European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change

European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change

26th Advisory Board meeting
Minutes

Monday 31st March, 09:00-13:00 (CET), 2025
Online meeting

Participants
See Annex 1.

Agenda
See Annex 2.

Documents
All meeting documents are directly available on the Advisory Board's Teams site.

1. Opening of meeting
The minutes from the meeting of 26 February 2025 were adopted without further comments.

The agenda of the meeting was adopted without comments.

2. General update by the Chair
The Chair reflected on recent and upcoming policy developments (see Brussels Bulletin in folder), past and upcoming meetings with stakeholders, and recent outreach activities for the CDR report.

3. General update by the Secretariat
The Head of the Secretariat reflected on the upcoming proposed amendment of the European Climate Law and the recent Preparedness Union Strategy.

The Head of the Secretariat also discussed recent meetings held by the Secretariat, the Secretariat's away day and gave an update on Secretariat personnel.

4. Update on designation process for the Board's second term
Eva Jensen, Head of the Climate Department at the EEA, provided a brief update on the EEA Management Board's decisions and the timeline for the upcoming designation process of Board members for the Board's 2nd term.

This will follow the same process used to nominate members for the Board's 1st term, taking the criteria set out in the European Climate Law. The process will start with an open call for applicants, which will last for three months, with the aim of nominating by the end of 2025 the members for the Board's 2nd term.

5. European Climate Law revision

The project champion gave an update on the project's status, touching on the progress made, updated project timeline and key elements of the tentative narrative.

The Board endorsed the tentative narrative and discussed aspects of the narrative that could be strengthened and how to address specific issues, for instance on the evidence on competitiveness, on strategic autonomy, the importance of EU diplomacy, and the legal climate landscape.

6. Adaptation project

The Secretariat gave a brief update on the adaptation project, discussing resources allocated, the initial proposal and next steps.

The Chair invited the Board to nominate Board members to champion the report. Suraje Dessai and Elena Lopez Gunn were nominated and approved as co-champions for the project and discussed their initial thoughts on the project direction.

7. Agriculture project

The Secretariat provided a brief overview of the main changes in the approach. The Board was invited to discuss the revised approach to part A of the report, the proposed assessment criteria, the proposed pathways and the preliminary conclusions.

The Board discussed whether certain dimensions should be incorporated into the assessment, such as impacts on land value and farmer well-being, but overall endorsed the revised approach and the overall tone and direction of the preliminary conclusions. The Board also started discussing policy gaps and fixes, but it was agreed to continue this discussion at the next Board meeting.

8. CDR project evaluation

The Secretariat presented the outcome of an internal evaluation within the Secretariat of the CDR project. Board members provided some initial feedback, such as on the project narrative, iterations on the draft, and the length of the project. The Board was invited to provide further feedback in writing.

9. Any other business

A Board member raised the potential for an additional short publication by the Board in 2025 updating the policy gaps report considering progress in implementing climate legislation in the EU. It was agreed to discuss this in either the May or June Board meeting.

A Board member highlighted the upcoming Scenarios Forum in Leeds and the call for abstracts. The Board discussed the potential to propose a panel discussion on the use of scenarios in a policy context. Three Board members volunteered to put forward an initial proposal, after sharing it with the other Board members.

Annex 1: Participants

Advisory Board members	Signature
Jette Bredahl Jacobsen	Signed
Constantinos Cartalis	Signed
Suraje Dessai	Signed
Laura Diaz Anadon	Signed
Ottmar Edenhofer	Signed
Vera Eory	Signed
Edgar Hertwich	Signed
Lars J. Nilsson	Signed
Lena Kitzing	Signed
Elena Lopez Gunn	Signed
Keywan Riahi	Signed
Joeri Rogelj	Absent
Nicolaas Schrijver	Signed
Jean-François Soussana	Signed
Maarten van Aalst	Signed

Secretariat to the Advisory Board	
François Dejean	Signed
Pieter Lemmens	Signed
Ciaran Maguire	Signed
Elsa Malika Malki	Signed
James Clarke	Signed
Frederik Silbye	Signed
Rasmus Sangild	Signed
Mar Moure	Signed
Sebastian Franz	Signed

Observer	
Christopher Leisinger	Signed

Annex 2: Meeting agenda

Time	Item		Notes
09:00-09:05	1.	Opening of meeting	
	1.	Adoption of minutes from the 26 February 2025 meeting	*For adoption*
	2.	Adoption of agenda	*For adoption*
09:05-09:20	2.	General update by the Chair	*For information*
09:20-09:35	3.	General update by the Secretariat	*For information*
09:35-09:55	4.	Update on designation process for the Advisory Board's second term (2026-2030) by Head of Climate Department, EEA	*For information*
09:55-11:00	5.	European Climate Law project	*For decision and guidance*
11:00-11:15	6.	Adaptation project	*For information and decision*
11:15-11:30	*Break*		
11:30-12:30	7.	Agriculture project	*For guidance and decision*
12:30-12:50	8.	CDR project	*For information and feedback*
12:50-13:00	9.	Any other business	*For information*