

## MEETING MINUTES

### ZEP 70<sup>th</sup> ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

23 March 2022, 10:00—13:00 CET

Virtual meeting

#### 1. Introduction and welcome

Chair, **GS**, opens the meeting, informs of proxies and declares the meeting quorate.

Chair asks AC members if there are further items for the meeting agenda – no further items and the agenda is adopted. Chair asks AC members for approval of minutes from AC69, ACEC January – provisionally approved at ACEC February – and ACEC February. All approved.

#### 2. ZEP development and grant

**POG** provides an update on ZEP-C finances and budget, the upcoming combined ZEP/IWG9 grant, and the ZEP work programme. He highlighting a positive ZEP-C result for 2021 with increased member funding, lower expenditure, and – although books are not yet closed – year-end financial reserves of close to €290k. The next AC meeting, planned for 15 June, is expected to be held in a hybrid format. The ZEP-C General Assembly will be held directly after the AC meeting on 15 June. Referring to the next grant, **POG** notes that a start cannot be expected until possibly September, creating a new gap in grant funding of 4-5 months. This is a difficult situation, but while ZEP has prepared and has funds that will allow continued operations, this is not the case for the IWG9.

In light of these developments **POG** asks the AC to endorse the proposed ZEP-C budget for May-August 2022 (final approval at the General Assembly in June), to manage the funding during the gap between the grants and together with IWG9 contact the European Commission (EC) to seek a funding solution, and to endorse a prolongation of the current work programme until 31 August 2022.

Chair opens the floor for questions.

**LE** asks how ZEP-C will execute the moving of funds from ZEP to CCSA. Chair responds that the idea is to roll-over the current arrangement for the additional grant gap period.

**JH** highlights that the NGO and research constituencies are key stakeholders of ZEP, and it is crucial for ZEP to be based on public funds to establish trust. He notes that this situation calls for a swift funding solution by the EC. Chair responds that this would be the preferred outcome, and that ZEP operation will go on as normal, unaffected by the temporary financial arrangement with ZEP-C, and that ZEP has no intention of changing its operations as a consequence of this grant delay.

Chair asks for AC endorsement – all endorsed.

### 3. Updates from Networks

#### a. NWPE

**LSN** gives the NWPE update, reminding the AC that a vote will be held on 5 April to approve the revised TEN-E Regulation. She notes that this revision does not include funding for multi-modal transport of CO<sub>2</sub>, and therefore the Network has looked at the TEN-T as a potential possibility for the funding of non-pipeline transport. Discussions are ongoing within NWPE on this matter.

**POG** gives a brief update on CCS+, highlighting that the ZEP input and comments to the initiative have been taken onboard, that the document on guidance and principles will be thoroughly revised, and that the public consultation now is planned for May this year. He notes that the core issue still not solved is to have a clear differentiation between reductions and removals that also includes separate credits.

Chair opens the floor for comments and questions.

**CS** adds that work is also ongoing on the matter of cross-border liability for CO<sub>2</sub> storage. Chair confirms the importance of this work and asks to coordinate the work with NWT. **FN** confirms.

#### b. NWT

**FN** gives the update on NWT, mentioning that the TWG CCS and biodiversity work is ongoing and that a report is expected for approval at AC 71 in June. Regarding TWG CCS for Clean flexibility, he notes that a draft report is being prepared, that will look at the role of CCS regarding the increasing share of renewables in the energy system – and that current developments in Ukraine are speeding up this process. Chair notes the importance of the CCS for clean flexibility report as input in the SET-Plan IWGs cooperation regarding the integration RES in the energy system.

**FN** presents the report on the Directive for geological storage of CO<sub>2</sub>, giving the AC an extra seven days to provide possible feedback. The AC is asked to grant the Chair the right to approve the report after the seven-day period. The AC endorses.

Chair opens the floor for questions and comments.

**MV** welcomes the report and agrees that it is timely: the Directive's guidelines should be updated, and this input will be valuable in this process. However, **MV** notes that CO<sub>2</sub> storage in basalt rocks is an area where further input could also be provided. Chair concurs that significant work went into this good report and will look into how to provide further input on the latter point.

**KBB** notes that seismicity is briefly covered by the report but not naturally occurring earthquakes. He proposes that a factsheet on this topic should be prepared. **FN** proposes that **KBB** provides draft text during the seven-day feedback period to include this matter.

**IP** presents the report and guidance document on CO<sub>2</sub> transport by ship. After the presentation, the floor is opened for questions.

**KBB** welcomes the report and asks if a presentation could be provided to the GCCSI. Chair says yes.

The report and guidance document are approved.

#### 4. Updates from External Relations Group

**LB** and **MS** give updates on behalf of the ERG and Communications group respectively. **LB** highlights the key ERG activities this year, including an article to ENDS Europe, a contribution to the Oxford Energy Forum, an event at the EU Industry Week. **MS** updates the AC on ongoing activities within the Communications group, such as work on communication guidelines on CCS for flexibility and updating the *Facts and Information Toolkit*. Upcoming activities, such as applications to the EU Green and Sustainable Energy Week.

Chair opens the floor for questions and comments.

Relating to the work on communicating CCS for flexibility, Chair notes that it is important to align this work with other ZEP workstreams on flexibility and current affairs that will affect this issue.

#### 5. Carbon Dioxide Removal

**LSN** presents ZEP's draft consultation response that includes a document and a questionnaire. AC approves.

**FR** presents the EC's work on sustainable carbon cycles, highlighting: the quality of removals, the need to cover both nature- and technology-based solutions, the importance of strong criteria for transparency, and that the EC does not intend to define methodologies for the different applications. He also notes the establishment of an expert group that will cover all types of removals.

Chair opens the floor for questions, and notes that ZEP will seek to join the expert group.

#### 6. EU regulatory framework for CO<sub>2</sub> transport infrastructure

**CB** presents the current EC work on this item. He highlights that a CCUS vision paper will be produced, and that ZEP will be consulted regarding the ToR for the upcoming together with the JRC to revise the study from 2010 on optimal designs of EU CO<sub>2</sub> pipelines. **CB** predicts that the CCUS Forum will be held in October – and may be held outside of Brussels – but laments the delay on this workstream as efforts have been redirected to the REPowerEU. Working groups will be set up shortly and the details to join will be uploaded online. Two working groups are of particular interest here: one on CO<sub>2</sub> infrastructure and another on industrial partnerships (similar to Hydrogen Alliance).

**MV** gives a presentation, noting the results from the second large-scale Innovation Fund call. Results will be communicated to applicants in July this year and a third call is planned for Q4 2022. She also informs that an internal workshop with successful first call applicants was held on 15 February, where

the urgent need for storage was highlighted, since most of these successful projects are looking at capture. Here, **MV** notes the crucial role that Member States will play.

Chair opens the floor for questions.

**WB** asks about the timeline for updating review of the Directive on geological storage of CO<sub>2</sub> guidance documents. **MV** responds that there will be a public procurement with a consultant and this process should end by the end of next year.

**JH** asks for thoughts about the most recent Germany-Norway joint statement, especially the last paragraph that refers to these countries taking a leading role on the mentioned issues. **MV** believes it to be a positive statement but, relating to the leading role, she stresses that the EU has several members to consider. **CB** notes that at the working level Germany already is a good partner, and that this joint statement will make this happen also on leadership level.

Chair notes that blue and green hydrogen should not be put against each other – we need both. **JH** concurs that this communication has significant positive implications for blue hydrogen. **AT** informs that Shell's position is that there are indeed synergies between green/blue hydrogen and CCS.

**MV** asks if ZEP aims to revise its views on blue hydrogen in light of recent events. Chair notes that ZEP will look into this matter.

**CS** presents the ZEP draft paper on regulatory framework for CO<sub>2</sub> transport infrastructure. The paper is approved by the AC.

## 7. Sustainable investments and energy dependency

**CB** gives a brief presentation on REPowerEU and ongoing events in energy policymaking. He stresses that in light of Russia's aggression against Ukraine there is a top priority in reducing the share of Russian fossil fuels, with a focus on gas. The EC seeks to diversify its suppliers. Simultaneously the EU aims to boost the deployment of renewables and reduce the demand for fossil fuels in Europe. The issues of energy efficiency and electrification are key in this regard.

Chair opens the floor for questions and comments.

**NR** asks if this will affect Horizon Europe. **CB** responds no, but the rules for the Innovation Fund could be adapted to reflect the new context. **MV** adds that there is now a bigger focus on renewable energy and energy efficiency – hence potentially bigger calls are being explored.

## 8. SET-Plan/Horizon Europe/Mission Innovation

Chair notes ongoing work by the CCUS SET-Plan and the upcoming conference that will be held on 1 April.

**VK** gives an update on the Horizon Europe work programme and Mission Innovation, informing that that DG RTD is currently and through April compiling comments from Member States on the work programme. He also notes that the SET-Plan revamp is going well, and that a new work programme

on clean hydrogen – including blue hydrogen – is being designed. **VK** mentions that the EC is a supporting members on the CDR Mission, and notes that ZEP input on this matter will be particularly useful. Finally, **VK** highlights the cooperation agreement between the EC and the US, where CCUS is included. He asks ZEP for help on the upcoming workshop between the parties that will be held in April and notes that another workshop will be held in November to follow-up and discuss outcomes.

## **9. Closing remarks and next meeting**

Chair thanks all ZEP AC members and guests for participating. As the calendar stands, the AC71 meeting will be organised on 15 June.

## List of participants

<b>AC members</b>		
1	Dr Graeme Sweeney	Chairman of ZEP
2	Vicente Cortés	AICIA/University of Sevilla
3	Jonas Helseth	Bellona
4	Isabelle Czernichowski	BRGM
5	Lamberto Eldering	Equinor
6	Robin Clowes	ExxonMobil
7	Constantin Sava	GeoEcoMar
8	Winston Beck	HeidelbergCement
9	Florence Delprat-Jannaud	IFPEN
10	Kim Bye Bruun	Northern Lights
11	Alistair Tucker ( <i>proxy for Syrie Crouch</i> )	Shell
12	Nils Røkke	SINTEF
13	Charles Soothill	Sulzer
14	Ward Goldthorpe	Sustainable Decisions
15	Filip Neele	TNO
16	Stuart Haszeldine	University of Edinburgh (SCCS)
<b>External speakers</b>		
17	Chris Bolesta	European Commission
18	Daniel Kitscha	European Commission
19	Fabien Ramos	European Commission
20	Maria Velkova	European Commission
21	Vassilios Kougiouas	European Commission
<b>Guests</b>		
22	Bernice Cruz	Air Liquide

23	Hanne Rolén	Aker Carbon Capture
24	Eric Deconinck	ArcelorMittal
25	Hanna Biro	Bellona
26	Lina Strandvåg Nagell	Bellona
27	Esme Brandon	BP
28	Ceri Vincent	British Geological Survey
29	Helen Bray	CarbonEngineering
30	Paola Mazzucchelli	Circe
31	Alessia Virone	Clean Air Task Force
32	Toby Lockwood	Clean Air Taskforce
33	Eve Tamme	Climate Principles
34	Cat Reynolds	Drax
35	Domien Vangenechten	E3G
36	Roberto Ferrario	ENI
37	Lucie Boost	Equinor
38	Simon Gianordoli	ETN
39	Frederico Dona	EUROFER
40	Antonella Sopranzetti	ExxonMobil
41	Andreas Cappelen	Fortum
42	Ståle Aakenes	Gassnova
43	Guloren Turan	GCCSI
44	Angus Gillespie	Global CCS Institute
45	Caterina de Matteis	IOGP
46	Thomas Vanhauwaert	Neptune Energy
47	Nora Hansen	Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions
48	Henriette Nesheim	Norwegian Ministry of Petroleum and Energy
49	Raphael de Loenen	Port of Antwerp

50	Sofie Cuypers	Port of Antwerp
51	Alistair Tucker	Shell
52	Christian Schwarck	Shell
53	Kristin Jordal	SINTEF
54	Marie Bysveen	SINTEF
55	Ian Phillips	Storegga
56	Svante Soderholm	Swedish Energy Agency
57	Tim Peeters	Tata Steel
58	Frederic Linsig	TotalEnergies
59	Hernan Silva	TotalEnergies
<b>ZEP Secretariat</b>		
60	Charles-Albert Bareth	ZEP Secretariat
61	Murillo Salvador	ZEP Secretariat
62	Per-Olof Granström	ZEP Secretariat