

---

# ENTSO-E External Advisory Group: Introductory Meeting

Date: 23 May 2024

Time: 09h00 – 12h00

Place: ENTSO-E

## External Advisory Group (EAG) Members:

- Marie Donnelly, Chair Climate Change Advisory Council; Former Director for Renewables, Energy Efficiency and Innovation, DG Energy EU Commission
- Ann Mettler, Vice President Europe Breakthrough energy
- Jorge Vasconcelos, Chairman of NEWES, New Energy Solutions
- Cédric Philibert, Associate Research Fellow, Center for Energy & Climate IFRI
- Sanna Syri, Professor Energy Technology and Economics, Aalto university.

## Minutes

---

### 1. Welcome

The ENTSO-E President welcomed the participants emphasizing that the External Advisory Group (EAG) has an important role in supporting the association in the EU landscape in the context of energy transition.

The EAG Chair, Marie Donnelly, welcomed all EAG members and participants from ENTSO-E and highlighted the opportunity to work together based on the large commonality of background and knowledge.

### 2. ENTSO-E priorities for the new Commission

The Vice-Convenor elect of ENTSO-E Policy Coordination Group presented the draft priorities of ENTSO-E for the new EU Commission mandate. The focus will be on ensuring a supportive regulatory framework to build the electricity transmission grids for a decarbonized power system while operating the system today. This vision, endorsed in the ENTSO-E Strategic Roadmap published last January, serves as a basis for a set of policy recommendations for the mandates of the European Commission and European Parliament to start mid-2024. The participants exchanged on ENTSO-E draft priorities in the context of the upcoming European elections also focusing on the importance of working to raise awareness about the role of electricity grids in the energy system.

There was a proposal for ENTSO-E to incorporate the considerations from the EAG into the priorities that will be finalised in the document, which is to be approved by ENTSO-E Assembly in June.

### 3. Energy Infrastructure

The Chair of ENTSO-E Board presented the priority messages developed by ENTSO-E on the energy infrastructure policy agenda and the engagement conducted with stakeholders over the past years. ENTSO-E Chair of the Board shared with EAG members the main outcomes from these high-level engagements, in particular regarding the implementation of the EU Grid Action Plan. ENTSO-E has identified the following aspects for which political support would be needed to facilitate the upgrade of the electricity transmission system towards a decarbonized power system:

1. The need to endorse a sustainable and strong supply chain to support the demand for new and upgraded grids to support the energy transition

- 
2. The need for legislation adjustment to provide a stronger regulatory framework, such as the definition of principles in the anticipatory investments legislation or the update of public procurement rules
  3. The importance of providing a strong and reliable investment framework to facilitate access to capital for system operators and address the cost allocation challenges

The EAG members discussed the role of TSOs in the decarbonization of the European energy system and how the policy framework could support the development of the electricity transmission grids in this aspect. The EAG members also shared views on the role of clear communication messages on these matters.

#### **4. Priorities for the next meetings:**

The EAG Members agreed to have an online call in September to discuss the priorities in light of the European elections results. During the call, ENTSO-E will also share an update on the preliminary results of the Flexibility Needs Assessment Study.

In December, EAG Members will meet along the ENTSO-E 15th anniversary conference in Brussels.