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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Permanent Representatives Committee

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Subject: PREPARATION FOR THE COUNCIL (ENVIRONMENT) ON 4  
NOVEMBER 2025  
Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND  
OF THE COUNCIL amending Regulation (EU) 2021/1119 establishing the  
framework for achieving climate neutrality  
- General approach

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**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. The EU has set its climate targets for 2030 and 2050 in Regulation (EU) 2021/1119 establishing the framework for achieving climate neutrality (“the European Climate Law”)<sup>1</sup>. Article 4(3) of the European Climate Law requires an intermediate 2040 climate target to be set with a view to achieving the climate-neutrality objective.

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<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EU) 2021/1119 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 June 2021 establishing the framework for achieving climate neutrality and amending Regulations (EC) No 401/2009 and (EU) 2018/1999 (‘European Climate Law’) (OJ L 243, 9.7.2021, p. 1)

2. On 6 February 2024, the Commission published a Communication titled ‘Securing our future - Europe's 2040 climate target and path to climate neutrality by 2050 building a sustainable, just and prosperous society, in which it recommended a 90% net greenhouse gas emission reduction compared to 1990 levels as the target for 2040<sup>2</sup>.
3. On 2 July 2025, the Commission published a proposal<sup>3</sup> to amend the European Climate Law (“the ECL amendment”) by including therein the 90% target referred to above. The amendments to the existing Regulation also include three proposed flexibilities to help in achieving the EU target as well as a provision whereby the Commission shall aim to accelerate and strengthen the enabling framework to ensure that conditions are in place to support European industry and citizens throughout the transition.
4. In the European Parliament, Mr Ondřej KNOTEK (Pfe, CZ) has been appointed as rapporteur for the proposal on behalf of the Committee on the Environment, Climate and Food Safety (ENVI).
5. The Economic and Social Committee adopted its opinion on 18 September 2025<sup>4</sup>. The Committee of the Regions decided not to issue an opinion.

## **II. STATE OF PLAY**

6. The Commission presented its proposal to the Permanent Representatives Committee (Coreper) on 2 July 2025.
7. Following examination by the Working Party on the Environment (WPE) at five meetings during July and September and guidance for further work by Coreper on 16 July, on 18 September 2025, the Council (Environment) took note of a progress report prepared by the Presidency and held a policy debate with a view to providing further guidance for the continued work ahead. <sup>5</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> 6291/24  
<sup>3</sup> 11184/25 + ADD 1  
<sup>4</sup> 13492/25  
<sup>5</sup> 12790/25

8. At its meeting on 23 October, in the context of a competitive green transition, the European Council held a strategic discussion on how to support the achievement of the EU's intermediate climate target for 2040.<sup>6</sup>
9. Following the guidance provided by the European Council, the Presidency confirmed its aim to continue discussions in the Council with a view to reaching a general approach at its meeting on 4 November.

### **III. LATEST PRESIDENCY COMPROMISE PROPOSALS**

10. The Presidency has prepared a new compromise text set out in the Annex to reflect the guidance provided by the European Council in its conclusions of 23 October and to take into account the latest discussions in the Council on 18 September.

The new proposals are marked as **bold underlined**, deletions with ~~double strikethrough~~. Previous changes to the Commission proposal are underlined and deletions marked with ~~strikethrough~~.

a) Competitiveness of the EU - recitals 5, 5a, 5b and 8

- The Presidency proposes a number of adjustments to the wording to reflect the European Council's guidance in several paragraphs of the conclusions.

b) Defence and military sectors – recital 8

- The previous compromise text on the elements to be taken into account in the upcoming impact assessments has been strengthened in relation to the need to ensure the EU's and its Member States' defensive capacity in the context of industrial decarbonisation.

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<sup>6</sup> EUCO 18/25

c) Sectoral contributions – recital 8a

- Following the guidance by the European Council (paragraph 45a EUCO), the Presidency proposal clarifies that possible shortfalls in one sector should not be at the expense of other sectors. The Presidency suggests to specify that this refers notably to the EU ETS sectors and is without prejudice to Member States' use of flexibilities.

d) EU ETS trajectory - recital 8a

- A further clarification to the text makes it clear that the future revision of the EU ETS trajectory should allow for a limited amount of emissions after 2039.

e) Contribution of international credits – Article 4(5), point (a) and recital 8a:

- Adjustments are suggested to the wording of both the article and the recital taking account of guidance by the European Council (paragraph 45b EUCO) that the contribution of international credits should be adequate and used in a way that is both ambitious and cost-efficient.
- As the European Council did not provide guidance on a different amount (percentage) or starting date, the Presidency proposal includes the percentage and the year of the start of usage of the international credits in brackets.
- A factual correction has also been made in recital 8a concerning the first year of the decade from 2031 to 2040, to specify that the accounting period under the Paris Agreement starts from 2031.

f) Flexibility across and within sectors – Article 4(5), point (c):

- A clarification has been added indicating that the enhanced flexibility applies within and across both sectors and instruments.

g) Contribution of carbon removals / Natural sinks (Art. 4(5), new points (ca) and (cb))

- A new point (ca) on the contribution of carbon removals to the overall emission reduction effort has been added to reflect the guidance by the European Council (paragraph 45a EUCO).
- The text of previous point (p) has been moved to a new point (cb) without any changes to the text for reasons of coherence.

h) Member States' post-2030 targets and efforts – Art. 4(5), point (d)

- Textual adjustment taking account of guidance by the European Council (paragraph 40 EUCO).

i) Just and socially fair transition - Art. 4(5), point (h)

- In addition to textual adjustments to the wording taking account of guidance by the European Council (paragraph 40 EUCO), a reference to farmers has been added.

j) Assessment of the implementation of intermediate targets – new Art. 4(8)

- A new paragraph has been added in Article 4 to introduce a biennial assessment and report by the Commission on the implementation of the intermediate targets and decarbonisation trajectories. Reflecting guidance by the European Council (paragraph 45c EUCO), the text specifies that the assessment should take into account the latest scientific evidence, technological advances and evolving challenges to and opportunities for the EU's global competitiveness and may be accompanied by legislative proposals where appropriate.

k) Review – Article 11

- Textual adjustments have been made in points (c) and (d) of the first paragraph to reflect guidance by the European Council (paragraph 45c EUCO).
- Also to reflect the guidance from the European Council (paragraph 45a EUCO), the Presidency proposes further elements to complement point (e) concerning the level of net removals in relation to the targets under the Regulation, including that the Commission shall propose, where appropriate, measures at Union level. In addition, it has been clarified that in the context of review, possible shortfalls in the level of net removals should not be at the expense of other sectors.
- A new point (f) has been added to introduce progress towards the intermediate targets as a further element to take into account in the review.

- In the second paragraph of Article 11 concerning the revision of the Regulation and additional measures, the Presidency proposes to change the text in line with guidance from the European Council (Paragraph 45c EUCO), to ensure that the Commission shall make legislative proposals to revise the Climate Law where appropriate following their review report. Further, the Presidency proposal adds a reference to measures that shall be taken in relation to natural sinks and biodiversity.

#### **IV. CONCLUSION**

11. The Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to:

- examine the compromise text in the Annex; and
  - forward it to the Council (Environment) for discussion at its meeting on 4 November 2025, with a view to reaching a general approach.
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Proposal for a

**REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL  
amending Regulation (EU) 2021/1119 establishing the framework for achieving climate  
neutrality**

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular  
Article 192(1) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee<sup>7</sup>,

Having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions<sup>8</sup>,

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure,

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<sup>7</sup> OJ C , , p. .

<sup>8</sup> OJ C , , p. .

Whereas:

- (1) The outcome of the first global stocktake<sup>9</sup> under the Paris Agreement<sup>10</sup>, concluded at the United Nations Climate Change Conference at the end of 2023, found that parties are putting increasingly effective climate policies in place, but that urgent additional action is needed to put the world fully on track for achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement.
- (2) Through the adoption of Regulation (EU) 2021/1119 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>11</sup>, the Union has enshrined in legislation a binding objective of economy-wide climate neutrality by 2050, thus reducing greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by that date, and the aim of achieving negative emissions thereafter. That Regulation also established a binding Union 2030 intermediate climate target and ~~provided for~~ requires the setting of a Union-wide intermediate climate target for 2040.
- (3) Taking into account the scientific advice by the European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change (‘the Advisory Board’) and based on a detailed Impact Assessment, the Commission presented a recommended target of a 90% net greenhouse gas emission reduction compared to 1990 levels for 2040 in its Communication of 6 February 2024 on Securing our future: Europe's 2040 climate target and path to climate neutrality by 2050 building a sustainable, just and prosperous society<sup>12</sup>.

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<sup>9</sup> Decision 1/CMA.5.

<sup>10</sup> OJ L 282, 19.10.2016, p. 4.

<sup>11</sup> Regulation (EU) 2021/1119 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 June 2021 establishing the framework for achieving climate neutrality and amending Regulations (EC) No 401/2009 and (EU) 2018/1999 (‘European Climate Law’) (OJ L 243, 9.7.2021, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/1119/oj>).

<sup>12</sup> COM(2024) 63 final.

- (4) In order to propose the Union 2040 climate target, the Commission considered the best available and most recent scientific evidence, including the latest reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the Advisory Board; the social, economic and environmental impacts, including the costs of inaction; the need to ensure a just and socially fair transition for all; cost-effectiveness and economic efficiency; competitiveness of the Union's economy, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises and sectors most exposed to carbon leakage; best available cost-effective, safe and scalable technologies; energy efficiency including the 'energy efficiency first' principle and the 'energy efficiency first' principle, energy affordability and security of supply for all Member States; fairness and solidarity between and within Member States; the need to ensure environmental effectiveness and progression over time; the need to maintain, manage and enhance natural sinks in the long term and protect and restore biodiversity, including in the marine environment; investment needs and opportunities; international developments and efforts undertaken to achieve the long-term objectives of the Paris Agreement and the ultimate objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); existing information on the projected indicative Union greenhouse gas budget for the 2030-2050 period.

- (5) In order to achieve the 2040 climate target it is essential to, inter alia, fully implement the agreed 2030 policy framework, ensure and provide support to **enhance and bolster** ~~strengthen and protect~~ the competitiveness and resilience of the European industry, ensure sustainable food systems as well as the resilience of rural communities and food security through a sustainable and robust European agricultural sector, ensure transition pathways based on best available cost-effective, safe and scalable technologies, **and** set a greater focus on a just transition for affected regions, ~~and~~ sectors and vulnerable households that leaves no one behind, for example through support from the Social Climate Fund in the transition to climate neutrality. Further, it is essential to ensure fair competition with international partners, **and to make effective use of all EU economic instruments to deter and counter unfair trade practices**, decarbonise the energy system with a technologically neutral approach that includes all zero and low carbon energy solutions (including renewables, nuclear, energy efficiency, storage, CCS, CCU, carbon removals, geothermal and hydro-energy, sustainable bioenergy and all other current and future net-zero energy technologies), reduce import dependencies and diversify the EU's sources of critical raw materials, and organise a strategic dialogue on the post-2030 framework with all relevant sectors, including industry and transport.
- (5a) **Enhancing the Union's competitiveness, bolstering its resilience, and advancing the green transition are mutually reinforcing objectives that must be pursued together**. With a view to ensuring a cost-effective, fair and just, pragmatic and socially balanced transition towards climate neutrality, **taking into account different national circumstances**, both private and public sector investment, including through Union funding, will also be a key enabler for the clean transition, for example by accelerating the deployment and commercialisation of innovative technologies, supporting access to industrial **renewal and decarbonisation, clean tech manufacturing and the modernisation of energy systems**. ~~With~~ €The Clean Industrial Deal, the EU is putting in place the conditions for a successful transition, focussing on both decarbonisation and industrial renewal, **which will contribute to boosting demand for 'made in Europe'**, including and support mechanisms for European industry, including the Industrial Decarbonisation Bank and the new simplified state aid framework through circular economy.

- (5b) The Clean Industrial Deal # also focuses on better access to public and private finance, an integrated and interconnected Union energy market ensuring energy security, promotion of circular economy, a global level playing field including through the effective implementation and extension of CBAM to downstream goods, introducing anti-circumvention measures and action to address export carbon leakage, and clear enabling conditions for such as streamlined permitting and the uptake and scaling of clean technologies, in order to strengthen **the Union's competitive edge and** industrial competitiveness **as well as** ~~and~~ innovation in the EU taking into account the ~~changing~~ **challenging** geopolitical **environment** situation.
- (6) In light of the 2050 climate-neutrality objective, by 2040 greenhouse gas emissions should be reduced and removals enhanced, to ensure that the net greenhouse gas emissions, that is emissions after deduction of removals, are reduced economy-wide by 90 % by 2040 compared to 1990 levels.

- (7) Priority should be given to domestic reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, complementing it by increased removals, including through both natural and technological solutions. ~~The land use, land use change and forestry sector has a central role in a sustainable and circular bioeconomy and has the potential to provide long-term climate benefits.~~ In the development of the post-2030 policy package, due attention should be paid to the contribution of gross emission reductions versus natural and technological removals. ~~Natural removals are have characteristics that should be taken into account, such as forest age structure, proportion of organic soils, natural variability, and uncertainties related to the impacts of climate change, and to natural disturbances and to changes in methodologies that should be taken into account.~~ ~~Nature-based~~ and industrial removals play an increasing role in the Union's economy in the next decades, in view of the need to balance greenhouse gas emissions and removals at the latest by 2050 and negative emissions thereafter. Incentives will be developed ~~on the occasion in the context~~ of the review of Directive 2003/87/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>13</sup> in 2026, where the Commission envisages to provide for the inclusion of domestic permanent carbon removals in the EU emissions trading system for greenhouse gas emission allowance trading within the Union ('EU ETS') to compensate for residual hard-to-abate emissions from hard-to-abate sectors. The land use, land use change and forestry sector has a central role in a sustainable and circular bioeconomy and has the potential to provide long-term climate and environmental benefits contributing to the clean transition of the EU economy and reducing dependencies by substituting fossil-based materials.

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<sup>13</sup> Directive 2003/87/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 October 2003 establishing a system for greenhouse gas emission allowance trading within the Union and amending Council Directive 96/61/EC (OJ L 275, 25.10.2003, p. 32, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2003/87/oj>).

- (7a) While some enabling policies have already been implemented and their impact is already visible, this is not yet the case for all. The Commission should continue ~~aim to accelerate and~~ strengthen the initiatives concerning ~~implementation of the enabling framework and aim to~~ ~~ensure~~ accelerate their adoption to ensure that conditions are in place to support European industry and citizens throughout the transition, in full respect of Union law.
- (8) The Union has in place a regulatory framework to achieve the 2030 climate target. The legislation implementing that target consists, inter alia, of Directive 2003/87/EC, which establishes the EU ETS, Regulation (EU) 2018/842 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>14</sup>, which introduced national targets for reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, and Regulation (EU) 2018/841 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>15</sup>, which sets net carbon removal targets for the land use sector. The Commission should assess how the relevant Union legislation would need to be amended in order to achieve the 2040 climate target. When designing the ~~future architecture~~ post-2030 framework, the Commission should prepare detailed impact assessments, taking into account its analysis of the integrated national energy and climate plans, the geopolitical ~~situation~~ environment, in relation to the ~~interrelations between climate policy and security and defence policies~~, including **the need to ensure the Union's and its Member States' capacity to rapidly increase and strengthen their defensive capacity by addressing possible burdens while maintaining incentives for industrial decarbonisation**, the impacts on competitiveness, ~~and on~~ small and medium-sized enterprises and energy intensive industries, and impacts on energy costs and investment needs across Member States, and consider taking necessary measures, including legislative proposals as appropriate.

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<sup>14</sup> Regulation (EU) 2018/842 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2018 on binding annual greenhouse gas emission reductions by Member States from 2021 to 2030 contributing to climate action to meet commitments under the Paris Agreement and amending Regulation (EU) No 525/2013 (OJ L 156, 19.6.2018, p. 26, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2018/842/oj>).

<sup>15</sup> Regulation (EU) 2018/841 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2018 on the inclusion of greenhouse gas emissions and removals from land use, land use change and forestry in the 2030 climate and energy framework, and amending Regulation (EU) No 525/2013 and Decision No 529/2013/EU (OJ L 156, 19.6.2018, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2018/841/oj>).

(8a) A number of elements to facilitate the achievement of the 2040 climate target should be appropriately reflected, including a potential possible limited **adequate** contribution towards the 2040 climate target of high-quality international credits under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement in the [second part of the] 2031-2040 decade, **in a way that is both ambitious and cost-efficient and** in line with accounting rules of the Paris Agreement; the role of domestic permanent removals (such as Biogenic emissions Capture with Carbon Storage (BioCCS) and Direct Air Capture with Carbon Storage (DACCS)) in the EU ETS while ensuring the environmental integrity of the EU ETS, including the possibility to store CO<sub>2</sub> outside the Union, as appropriate, subject to the existence of international agreements and providing for conditions equivalent to those laid out in Union law; and enhanced and accessible flexibility across and within sectors to support a cost-effective approach whereby for example by balancing efforts between sectors Member States' achievements in one sector can balance gaps in others in a cost-efficient way while ensuring that each sector contributes to the efforts and ensuring that possible shortfalls in one sector would not be at the expense of other economic sectors, notably industrial sectors under the EU ETS, without prejudice to each Member State's possibility to make use of the flexibilities. In operationalising the use of international credits, the Commission should take into account the need to ensure a level playing field across Member States and the opportunity to support strategic EU partnerships. International credits should not play a role for compliance in the EU ETS. The current EU ETS trajectory should be revised in the upcoming review of the ETS Directive to take into account the agreed 2040 target **in a manner that would allow for a limited amount of emissions after 2039.** In order to assess the social, economic and environmental impacts, the future architecture post-2030 framework should be based on robust impact assessments. The future architecture post-2030 framework should also foster convergence while taking into account fairness and Member States' national circumstances and specificities, including those of islands and outermost regions.

- (9) Since the objective of this Regulation, namely to set a Union-wide climate target for 2040, cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States but can rather, by reason of its scale and effects, be better achieved at Union level, the Union may adopt measures, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union. In accordance with the principle of proportionality, as set out in that Article, this Regulation does not go beyond what is necessary in order to achieve that objective.
- (10) Regulation (EU) 2021/1119 should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

*Article 1*

**Amendments to Regulation (EU) 2021/1119**

Regulation (EU) 2021/1119 is amended as follows:

- (1) in Article 1, second paragraph, the following sentence is added:

‘This Regulation also sets out a binding Union target for 2040.’;

- (2) in Article 4, paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 are replaced by the following:

‘3. In order to reach the climate-neutrality objective set out in Article 2(1), the binding Union 2040 climate target shall be a reduction of net greenhouse gas emissions (emissions after deduction of removals) by 90 % compared to 1990 levels by 2040.

4. With a view to the period after 2030, the Commission shall review relevant Union legislation in order to enable the achievement of the target set out in paragraph 3 of this Article and the climate-neutrality objective set out in Article 2(1) and consider taking the necessary measures as appropriate and based on detailed impact assessment, in accordance with the Treaties.

~~While some enabling policies have already been implemented and their impact is already visible, this is not yet the case for all. The Commission shall aim to continue to strengthen accelerate and strengthen the initiatives concerning the enabling framework and aim to accelerate their adoption and implementation of the enabling framework to ensure that conditions are in place to support affected legal and natural persons, such as European industry and citizens throughout the transition, towards the targets set out in paragraphs 1 and 3 of this Article, the objective set out in Article 2(1) and a climate-neutral economy in full respect of EU law.~~

5. Within the framework of the review referred to in the first subparagraph of Article paragraph 4, in order to facilitate the achievement of the target set out in paragraph 3 of this Article, the Commission shall ensure that the following elements are appropriately reflected in the legislative proposals:
- (a) starting from [2036], a possible ~~limited~~ **adequate** contribution towards the 2040 climate target of high-quality international credits under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement of [3]% of 1990 EU net emissions **in a way that is both ambitious and cost-efficient**, supporting the EU and third countries in achieving net greenhouse gas reduction trajectories compatible with the Paris Agreement objective to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C and pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1,5 °C above pre-industrial levels [subject to ensuring the environmental integrity ~~and cost-effectiveness~~ of these credits, while promoting the EU's technological leadership]; the origin, quality criteria and other conditions concerning the acquisition and use of any such credits shall be regulated in Union law, and such credits shall not play a role for compliance in the EU ETS;
  - (b) the role of domestic permanent removals under the greenhouse gas emission allowance trading system within the Union ('EU ETS') to compensate for residual hard-to-abate emissions ~~from hard-to-abate sectors;~~

- (c) enhanced flexibility within and across sectors **and instruments**, to support the achievement of targets in a simple and cost-effective way;
- (ca) the realistic contribution of carbon removals to the overall emission reduction effort, while taking into account the uncertainties of natural removals and ensuring that possible shortfalls would not be at the expense of other economic sectors;**
- (cb) the need to maintain, manage and enhance, as appropriate, natural sinks in the long term and protect and restore biodiversity, to promote sustainable and circular bioeconomy, as well as take into account the effects of differences in forest age structure, natural variability and uncertainties notably those linked to the impacts of climate change and natural disturbances in the land use, land use change and forestry sector;**
- (d) Member States post-2030 targets and efforts should reflect cost-efficiency and solidarity, **taking into account different** ~~in light of~~ national circumstances and specificities, including those of islands and outermost regions;
- (e) the best available and most recent scientific evidence, including the latest reports of the IPCC and the Advisory Board;
- (f) the social, economic and environmental impacts across Member States including in relation to the objectives of decarbonisation and competitiveness for European industry;
- (g) the costs of inaction and the benefits of action over mid-term to long-term;

- (h) the need to ensure and support a **fair and just, pragmatic, cost-effective ~~cost-efficient~~** and socially **balanced ~~fair~~** transition for all, **taking into account different national circumstances and** paying particular attention to regions, sectors, small and medium-sized enterprises, **farmers** and vulnerable households affected by the transition to climate neutrality;
- (i) simplification, technology neutrality, cost-effectiveness, economic efficiency, and economic security;
- (j) climate action as a driver for investment, ~~and~~ innovation and increased competitiveness;
- (k) the need to strengthen the global competitiveness of the Union's economy and reduce risk of carbon leakage, in particular for small and medium-sized enterprises and industrial sectors that are most exposed, to carbon leakage so as to ensure fair competition;
- (l) best available cost-effective, safe and scalable technologies;
- (m) energy affordability, security of supply, energy security, and energy efficiency including the 'energy efficiency first' principle, and the 'energy efficiency first' principle, as well as strengthening of electricity grids and interconnections;
- (n) fairness and solidarity between and within Member States;
- (o) the need to ensure environmental effectiveness and progression over time, while also safeguarding social cohesion and ensuring a just transition;

- ~~(p) the need to maintain, manage and enhance, as appropriate, natural sinks in the long term and protect and restore biodiversity, to promote sustainable and circular bioeconomy, as well as take into account the effects of differences in forest age structure, natural variability and uncertainties notably those linked to the impacts of climate change and natural disturbances in the land use, land use change and forestry sector; [moved to new point (cb)]~~
- (q) investment needs and opportunities, including access to public and private finance as well as support for innovation and access to innovative technologies across Member States;
- (r) international developments and efforts undertaken to achieve the long-term objectives of the Paris Agreement and the ultimate objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), as well as the support of the Union to its partners in addressing climate change and its impacts.’.

**(2a) In Article 4, the following paragraph is added:**

**8. Starting from [one year after the adoption of this Regulation] the Commission shall biennially assess and report on the implementation of the intermediate targets and decarbonisation trajectories set out in this Regulation, taking into account the latest scientific evidence, technological advances and evolving challenges to and opportunities for the EU’s global competitiveness. The assessment may be accompanied, where appropriate, by legislative proposals.**

**(3) In Article 11, first paragraph, the following points are added:**

**‘(c) the evolving challenges to and opportunities for global competitiveness of European industries, in particular of energy-intensive industries and of small and medium-sized enterprises;**

- (d) technological ~~advances~~ ~~progress~~ and deployment across Member States and sectors of innovative technologies’;
- (e) the estimated level of net removals at Union level in relation to the targets of this Regulation. **If the Commission finds that the estimated level of net removals for 2040 is significantly diverging from what would be required to achieve the 2040 intermediate target, the Commission shall propose, where appropriate, measures at Union level and ensure that possible shortfalls will not be at the expense of other economic sectors;**
- f) the progress towards the intermediate targets set out in this Regulation.**

(4) In Article 11, the second paragraph is replaced by the following:

The Commission’s report ~~shall~~ ~~may~~ be accompanied, where appropriate, by legislative proposals to ~~amend~~ ~~revise~~ this Regulation and by additional measures to strengthen the initiatives concerning the enabling framework supporting the continued effective implementation of this Regulation **or to support maintaining, managing and enhancing, as appropriate, natural sinks in the long term and protect and restore biodiversity.**

*Article 2*

**Entry into force**

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels,

*For the European Parliament*

*For the Council*

*The President The President*

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