

Cefic position on the Commission proposal for national emissions reduction targets (Effort Sharing Regulation)

Cefic welcomes the European Commission's 'Fit for 55' package and supports strong action on climate change in line with the scientific advice provided by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). We welcome the European Commission's 'Fit for 55' package as a crucial step towards the EU climate-neutrality objective by 2050. A successful implementation will require ambition across the economy, including an ambitious industrial policy creating the enabling framework for the transformation of Europe's industrial base. Policies also need to be backed up with a sectorial strategy providing more details on how the Commission expects different sectors of the whole economy (industry, power, buildings, transport, agriculture) to contribute to the overall objectives until 2030 and beyond. This sectorial strategy should also include regular check points regarding progress on the enabling conditions for the transition of each sector, support for the deployment of breakthrough technologies, availability of resources and private finance, to further ensure the implementation of the policies.

While we support the overall ambition, the Commission "Fit for 55" package is a de facto transfer of responsibility from Member States to industry

Cefic believes the Commission proposal for national emissions reduction targets is not sufficiently ambitious and leaves a disproportionate share of the additional effort to sectors covered under the EU ETS. The European Commission's ambition on building renovation and low-emitting transport should have been matched by an equally strong level of ambition for these sectors, where there is significant untapped potential.

We nevertheless welcome the fact that, while heating in buildings and road transport will be subject to a new carbon pricing instrument, they remain covered by the revised effort-sharing proposal as government action remains necessary to tackle market failures, ensure infrastructure deployment, promote the uptake of sustainable mobility and building renovation.

Distributing the additional efforts between Member States Strong incentives for cooperation

Cefic supports a progressive convergence of climate efforts between Member States. At the same time, we recognize that GHG emissions reduction potential is not the same across the EU. So, we support the fact that national targets also reflect cost-effectiveness and we agree that sufficient flexibility between Member States will be needed until 2050. We do not however support the use of EU ETS allowances to cover emissions in the effort sharing sectors, as it implies a further transfer of responsibility from effort-sharing sectors to industry.

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About Cefic

Cefic, the European Chemical Industry Council, founded in 1972, is the voice of large, medium and small chemical companies across Europe, which provide 1.1 million jobs and account for 15% of world chemicals production.