



THE PRINCE OF WALES'S
EU CORPORATE LEADERS GROUP

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Corporate leaders welcome Green Growth Initiative

Today, business leaders from The Prince of Wales EU Corporate Leaders Group (EU CLG)¹ joined European Ministers responsible for energy and climate change in Brussels for the European Green Growth Summit. Over the last six months, the EU CLG has supported the new informal Ministerial Green Growth Group and is now poised to work directly with the 13 ministers and MEPs on implementing their vision through a new Green Growth Platform.

Over the last four years the EU CLG business leaders have supported the EU's 2020 package and the need for continued policy stability and long term clarity. More recently the EU CLG has called for the adoption of an ambitious 2030 package of measures as well as the immediate restructuring of the EU ETS.

Philippe Joubert, Chair of the EU CLG applauded the initiative and the Summit which will kick off these efforts. "The business leaders that are part of the EU Corporate Leaders Group warmly welcome this call for joint action by Ministers. As business leaders we know that success in meeting our 2030 targets will only come if we develop a sound case on the economic benefits of decarbonisation sustained by long term stable ambitious policies. This summit is the first step in an on-going process that seeks to indicate the real cost of inaction while also showing the benefits of a low carbon economy in creating jobs, increased innovation and competitiveness."

Work is underway, with the Ministers to build a forum and network through which an ambitious, growth-enhancing and cost-effective EU decarbonisation strategy can be pursued. The objective is to, over time, establish a standing infrastructure around which a Green Growth Platform can operate regularly bringing together senior politicians, businesses and investors and wider civil society in order to explore, promote and pursue an ambitious EU decarbonisation and growth agenda. The current EU CLG managing committee and the corporate leaders of the EU CLG have been asked to manage and steer the platform.

Sandrine Dixson-Declève, Director, EU CLG said: "We are honoured to have been asked by the Green Growth Ministers to work with them on the establishment of a broader platform of businesses, investors, and policy makers committed to working in tandem toward the delivery of a low carbon economy. We share a vision. Only by working together will we be able to build a new low carbon action plan for Europe that is anchored in innovation, economic stability, growth and jobs."

Carmen Becerril, CIO, Acciona Group, a member of the EU CLG, said: "The current economic situation must not put the brakes on renewables development and low carbon infrastructure investment. A 2030 framework needs binding targets for all RES, GHG and Energy Efficiency because



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only binding targets provide the stable long-term framework needed to incentivize investment. In this respect greater collaboration between business and green growth ministers as proposed by this Green Growth Group Initiative is essential to ensure that a long term decarbonisation plan is put in place thus giving the right signals to investors.”

Thomas Reynaert, President UTIO, United Technologies Corporation, a member of the EU CLG agreed: “We look forward to working with the Green Growth Group of Ministers on the economic benefits of energy efficiency and decarbonisation. Energy efficiency in the building sector must be a key priority for EU climate and energy policy.

“Buildings account for 40 per cent of the EU’s primary energy demand. Deep renovation can cut this by 80 per cent, saving Europe over 30 per cent of its total energy use. At United Technologies we are excited about providing the solutions and doing our part to help reach that target”.

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Editor’s Notes

[1] The EU CLG was formed under the auspices of The Prince of Wales and is managed by the University of Cambridge Programme for Sustainability Leadership (CPSL). The EU CLG was set up in 2007 and brings together business leaders from a cross-section of EU and international businesses who believe there is an urgent need to develop new and longer-term policies for tackling climate change. The Group focuses on the changes necessary to ensure long-term economic prosperity, competitive advantage and corporate sustainability at an EU-wide level.

The EU CLG brings together business leaders from a cross-section of EU and international businesses who believe there is an urgent need to develop new and longer-term policies for tackling climate change. Its members include: Acciona, Alstom, Aviva, Coca Cola Enterprises (CCE), Doosan Power, GSK, Kingfisher, Johnson & Johnson, Philips, Shell, Skanska, Tesco, Vodafone, Unilever and United Technologies. Communications from the EU CLG benefit from the input of the entire group but do not necessarily require the formal agreement of all member companies.

About Cambridge Programme for Sustainability Leadership (CPSL)

CPSL builds strategic leadership capacity to tackle critical global challenges. It deepens leaders’ understanding of the social, environmental and economic context in which they operate and help them to respond in ways that benefit their organisations and society as a whole.

CPSL has built its reputation convening business leaders and policy makers around low carbon and sustainability challenges, and has a proven track record in managing complex projects entailing stakeholder outreach, liaison between governments, MEPs and businesses, and the facilitation of high level working groups and events.

Contact details

For additional information, please contact:

Helen Spence-Jackson, Programme Adviser

EU Office, University of Cambridge Programme for Sustainability Leadership

23 Rue de la Science, Brussels, B-1040 | Belgium

Direct: +32 (0)2 8949 322 | Mobile: +32 (0)486 615 266

Website: <http://www.cpsl.cam.ac.uk> | [Twitter](#)