EEW4 External Event Report

Title of the event: MEP-Briefing with incoming Swedish EU Council Presidency on Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

Date & location: 16 November 2022, European Parliament, Brussels, Meeting Room A5G1 and online via Webex

Organiser(s): EUFores

Summary of the event: On Wednesday 16 November 2022 EUFores organised a MEP-Breakfast with the incoming Swedish EU Council Presidency with Alexander Majer, Energy Counsellor at the Permanent Representation who presented the priorities of the Swedish Council presidency concerning renewable energy, energy efficiency and the Fit for 55 packages.

Ciaran Cuffe:
- Welcome everyone and those MEPs joining from COP27

Emma Wiesner:
- It is good to discuss the expectations of MEPS and that of the perm rep
- With the change of government, the ambitions should not be lower
- First quarter (December) we will be focusing on the ETS
- We have a new government, that will be taken into account when finalising priorities
- The Fit for 55 files are seen with urgency given their impact to the energy situation and to decrease dependence on fossil fuels.

Alexander Mejer:
- Thank you for inviting, we have been working on EPBD and EED for more than 7 years.
Ciran Cuffe:

- The issue of regulatory obstacles that Timmermans spoke about, from a Swedish perspective are you conscious of this? How to balance protection of environment and climate goals?

Alexander Mejer:

- Permitting is a big issue, a bottleneck in the transformation of the energy system.
- Every MS has a different issue with permitting. In our presidency it will be prioritised.

Emma Wiesner:

- What files are you preparing? I expect to finish ETS trialogues before Christmas. Seen the progress so far, I see this could be handed over to the Swedish presidency.

Alexander Mejer:

- We are handling the Fitfor55 package files

Miapetra Kumpula Natri:

- What are the priorities of the new government? Maybe you can tell us about it?

Alexander Majer:

- The broader approach is to make use of electrification for phasing out the last fossil fuels in the heavy industry and transport sector
- Favour of nuclear power for electricity production
- No change to climate related targets
- Forest policies, and Bioenergy, is important in the Swedish files seen the large forest related questions.

Emma Wiesner:

- We are seeing that the commission is mixing the long term and short-term strategy. Van Der Leyen message was not in line with other DG. What will be the council response to this? Are you eager or reluctant to the changes in the fundamental design of the energy system? What are the long term structural reforms?
Alexander Majer:

- There will be hesitation for substantial long-term changes, there is a mix of short-term response measures.
- It is harder to finalize what that would be.
- Changes in electricity market design hope we can get indication of this.

Jakop Dalunde:

- The electricity market shows the biggest discrepancy between MS, like in Germany the price of electricity is artificially high in the north and artificially low in the south. Sweden seems to be paying more than Germany on the price of electricity, in Sweden we will not go back to one single market.
- Opportunities in council to look long term? For instance, looking at wind it is stable all around Europe, so the stronger we are interconnected the better the electricity market.

Alexander Mejjer:

- In Sweden the problem is indeed interconnected electricity markets, we will see what will be indicated by commission.

Ciaran Cuffe:

- it will be interesting to see the new suggestions, there is huge sense of urgency with the raising electricity market. We look forward to develop, we need to move everyone along. It is time of change in EE and climate. We hope COP27 and trialogues at EU union will lead to accelerated questions.

Haike Leberle:

- on EPBD we hope to have mandates we are ready to have trialogues in February, as we have the rapporteur here we would like to hear more.

Alexander Majer:

- EPBD will take place in second turn if the file will be ready in January we will be ready in the first part of our presidency to work on it.

Jan Geiss:

- in May we would like to organise our inter parliament meeting in Sweden when the files will be ready and can be discussed in detail.

Alexander Majer:

- good idea, we would be glad to host

Ciaran:

- look forward to trialogues and presidency and to collaborate with the energy attaché.
Objective & main programme point

This EUFores MEP-Meeting with the incoming Swedish EU Council Presidency has been organised to discuss the political priorities during the Swedish Presidency, and to establish a dialogue between the MEPs and the Council Presidency.

Conclusions

The event organised by EUFores, discussed the priorities of the Swedish Council Presidency for the next 6 months. MEPs showed interest in knowing Alexander Majers, Energy Counsellor, from the Permanent Representation of Sweden on system renovation, just transition and EPBD. The Swedish presidency welcomes the publication of the EPBD directive, and they will be coherent with the Fitfor55.

The event was attended by MEPs and their assistants presential, some of them joined the event online via Webex from COP 27. As the presentation from the presidency was concise as more detailed objectives will be defined in December, there was a lot of room for questions with the Council President on their plans.

Programme

Breakfast with the Swedish EU Council Presidency

"Political priorities during the Swedish EU Council Presidency"
Wednesday 10th November 2022
Venue: European Parliament, Brussels, Meeting Room A561 and online via Webex
Time: 8:00h – 9:00h

AGENDA

8.00-8.05 Welcome and Introduction
Charin Cutts, MEP, EUFores President

8.05-8.20 The priorities and agenda of the Swedish EU Council Presidency on renewable energy and energy efficiency
Alexander Majers, Energy Counsellor, Permanent Representation of Sweden to the EU

8.20-9.00 Open discussion with MEPs
“The project EEW4 has received funding from the European Union Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 847153”

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