

Report on the 4th CBE JU Scientific Committee meeting

Date and venue: 18 October 2023 (9:30-16:00 CEST), CBE JU premises (Brussels), hybrid meeting

PARTICIPANTS:

SC members: Teresa ALVARIÑO, Christian HUYGHE (online), Lene LANGE, Piergiuseppe MORONE, Kevin O'Connor (online), Merja PENTTILÄ, Jónas Rúnar Viðarsson, Helena VIEIRA, Jarmila ZIMMERMANNNOVA, Malgorzata ZIMNIEWSKA, József POPP, Gerhard WEISS (online)

European Commission (EC): John BELL (online) Pavel MISIGA, (Head of Unit, RTD.B1, online), Petra GOYENS (Deputy Head of Unit RTD.B1, online), Paraskevi FILIPPOUSI (online), Silvia MALTAGLIATI (online), Tomasz CALIKOWSKI, Paloma MALLORQUIN, Wim HAENTJENS (RTD.B2, online)

Bio-based Industries (BIC): Dirk CARREZ (Executive Director), Samuele AMBROSETTI, Marco RUPP (online)

CBE JU: Nicolo' Giacomuzzi-Moore (Executive Director), Virginia PUZZOLO (Head of Programme), Pilar LLORENTE RUIZ DE AZUA and Lucia FERNANDEZ MARTINEZ (SC Secretariat) and other CBE JU colleagues.

Agenda item 1: Opening

Helena Vieira (SC Chair)

Ms. Vieira welcomed all SC members and participants from EC, BIC and CBE JU programme office, and highlighted the importance of meeting in person, despite the uncertain situation of the previous days, and welcomed all participants onsite and online.

She recalled the objectives of the SC meetings and thanked the SC members for the feedback sent to the draft AWP2024 and encouraged them all to actively participate during the discussion.

Agenda item 2: Welcome speeches

Nicolo' Giacomuzzi-Moore (acting CBE JU Executive Director), Mr. John Bell (Director of Healthy Planet, DG RTD.B, European Commission) and Dirk Carrez (Executive Director of BIC) welcomed all participants highlighting the importance of the CBE JU in the context of the *EU initiative on Biotech and Biomanufacturing*, which is expected for Q1 2024, as well as the importance of synergies with other HE Cluster 6 calls on bio-based systems and with the Missions Soil and Oceans. They recalled the key role of the SC members in providing advice to the AWP 2024 and ensuring and thanked them for their contributions.

Agenda item 3: Adoption of the minutes of the last meeting, confirmation of confidentiality and no Col and review of the “points for action” from the previous meeting

The SC Chair explained that of the two action points left from previous meeting number one had been completed and the other one is ongoing, and the minutes of the 3rd SC meeting were adopted. The agenda for the 4th SC meeting was adopted with no comments.

No conflicts of interests were raised.

Agenda item 4: AWP2024 introduction

The EC and BIC provided an overview of the process for the preparation of the annual work programme 2024 (AWP2024) and highlighted the key dates in the process, including the first and second consultation periods that took place with the CBE JU advisory bodies. They also provided the rationale behind the changes in the list of topics, in relation to the first draft presented in May.

Agenda item 5: SC advice on AWP2024: presentation and discussion of SC feedback to AWP2024

Helena Vieira, SC Chair, thanked the SC members for their individual comments to the draft AWP2024 and made a presentation of the main general points, and the main observations per type of action, which was followed by a discussion.

Agenda item 6: updates from BIC on CBE JU-related activities

BIC provided an update on their last developments since the last meeting, such as the preparation of the BIC 2023 trend report as the outcome of 4 workshops organised by BIC during the year, an update on the country reports, the results of the 2023 Bio-based innovation student challenge Europe (BISC-E) and the information on the BIC 10th years anniversary event.

Agenda item 7: updates from EC on CBE JU-related activities

The EC provided an update on the last policy developments related to CBE JU, including the evolution of the EU Bioeconomy since the EU Bioeconomy strategy of 2023, the concept note on Regional innovation valleys for bioeconomy and food systems and the objectives of the studies “Enhancing stakeholder engagement in EU bioeconomy policy” and “Integrated bioeconomy land use assessment, land system responses to bioeconomy-related policies.

Agenda item 8: CBE JU's last developments

CBE JU Executive Director and CBE JU Head of Programme presented the status of CBE JU programme implementation, including CBE JU 2024 priorities, the 2023 call submission statistics, progress of the widening participation strategy and the deployment groups and the CBE JU Stakeholder forum, among others.