

Brussels, 25 September 2023

Members of the European Parliament from major groups urge the European Commission to consider the work of the European Climate Advisory Board in upcoming policy proposals.

We, the undersigning Members of the European Parliament from EPP, S&D, Renew Europe & Greens/EFA call upon the European Commission to pay close attention to the advice and recommendations of the European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change (ESABCC) and ensure its findings and recommendations are reflected in upcoming legislative proposals. The work of the Advisory Board is based on the latest scientific evidence on climate change and strengthens the legitimacy of EU policymaking.

The European Scientific Advisory Board for Climate Change (ESABCC) was established by the European Climate Law as an advisory body to ensure that the latest scientific evidence on climate change informs EU policymaking. The Board's mission is to identify policy options and pathways to achieve fast and cost-effective reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by assessing policy and implementation gaps. In times of multiple crises, scientific analysis offers crucial guidance for policymaking. Thus, we believe that acknowledging and integrating the Board's scientific advice into future policy decisions is a vital opportunity to enhance the credibility and legitimacy of EU policies.

We welcome the work that the Board delivered since its inception in March 2022, as they successfully demonstrated the ability to provide concrete policy recommendations, based on a holistic and interdisciplinary evidence base. Most recently, the ENVI Committee held an exchange of views with the Chair of the Board to discuss their latest advice on an EU-wide 2040 climate target and greenhouse gas budget for 2030-2050. During the same meeting, the information shared by the European Commission on how they intend to consider this work in the upcoming proposal for a 2040 climate target remained vague.

It is the responsibility of the co-legislators and, in particular, of the European Commission to consult and reflect on the Board's recommendations to ensure scientifically sound policymaking. Without consideration of their work, not only the purpose of the Board but also the scientific credibility of EU policies is undermined.

As elected Members of the biggest groups in the European Parliament, it is our shared interest across party lines to ensure the European Commission incorporates the advice of the ESABCC. We kindly request that the Commission reports on its past and future integration of ESABCC recommendations into the proposal for the 2040 EU climate target and other policy initiatives. We propose an exchange to take place in Q1 2024, as it will support our shared commitment to informed policymaking.

The signatories:

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