



Brussels, 12 December 2014

13th SEII Team Meeting

Friday 5 December 2014

Venue: COVENT GARDEN Complex, Place Rogier 16, Brussels

Draft summary of the discussion and action items

Meeting with the Member States only

1. Introduction of the meeting and discussion

The meeting was chaired by Paul Verhoef (European Commission).

The EC introduced the discussion presenting the latest developments which are relevant for the European energy sector, in particular the so-called "Juncker Investment Plan" and the Energy Union. As mentioned in the correspondence prior to the meeting, some of the major issues are as follows:

- How could Europe re-industrialize?
- How is it possible to compete with non-European competitors? What conditions need to be met?
- Which opportunities in the solar energy sector can be seized?

A presentation on PV and CSP market analysis and perspectives was also given (please refer to the presentation in Annex 1 for details).

The main considerations put forward by MSs and EC in the subsequent discussion are here summarised:

- Excellent research in the solar energy field takes place in Europe (Germany). However, the issue of keeping the European research leadership in the solar energy sector is linked also to having manufacturing in Europe. This could lead, for example, to high-performance, advanced PV products (which are not currently produced by the Chinese) (EC, France).
- The energy market is vast and diverse, with different issues and challenges, across each single MS as well as across Europe. For example, in Portugal priority has been given to investments in the wind energy sector, while the only potential from solar energy lies in the export of

electricity; moreover, conventional power plants now run at 20% of their capacity due to the high penetration of renewables. In Italy, major challenges for market development are the limited functionality of the grid and the limited storage capacity. In Spain the deployment of both PV and CSP has stopped due to the fact that the internal market is currently very limited.

- A major issue is to bridge the gap between R&D outcomes and the market (Germany). The focus should be on PV systems and not only on modules (France). In addition, technologies such as storage -that support the integration of more renewable energy in the grid- are a priority (Greece).
- Concerning R&D in cell/module manufacturing, pilot lines could be a priority (France). Industrial clusters involving more than one MS would bring added value (Greece). Among the specific technology solutions to be considered for the future, thin-film on silicon substrate is worth of mention (France).
- IPR issues are a challenge, particularly with regards to non-European competitors. There is also evidence that some EC-funded projects develop IPR with the sole purpose of trading it rather than developing products.
- Could the option of promoting non-European investments in European manufacturing of energy technology be taken into consideration (EC)? Some industrial sectors (e.g., the textile sector) already cope well with a situation where the technology is developed in Europe but the production takes place elsewhere. To note, however, that several German PV companies already have non-European shareholders (e.g., from South Korea and China) (Germany).
- Transparent regulations are highly needed, with regard to all energy technologies (Greece).

Meeting with the SEII Team (Member States + Industry)

1. Adoption of the minutes of the previous meeting

The draft minutes (dated 10 January 2014) of the twelfth SEII Team meeting were adopted with a change in paragraph 2 where the sentence "*The challenge-based approach of the Work Programme was welcomed by the participants*" was replaced with the sentence "*The publication of the Work Programme was welcomed by the participants.*" according to a comment by EPIA.

2. Recap from the morning session and further discussion with the industry

The EC summarized the main outcomes of the session with the MS and asked the industry for further comments.

The German CSP Association stated that in the countries where CSP is being deployed for the first time there is very much adversity to innovation. For this reason First-of-a-kind plants should be located in Europe.

The EC mentioned that it is discussing a mechanism to provide risk funding for "pilot" renewable energy projects through the EIB at a higher risk level than accepted so far.

EPIA mentioned the importance of trade agreements for the PV sector and the fact that the cost of capital is very often a critical issue with regards to new PV plants.

ESTELA stated that it is important to acknowledge the possible synergies across energy technologies instead of trying to support individually each technology.

A presentation was given by EPIA on PV investment issues (please refer to the presentation in Annex 2 for details).

A presentation was given by ESTELA on new CSP investment ideas (please refer to the presentation in Annex 3 for details).

3. SOLAR-ERA.NET

A presentation was given on the results of the first and second SOLAR-ERA.NET joint calls and on the preparation of the third joint call. The main issues which hampered the selection process were particularly discussed (please refer to the presentation in Annex 4 for details).

4. KIC InnoEnergy

A presentation was given on the activities of KIC InnoEnergy in general and on the specific activities in the field of PV and CSP. A number of start-ups in the field of PV were mentioned (please refer to the presentation in Annex 5 for details).

5. SET-Plan Integrated Roadmap and Action Plan

A presentation was given on the SET-Plan Integrated Roadmap and Action Plan. The Action Plan should be finalised in early 2015 (please refer to the presentation in Annex 6 for details).

Conclusions and follow-up actions

The current PV industrial manufacturing capacity in Europe is not fully clear (due to the many rapid changes which occurred in the past years) to allow the assessment of Europe's re-industrialisation potential as regards PV. With regard to CSP, it is very important for the European industry that deployment continues also in Europe. The issue of energy security is also linked to the issue of technology security (in particular to the capacity to manufacture all of the components of a technology). There was an agreement to try and align the possible actions undertaken at the national and EU levels.

Action: Discussions will be continued by exchange of e-mails. Specifically, MSs are requested to provide their input on whether a joint EU-MS strategy could be put in place (and which that would be) to allow Europe:

- to re-industrialize
- to seize a significant part of the future solar energy market
- to assure energy security

MS input is expected to focus on the three issues of market, technology and financing. A separate analysis is expected for PV and CSP. Conclusions will then be merged under a common framework.

The discussions will be animated by Maria Getsiou (EC) and Fabio Belloni (EC) for PV and by Piero De Bonis (EC) for CSP with the purpose of first and quickly coming to a common understanding of the core challenges of each sector.

Annexes:

- 1. Presentation on PV and CSP market perspectives**
- 2. Presentation on PV investment issues**
- 3. Presentation on new CSP investment ideas**
- 4. Presentation on the status of SOLAR-ERA.NET**
- 5. Presentation on KIC InnoEnergy**
- 6. Presentation on the SET-Plan Integrated Roadmap and Action Plan**

List of MS/Industry/EERA attendees

Surname	Name	Member State	PV Industry	CSP Industry	EERA
Bial	Marcel			ESTELA	
Cetin	Pinar	TR			
Concas	Giorgia		EPIA		
Crema	Luigi				EERA-CSP
De Lillo	Anna	IT			
Haibach	Patrick			German CSP Association/SCHOTT SOLAR	
Hunnekes	Christoph	DE			
Liberati	Guglielmo			ESTELA	
Mendes	João	PT			
Newton	Pascal	FR			
Ortega	Margarita	SP			
Philipps	Simon		PV TP		EERA-PV
Polain	Laurence	BE			
Roesch	Alexandre		EPIA		
Tselepis	Stathis	EL			
Woyte	Achim		3E		

List of EC attendees

Paul Verhoef, RTD, G3
Piero De Bonis, RTD, G3
Maria Getsiou, RTD, G3
Fabio Belloni, RTD, G3
Pietro Menna, ENER, C2
Miroslava Naneva, RTD, G1
Dulce Boavida, RTD, B4

Also present:

Emilien Simonot (KIC InnoEnergy)