



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

Employment and Social Governance
Social dialogue

GAS SECTORAL SOCIAL DIALOGUE COMMITTEE

Working group
20 September 2021

09.00-13.00

DRAFT MINUTES

Participants:

Employer representatives

Eurogas

Ms Laura Bosetti, Eurogas

Ms Bronagh O'Hagan, Eurogas

Mr James Watson, Eurogas

Mr Andreas Guth, Eurogas

Mr Gabriele Nicotra, Eurogas

Ms Anaïs Faucher, Eurogas

Ms Daniela Daraban, Acue

Mr Thierry Chapuis, Acue

Ms Gabrielle Costigan, Aik Energy Group

Ms Malina Gloaba, Aik Energy Group

Ms Natalia Nita, Aik Energy Group

Mr Axel Kornemann, E. ON

Mr Luigi Armando Ferrario, Eni

Ms Marcella Scillieri, Eni

Mr Timm Kehler, Erdgas

Mr Jacinto Pico, Naturgy

Ms Paloma Izquierdo Fernández, Repsol

Ms Candela Rejón, Repsol

Ms Laura Rejón Perez, Repson

Ms Kavita Ahluwalia, Uniper

Employee representatives

IndustriAll

Mr Patrick Mathieu, FO Energie et Mines, France

Mr Alexander Auer, GPA DJP, Austria

Mr Geir Vollsætter, Industri Energi

Ms Sophie Grenade, IndustriAll European Trade Union

Ms Judith Kirton-Darling, IndustriAll European Trade Union

Ms Marie-Odile Martiat, IndustriAll European Trade Union

Ms Patrizia Pitronaci, IndustriAll European Trade Union

Mr Piotr Luisiewicz, NSZZ Solidarnosc KSPCH, Poland

Mr Mos Krzysztof, NSZZ Solidarnosc KSPCH, Poland

Ms Ana Filipe, SIMA, Portugal

Mr José Maria Gonzalez De Juan, UGT FICA, Spain

Mr Andrea Bottaro, UILTEC, Italy

Ms Antonella Maggio, UILTEC, Italy

Mr Miklos Ledacs Kiss, VDSZ (CE), Hungary

Ms Gyula Varga, VDSZ (CE). Hungary

Mr Sebastien Michel, CF DT FCE chimie-energie, France

Ms Anne Laszlo, CFE CGC Energies, France

Mr Letterio Oceano, CGIL FILCTEM, Italy

Mr Antonio Pepe, CGIL FILCTEM, Italy

EPSU

Ms Roxana Drug, EPSU

Mr Jakob Embacher, EPSU

Mr Thomas Kattnig, Yunion, Austria

Mr Radek Jurečka, OS UNIOS, Czech Republic

Ms Šárka Vojíková, FTU ENERGY (SOS ENERGIE), Czech Republic

Mr Philippe Lepage, FNME-CGT, France

Mr Gary Carter, GMB, United Kingdom

1. **Welcome by the Chair - Ahluwalia Kavita:** Adoption of the agenda
2. **Presentation of the Fit to 55 package, focusing on the impact on the Gas Sector - James Watson**

James Watson (Eurogas) provided an overall introduction on EU's FF55 package, highlighting the EU ambitious targets of 55% of carbon emissions net reduction by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2050. He presented short assessments and Eurogas' views of the Commission's proposal EED, ETD, EU ETS FuelEU and AFIR. He also mentioned the upcoming Hydrogen and Gas decarbonisation Package that the Commission will present at the end of 2021.

Sophie Grenade: presented a few comments on the FF55 package, highlighting the importance of a just and fair transition, of a legal framework should be established to address future challenge and of EU Industrial Strategy that considers the different needs of each industrial sector with the broader objective of the EGD. She concluded by raising concerns about the future pathway for the transition of the gas sector which is still unclear from her perspective.

Jakob Embacher (EPSU) highlighted the fact the energy transition should aim at providing support to workers. Regarding carbon trading on heating and transport, he agreed with James Watson and noted the risks that these sectors may face. He highlighted EPSU's commitment to the net zero target.

Philippe Lepage (FNME-CGT) pointed out the need to give guidance to policymakers regarding the actual impact that the energy transition has on production and consumption. He also pointed out the necessity to have a clear overview of the energy transition agenda.

Gary Carter (GMB) talked about gas price in the UK and the gas dependence.

Ledacs Kiss Miklos underlined the role of gas in the energy transition considering the instability coming from the renewable energy sources.

Ahluwalia Kavita and James Watson agreed on the common effort and holistic approach that must be taken in terms of policy making process to deal with a realistic and fair transition.

3. **Presentation by DCbrain (Eurogas member), the role of digitalisation and AI for decarbonising gas networks.**

Meulenbelt Geert (DCbrain) made a presentation about the role of data and artificial intelligence for the decarbonisation of the gas networks. Both data and AI can provide an important contribution in the decarbonisation process, specifically to address the complexity coming from: biomethane and hydrogen blending, dynamics and local inflows, energy traceability requirements and sector integration. In conclusion, Mr. Meulenbelt specified that DCbrain works on data centric methodology, network design and on asset protection. They provide this service to simulate the resilience of the infrastructure for the blending of hydrogen.

4. Eurogas: update on the project

Bronagh O'Hagan (Eurogas) updated the group on the Social Dialogue study and the challenges and opportunities for employment in the gas sector in the context of the European energy transition.

Final remarks:

James Watson (Eurogas) stressed the value of the Social Dialogue Working Group and how important is to be committed with the employment sector for the upskilling and reskilling of workers in light of the ongoing transition.