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Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety  
The Chair

EC/sdr  
D(2015)6206

To the Chair(s) of the Committee(s) concerned

Dear Colleague,

Over the last two decades, the European Union has recognised not only the climate change challenge but also the potential of a resource-efficient and low-carbon economy for achieving the goals of its climate and energy policy. The overarching objective of EU climate policy is to limit global warming to 2°C above pre-industrial average temperature levels. As a result, a number of important measures have been put in place to achieve this objective, not least the climate and energy package of 2008.

In December 2013 the European Parliament and the Council adopted the 7th Environment Action Programme (EAP), which will be guiding European environment policy until 2020 and sets a vision for 2050; it acknowledges that all sectors of the economy have to contribute to tackling environment and climate-related challenges. The 7th EAP acknowledges in particular the importance of turning the Union into a resource-efficient, innovative, circular and low-carbon economy and builds on several interrelated policy initiatives, including the Union climate and energy package, the Commission Communication on a Roadmap for moving to a low-carbon economy in 2050 and the Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe.

In October 2014, the European Council took an important concrete step towards an innovative low carbon and resource-efficient Europe, by adopting conclusions on the EU's Climate and Energy Policy Framework for 2030. In particular, a greenhouse gas emission reduction target of at least 40% (compared to 1990) is established. This 2030 policy framework aims to make the European Union's economy and energy system more competitive, secure and sustainable and also sets a target of at least 27% for renewable energy and energy efficiency by 2030. It will provide the basis for the EU position ahead of the international climate negotiations taking place in Paris in December 2015 (COP 21) with a view to reaching a new global climate agreement.

Beyond 2030, the EU Roadmap for moving to a competitive low-carbon economy in 2050 proposes that, by 2050, the EU should go even further and cut its emissions to 80% below 1990 levels through domestic reductions alone. The roadmap sets out milestones which form a cost-effective pathway to this goal and also shows how the main sectors responsible for Europe's emissions (power generation, industry, transport, buildings and construction...) can make a cost-effective transition to a low-carbon and resource-efficient economy.

Against this background, the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI) of the European Parliament would like to invite Members of national Parliaments to an

interparliamentary committee meeting on the following topic "From COP 21 Paris to 2050: a roadmap towards an innovative low-carbon, resource-efficient Europe".

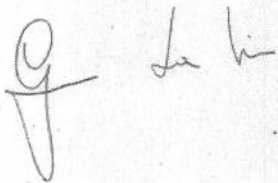
The meeting is scheduled for Monday, 30 March 2015, 15h00 to 18h30 in the European Parliament in Brussels. It will be divided into two sessions and will be followed by a networking cocktail reception (see enclosed draft agenda).

I am therefore pleased to invite up to four Members of the relevant Committee(s) from every national Parliament (two from each Chamber in the case of bi-cameral Parliaments) to attend the meeting. Should you be unable to attend, we would welcome your written contributions which would be distributed to our respective Members and other participants.

The practical details regarding the meeting will be forwarded in due course to your Parliament's services for relations with the European Parliament.

I sincerely hope that you will be able to accept my invitation, and I am looking forward to welcoming you to the European Parliament on 30 March 2015.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. La Via". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Giovanni La Via