Copenhagen and the crisis.

Mr Olajos, deputy state secretary of the Hungarian Government spoke about Hungary's preparations for the upcoming EU Presidency in the first half of 2011. He recalled that there will be several dossiers on the field of energy which will be negotiated during the Hungarian EU Presidency, f.e. the energy action plan 2011-2020, the decarbonisation roadmap 2050, the energy infrastructure package. He mentioned that the priorities of the HU Presidency will include the topics of energy efficiency and energy savings, consumer protection, energy poverty and renewable energy. He said that the aim of the new Hungarian Fidesz government is to create 1 million new jobs in 10 years, out of which at least 200.000 could be on the field of the green economy and stressed that the government aims to stabilize and boost green industries.

Mrs Da Graca Carvalho, MEP spoke about the sectoral approaches. She said that the objective is to strike a balance between the environmental concerns, energy security and competitiveness. To achieve this one solution could be the sectoral approach. Concerning the recognition of the need for global efforts to combat climate change the sectoral approach could give a structural way for technological transfer. She recalled the different typologies of the sectoral approach, 1. bottom up sector wide transnational approaches, 2. bottom up country commitments, 3. top down sectoral crediting and mentioned the main sectors: energy intensive industries, automotive industry, electricity, aviation, marine transport, etc. She stressed that sectoral approach has the potential to major benefits: combating climate change, level playing field, emerging economies, technology transfer and that data collection was very important. She said that three scenarios could be possible in Cancun: 1. international agreement, 2. second commitment period for the Kyoto Protocol, 3. no agreement. She concluded that industry should adopt more clean technologies and action must be taken urgently. One way forward is to adopt sectoral approaches.

Mr Moffat, Director General of EUROFER said that by sectoral agreements there was a real possibility to reduce emissions on a global level. He recalled that most of the emissions are coming from countries outside the EU, f.e. China, India, USA. It was vital for the EU to reduce the risk of carbon leakage, the creation of a level playing field and to maintain competitiveness. The minimum criteria is the equal treatment of industries in emerging and developing countries. He stressed that the emission reduction target has to be global and has to cover the whole industry and there was need for sanctions as well. He concluded that the most effective approach would be to have an agreement based on a common methodology and a common reduction target.

Mr Meijer, VP Environmental Affairs at Holcim spoke about the future challenges of the cement industry. He said that the construction industry needs to develop resource efficiency in order to stay sustainable for the future. There was a need to reduce energy and material input from fossil sources and there was a need for more sustainable manners and economically viable alternatives and more investments in new technologies in his opinion.

Mr Ramsay, IFRI, senior Fellow, Director of the Energy Program spoke about the current state of energy security concerning oil, electricity and gas. He mentioned that soft gas market will last several years as will relatively soft oil markets. He stressed that the greatest European energy vulnerability is in pipeline gas and now it is the time to diversify gas sources, types and routes. He said that the same applies to oil supplies where one supplier dominates. Electricity grids are not evolving fast enough but the toughest battle is to get Europe on one political page as national agendas are trumping European solidarity and therefore national champions need to Europeanize and energy regulations and pricing need to converge concluded the speaker.

The presentations were followed by a lively discussion.

Edina Toth
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