



Green Growth Summit

Summary & Next Steps

Context:

On 28 October, 2013 the Ministerial Green Growth Group of thirteen ministers* co – organised a Green Growth Summit with The Prince of Wales's EU Corporate Leaders (EU CLG). The full day Summit was attended by 200 stakeholders including seven of the Green Growth Ministers (**Rt Hon. Edward Davey MP**, Secretary of State for Energy & Climate Change **H.E. Jorge Moreira da Silva**, Minister for Energy & Environment, Portugal; UK; **H.E. Federico Ramos de Armas**, Secretary of State for the Environment, Spain; **H.E. Martin Lidegaard**, Minister for Climate, Energy and Building, Denmark; **H.E. Keit Pentus-Rosimannus**, Minister for the Environment, Estonia; **H.E. Melchior Wathelet**, Minister for the Environment, Energy and Mobility, Belgium; **H.E. Andreja Jerina**, State Secretary for Environment, Ministry of Agriculture and Environment, Slovenia), Commissioner Hedegaard, Senior UNFCCC officials, Commission Director Generals, National Government Officials, Admirals, CEO's, investors, economists, business associations and civil society representatives.

Summit focus:

- Continued EU leadership on the international and regional stage;
- The road to 2030 and adopting an ambitious and credible climate and energy package including ETS reform;
- Modernising the European economy and catalysing low carbon growth & jobs;
- The economic, security & market costs of climate change in Europe.

SUMMIT OUTCOMES

Rt Hon. Edward Davey MP, UK Secretary of State for Energy & Climate Change set the tone for the day as follows:

- **Urgency** of the 2°C challenge and the adoption of an ambitious 2030 package
- **Opportunity** from green growth and a low carbon economy
- **Responsibility** of all actors

With this in mind, the following key calls were made by different speakers during the Summit:

2030 Package:

- Develop a new climate narrative around the urgency, opportunity and responsibility arguments and bring in new voices who understand the costs of not acting fast enough;
- Adopt a clear, long term legislative package with an ambitious GHG target;
- Look to learn lessons from the 2020 package, including the need to substantially strengthen innovation, deepen the internal energy market and provide for long-term infrastructure planning, with a view to delivering an ambitious, cost-effective and growth-enhancing 2030 package;
- Reform the EUETS to give the right carbon pricing signal and enabling market;
- Bring in the element of risk into the package.

Growth & Jobs:

- EU GDP and GHG emissions are decoupled. Europe has continued to grow while emissions have decreased;
- A job transformation strategy will be necessary as we transition away from high carbon to low carbon jobs;
- Many EU Member States have experienced job growth due to a wider variety of low carbon investments, such as in the renewable energy and energy efficiency sectors.

Competitiveness & Industrial Policy:

- Investigate what Europe needs to improve the competitiveness of EU industry as China and India race ahead;
- Work with sectors to better understand their competitiveness issues and come up with solutions together;
- Reform industrial standards to enhance energy efficiency and low carbon criteria;
- Switch taxation policy from taxing “good” low carbon products to taxing “bad” high carbon products;
- Address “low carbon leakage” as much as concerns around “carbon leakage”;
- Further enhance SMART technologies and processes;
- Put in place new building codes and long term renovation programmes that promote energy efficient buildings;
- Look at ESCO’s as a way to promote sustainable construction.

Energy Market:

- Ensure energy security and reduce the EU’s current substantial and growing oil import bill;
- Promote an integrated energy market and address issues around subsidiarity of domestic energy policies;
- Improve current energy infrastructure to enhance efficiencies and enable more low carbon energy sources;
- Create new energy taxation and subsidy design, which enable transition from high to low carbon energy.

Investment:

- Create financial mechanisms that share the risk such as long term pension fund finance;
- Enhance greater collaboration between private and public funders;
- Push investors to embed low carbon lending into their funding strategies and portfolio development;
- Use state aid, EU funds, and EU green budget finance more constructively towards de carbonisation;
- Make low carbon investments more attractive.

Technology & Innovation:

- Greater funding for technological innovation and the creation of national innovation systems;
- Enhance replication and scalability;
- Understand what a level playing field for all technologies actually means;
- Bridge mitigation and adaptation efforts.

Pricing & Costs:

- Address energy pricing and ensure energy is affordable for Europe’s citizens and industry;
- Ensure that all economic models cost in the externalities of climate change;
- Enhance our understanding of costs from the insurance sector;
- Ensure policy makers, industry, citizens understand the costs of going beyond 2°C and the extreme risks e.g. a 4°C world has not existed since 10 million years ago.

MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS

The Ministers launched their first collective pamphlet “[Going for Green Growth: The Case for ambitious and immediate EU low carbon action](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/going-for-green-growth-the-case-for-ambitious-and-immediate-eu-low-carbon-action)” (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/going-for-green-growth-the-case-for-ambitious-and-immediate-eu-low-carbon-action>) at the Summit.

It was agreed that the pamphlet was a necessary first step in communicating the key benefits of creating a low carbon economy to Commissioners, other EU ministers and to the business community during the Commission’s current reflection on the impact of a 2030 package. However, the Ministers indicated that further effort would be needed over the coming months to enhance dialogue between all actors and to continue to gather compelling data and analysis for the February 2014 European Council meeting.

In this respect, they recommended that a new platform for dialogue and action be created bringing together the Ministerial Green Growth Group, Business leaders and MEP’s. This unique platform would be steered and managed by The Prince of Wales’s EU Corporate Leaders Group (EU CLG). Based on the above and the key calls for action made during the Summit, it was suggested that the platform management committee have the following short term goals:

- Establish equivalent groups of business leaders and MEP's to engage in dialogue and collaborative action by the end of the year. Events/meetings will be organised accordingly;
- Set up two to three working groups addressing key dilemma's around energy pricing and affordability for households; competitiveness of European business; and sectoral challenges as well as ways in which policy and non-policy solutions could be found in particular in the energy intensive sectors such as the paper & pulp, power, metals, and chemicals sectors.

Initial outcomes and possible solutions from the working groups would be presented before the European Council meeting (February 2013) at a high level event.

* The members of the Ministerial GGG are:

1. Rt Hon Edward Davey MP, Energy and Climate Secretary, **UNITED KINGDOM**
2. Minister Peter Altmaier, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation & Nuclear Safety, **GERMANY**
3. Minister Philippe Martin, Minister for Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy, **FRANCE**
4. Andrea Orlando, Minister of the Environment and Protection of Land and Sea, **ITALY**
5. Mr Miguel Arias Cañete, Minister of Agriculture, Food & the Environment, **SPAIN**
6. Mrs Wilma Mansfeld, Minister for the Environment, **NETHERLANDS**
7. Jorge Morreira Da Silva, Minister of Environment, Spatial Planning and Energy, **PORTUGAL**
8. Melchior Wathelet, Secretary of State for the Environment, **BELGIUM**
9. Martin Lidegaard, Energy, Climate and Buildings Minister, **DENMARK**
10. Lena Ek, Minister for the Environment, **SWEDEN**
11. Ville Niinistö, Minister of the Environment, **FINLAND**
12. Dejan Zidan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Agriculture and Environment, **SLOVENIA**
13. Keit Pentus-Rosimannus, Environment Minister, **ESTONIA**