

The EU's NDC after the Talanoa Dialogue

Agenda

Date: October 2, 2018

Time: 09:30 - 13:30 (followed by lunch)

Location: University Foundation, rue d'Egmont 11, Brussels

The EU first Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) covers the period of 2021 to 2030 and pledges a 40 % economy wide reduction in Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, to be shared between all 28 Member States. In accordance with the Conference of the Parties' (COP) Decision 1/CP.21, the EU has to communicate or update the NDC by 2020, and every five years thereafter. In the run-up to that date, the EU is preparing to take part in the Talanoa Dialogue at COP 24 in Katowice.

The main EU document outlining the long-term climate strategy is the "EU 2050 Climate and Energy Roadmap". It was issued in 2011 to provide a vision on how to deliver greenhouse gas reductions of 80 to 95% of 1990 levels by 2050. It outlines milestones, which would show whether the EU is on course to reach its target, policy challenges, investment needs and opportunities in different sectors. Despite lack of endorsement from the European Council, the Roadmap framed the discussion about the climate policy in Europe.

Much has changed since the 2050 Roadmap was published in 2011. The Paris Agreement led to new carbon constraints, including the concept of carbon neutrality by the second half of the century. The climate science also evolved, with the most recent and the forthcoming IPCC Assessment Reports substantially changing the knowledge base. In addition, some predictions included in the 2050 Roadmap are no longer valid; cost of renewables decreased at a faster rate than expected, investment in renewables and energy storage increased, new sources of gas emerged.

For that reason, the European Council called the Commission to update the "EU 2050 Climate and Energy Roadmap" by the first quarter of 2019. The request adds up to a significant increase in the momentum for addressing climate change. The IPCC 1.5C Special Report, scheduled for release in October 2018, before the COP 24, is expected to underline the increase in urgency, as well as the need for a significant ramping up of the effort required.

Both, the preparation for the Talanoa Dialogue, as well as the release of the EC Communication on mid-century strategy will undoubtedly involve a discussion about the level of effort that the EU has pledged and how that matches the finding of the 1.5 C, as well as the role that they want to play in ensuring that the Paris Agreement leads to increasing levels of ambition.

ICTSD/ERCST and EUI are jointly working on a project which provides the opportunity for a public debate on the possibility of increasing the ambition of the EU climate policy in the 2030 perspective. In light of this project, a paper was written outlining the various options to enhance the EU NDC and a set of criteria was developed against which these different options can be judged.

09:00	Registration and coffee
09:30	Welcome and introduction A. Marcu, Director of ERCST and Senior Fellow at ICTSD S. Borghesi, Climate Director, FSR
09:45 – 10:15	Presentation of “options to enhance the EU NDC” paper A. Marcu, Director of ERCST and Senior Fellow at ICTSD
10:15 – 11:15	Comments on the paper <ul style="list-style-type: none">• J. Gaventa, E3G• J. Viau, France• P. Nuyken, BDI
11:15 – 11:30	Coffee Break
11:30 – 12:00	Presentation on “criteria to assess the different options to enhance the EU NDC” and outcome of survey S. Borghesi, Climate Director, FSR
12:00 – 13:20	Roundtable discussion on options to enhance the EU NDC and criteria to assess them <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A. Sniegocki, WiseEuropa• D. Agostini, Enel• M. Mannocchi, Confindustria• G. Leipold, Climate Transparency Initiative• A. Kachi, New Climate Initiative
13:20 – 13:30	Concluding remarks A. Marcu, Director of ERCST and Senior Fellow at ICTSD S. Borghesi, Climate Director, FSR
13:30 – 14:30	Lunch