



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

Directorate Innovation & Advanced Manufacturing
Unit Innovation Policy and Investment for Growth

Brussels, 31 January 2019

Minutes

Strategic Forum for Important Projects of Common European Interest (IPCEI) – 3rd
Meeting of the members
29 January 2019, Brussels

1. Approval of the agenda (annex to these minutes)
2. Nature of the meeting

The meeting was non-public.

3. List of points discussed

a. Introduction

The main objective of the meeting was to agree on the key strategic value chains, for which the Strategic Forum will develop recommendations for action. The chair, Deputy Director-General Antti Peltomäki (DG GROW) highlighted the first IPCEI on microelectronics as a good example of large-scale, coordinated investments across multiple Member States. The work of the Strategic Forum could act as a catalyst in launching more IPCEIs or other transnational investment projects in the future.

He referred to increasing political interest in the work of the Strategic Forum, in particular at the “Friends of Industry meeting” in December and the Council’s High-Level Group on Competitiveness and Growth in January.

Mr Peltomäki clarified that the Commission will not only proactively support the development of specific recommendations for around 6 key strategic value chains, but the Commission is also ready to facilitate cooperation between Member States and industry on any of the strategic value chains identified by the Strategic Forum.

b. Discussion and decision on key strategic value chains for further action

Cecimo, Aster and Hydrogen Europe gave presentations on the strategic value chains *Additive manufacturing*, *Industrial IoT* and *Hydrogen based and other low carbon energy conversion* to inform members about investment needs and potentials. Confindustria proposed to combine the strategic value chains *Connected and autonomous mobility Electric Mobility for vehicles*, and possibly *Smart vessels* into a broader value chain Smart Mobility.

Following their joint proposal distributed in advance, Eurofer, Cefic and Cembureau proposed to combine the value chains of “low-carbon steel making” and “low-carbon industrial processes”. The European Commission endorsed this proposal, subject to agreement by the members.

In the following discussions, several members called for a broader scope of key strategic value chains. In this context, France and Italy proposed to combine also the health-related strategic value chains. Other members expressed concerns about last minutes changes to the strategic value chains and had a clear preference to maintaining a narrower scope of the value chains as originally agreed.

Based on the preferences of the majority of members, the Strategic Forum agreed on the following combinations of strategic value chains:

- A strategic value chain combining “low-carbon steel making” and “low-carbon industrial processes”
- A strategic value chain combining *Connected and autonomous mobility for vehicles* and *Electric mobility for vehicles – propulsion, wireless energy transmission and smart charging*
- A strategic value chain combining *Personalised medicine, health data and analytics* and *Personal and clinical medical devices / diagnostics*.

In accordance with the agreed prioritisation methodology, the members expressed their commitment and willingness to cooperate for up to five strategic value chains. On this basis, the Strategic Forum agreed on the final list of key strategic value chains for further work – in addition to the key strategic value chains Batteries, Microelectronics and High Performance Computing, for which transnational work is already ongoing:

Connected, automated and electric vehicles ¹
Smart Health: Medical devices and personalized medicine & analytics ²
Low-carbon industries ³
Hydrogen technologies and systems
Industrial IoT
Cybersecurity

¹ Working title for the combined 23 *Connected and autonomous mobility for vehicles* and 24 *Electric mobility for vehicles – propulsion, wireless energy transmission and smart charging* strategic value chains

² Working title for the combined 28 & 31 *Personalised medicine, health data and analytics* and 29-30 *Personal and clinical medical devices / diagnostics* strategic value chains

³ Working title for the combined of 9 *low-carbon steel making* and 10 *low-carbon industrial processes* strategic value chains

After a discussion on the strategic value chain Bio-Based Materials, the chair encouraged the interested Member States and industry to strengthen their cooperation towards joint action and investments and report back to the next meeting of the Strategic Forum.

The relation between the selected set of key strategic value chains and IPCEI projects was discussed, clarifying that IPCEI projects can be launched at any time also for projects that are outside the strategic value chains identified by the Strategic Forum.

c. Lessons learnt on the Microelectronics IPCEI by DG COMP

Demos Spatharis and Rodrigo Peduzzi (European Commission, DG COMP) gave a detailed presentation on the process, challenges and lessons learnt during the first IPCEI in the field of research & development & innovation and first industrial deployment.

They clarified the eligibility and compatibility criteria for an IPCEI. In particular, they highlighted the challenge of applying novel concepts in the case of the microelectronics IPCEI, such as the concept of integrated project, the spill-over effects in the EU, and the concept of “First Industrial Deployment”.

They also mentioned a number of good practices learnt through the process concerning the role of Member States and the European Commission.

Mr Spatharis explained that the Commission has announced the intention to prolong for 2 years the IPCEI Communication, along with other State aid rules expiring in 2020. In the ensuing period, the Commission will carry out a fitness check to determine whether an evolution of the rules would be necessary. In this context, the Commission will organise a consultation of all interested stakeholders and the expert input of the Strategic Forum and its members will be very welcome.

During the subsequent discussion with members, several thanked the Commission for the clear presentation and positively noted the adoption of decision on IPCEI microelectronics.

d. Organisation and timing of future work

The secretariat proposed the setting up of a task force for each of the six key strategic value chains for which the Strategic Forum will develop recommendations. The secretariat also proposed an additional horizontal task force for the drafting of general recommendations on the importance of strengthening strategic value chains for EU industry and facilitating well-coordinated transnational action and investment.

Members shall signal their interest of participating in any of the task forces, either as members or as rapporteurs by 1 February. The task forces can count on the active support of the Secretariat and a contractor. The Secretariat will distribute a more detailed description of the roles of the taskforce, organisation of work, and planning by 8 February.

4. Next meeting and supporting workshops

The next meeting of the Strategic Forum is foreseen for end-April 2019 in Brussels.

In order to support the work of value chain specific task forces, workshops will also be organised with a wide range of stakeholders – in early April to provide input for the recommendations and in early May to validate the draft recommendations.

5. List of participants

See annex II

Strategic Forum for Important Projects of Common European Interest (IPCEI)

3rd meeting

9.00 Registration and coffee

9.30 Opening and welcome

9.40 Discussion and decision on key strategic value chains

- Discussions and presentations based on Members' requests
- Expressions of commitment and willingness to cooperate

12.40 Lunch break

13.40 Discussion and decision on key strategic value chains (continued)

- Decision on key strategic value chains for further action
- Discussions on the scope of the selected key strategic value chains.

14.30 IPCEI – lessons learned

- Presentation by DG Competition on IPCEI process and the microelectronics IPCEI

15.30 Organisation of work – general report and value chain specific recommendations

- Selection of task force members and rapporteurs
- Schedule and structure
- Next steps

16.20 Conclusions

Annex II – List of participants

DELEGATION	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME
Austria	LOHER	Josef Falko
Austria	SCHAEDLER	Ingolf
Belgium	CATTOOR	Barbara
Belgium	HANSSENS	Johan
Czech Republic	HAVLIK	Jan
Denmark	HALBERG NIELSEN	Philip
Denmark	HERTZ	Tine
Estonia	KULL	Anu
Finland	LUNDSTROM	Ilona
Finland	MUNTHER	Reijo
France	MERLIN	Xavier
Germany	HESS	Markus
Greece	MANASIS	Vasileios
Hungary	SZILAGYI	Laszlo
Ireland	HEGARTY	David
Italy	IZZO	Laura
Italy	LAPALORCIA	Antonello
Latvia	ALEKSEJENKO	Raimonds
Lithuania	VILDA	Gintaras
Luxembourg	CREAN	Gabriel
Netherlands	HEEMSKERK	Paul
Netherlands	HEIJS	Jeroen
Portugal	FERREIRA DIAS	Fernanda
Slovenia	SALECL	Jernej
Spain	ALONSO BLANCO	Raquel
Sweden	ROSEN	Carl
Sweden	NYMAN	Sofia
Aster	BOLOGNI	Leda
Business Europe	AFFRE	Alexandre
Business Europe	EL HABBASSI	Asdin
CEA	DE VIRGILIIS	Monica
Cecimo	GEERTS	Filip
CEFIC	KAPANTAIDAKIS	George
Independent expert	VARUM	Celeste
Cembureau	COPPENHOLLE	Koen
CEPI	LHOTE	Sylvain
Confindustria	AMODIO	Nicoletta

Confindustria	FERRO	Carlo
Epiroc/Atlas copco	ANDERSDOTTER	Charlotte
Eurofer	EGGERT	Axel
European investment bank	GRUBER	Harald
France Industrie	DANJOU	Jean-Marie
France Industrie	RANAIVOSON	Gabriel
France Industrie	SAINT-GEOURS	Frédéric
Hydrogen Europe	CHATZIMARKAKIS	Jorgo
IMEC	DE BOECK	Jo
NEFI	LAGARDE	Pascal
Umicore	LOX	Egbert
VTT	SARVARANTA	Leena
VTT	VASARA	Antti
ZVEI	BLANK	Oliver
Independent expert	OTTO	Tauno