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NOTE

From: The European Commission
To: Council
Subject: Mission Innovation: Membership
- *Information from the Commission*

Delegations will find attached an information note from the European Commission on "Mission Innovation: Membership" with a view to AOB items at the meeting of the Competitiveness Council on 28 May 2021.

AOB - MISSION INNOVATION: MEMBERSHIP - INFORMATION BY THE COMMISSION
Information from the Commission

Mission Innovation (MI) is a global initiative of 24 countries¹ and the European Union, with the aim to accelerate effort in innovation in clean energy globally. It was launched at COP21 in Paris and the European Commission, acting on behalf of the European Union, joined the initiative in 2016. Today MI members represent over 95% of global government investment in clean energy research and innovation.

In 2021, MI has reached the end of its first phase of five years, in which its members have successfully stimulated global efforts, increasing investments by more than USD 4.9 billion and developing over 70 new international collaborations (worth USD 1.4 billion) in clean energy through joint calls, demonstration projects, and student and researcher exchanges. MI members focused their attention on eight innovation challenges to mobilise researchers, encourage sharing of best practices, and to align the ambitions and goals of different clean energy research, development and demonstration programmes.

Building on the success of current initiatives, MI is preparing to launch an ambitious second phase at the next Ministerial meeting starting on 31 May. The second phase focus on outcomes and solutions to persistent energy related challenges. Its vision will be delivered through Missions² and Innovation Platform³. It will also be more inclusive and welcome new members and partners.

For the next decade of action Mission Innovation members will concentrate their efforts around impact-oriented, public-private missions, with ambitious and inspirational goals that can lead to tipping points in the cost and scale of clean energy solutions. The first three missions – on hydrogen, power and shipping – will be announced at the “Innovating for net zero” conference, which will be part of the Ministerial event. Other missions may be launched later this year at COP26, such as on decarbonised cities, bio-economy, industrial decarbonisation and CO2 removal.

The European Commission will continue its engagement in Mission Innovation activities and governance, to promote the objectives of the European Green Deal in the international context, including but not limited to co-leadership of the hydrogen and cities missions to be announced at the Ministerial meeting and COP26 respectively as well as participation in Mission Innovation Steering Committee.

¹ Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States

² The Missions under MI are distinct from the future Horizon Europe missions that will be cross-sector and multi-sector, responding to global challenges, driven by EC. Missions under the second phase of MI will be global, with objectives to accelerate energy transformation for net zero climate ambition.

³ Innovation Platform will host activities to increase the impact of investments and shorten innovation times through modules to enhancing collaborations (Collaborate), accelerating learning (Insights) and connecting solutions with investments (Accelerate).