

Clean Aviation States' Representatives Group (SRG)

Teams MS

Thursday, 13 January 2022 (10.00-13.00)

Minutes

1. Welcome by the Clean Aviation JU, the European Commission and the former SRG Chair

Axel Krein, Clean Aviation Executive Director, welcomes the new States Representatives Group (SRG) members, and EC representatives. In his welcome address, he highlights:

- the essential role of SRG to the implementation of synergies and to supporting the complementarities between the Clean Aviation Research and Innovation actions and national/regional research and innovation programmes (including the EU recovery funds' national implementation programmes);
- building on the success of Clean Sky 2, as far as the MoU and the use of ESIF is concerned, Clean Aviation will continue to promote and facilitate the synergies based on the national Smart Specialisation Strategies and making the optimal use of the European Regional Development Funds (ERDF);
- the SRG representatives expect to contribute to the dissemination events and any other communication actions in their countries;
- SRG's initiatives to issue proposals or recommendations to any matters that affect national or regional interests and identify specific ways of cooperation with the Clean Aviation activities will be very welcome;
- SRG should report at the end of each calendar year and identify the national or regional activities and possible synergies and complementarities with the Clean Aviation programme.

Jane Amilhat, Head of Unit RTD.C3, welcomes the SRG members on behalf of the European Commission and supports the points noted by Axel. She also focusses on the new role of SRG in the Clean Aviation programme and highlights the need for coordination with the collaborative aviation research within Horizon Europe. The SRG shall also consider the coordination with the ACARE MS Group and organizes back-to-back meetings. **Jane** also alerts SRG members about the tight deadlines for the consultation of the WP 2022-23.

Juan Francisco Reyes (ES), the former SRG Chair, welcomes the new and old nominated representatives.

2. Acknowledgement of SRG Members – Tour de table

Clean Aviation JU (CAJU) acknowledges the formal nominations from 20 Member States (**AT, BE, CZ, DE, EE, ES, FI, FR, GR, HU, IE, IT, LT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK**) and 4 Associated Countries (**TR, NO, UA, GE**). The meeting was attended by all the nominated SRG members, except CZ, HU and SI. HR participates with the former SRG representative.

3. Adoption of the Rules of Procedures

The draft of the Rules of Procedures had been sent by the CAJU to SRG members two days prior to the meeting. Some members ask more time to check the document before adopting it.

The participants agree to send their comments in a few days and then adopt the RoP by written procedure. The new chair will coordinate the process.

4. Election of the SRG Chair and Vice Chair (launch the procedure)

Ron Van Manen (CAJU) explains the procedure to select the SRG Chair and Vice Chair. Since it will take some time, **Ron** proposes **Juanfran** to continue as an interim Chair for a maximum period of six months and ensure continuity. In the meantime, the interim Chair will launch the procedure for the selection of the Chair team.

Juanfran and other SRG members welcome this proposal and decide in consensus to nominate **Juanfran** as interim chair. **Juanfran** starts to chair the meeting.

5. Upcoming consultation on the Clean Aviation WP 2022-23

Ron (CAJU) presents information by the Clean Aviation JU, focusing on:

- the further steps until the operational launch;
- the key decisions that were taken by the 1st Governing Board and the others that will be discussed in the 2nd GB, probably in March;
- the timetable for the establishing the WP 2022-23 and the timeline for the launch of the 1st call. The relevant slides are uploaded in CIRCABC.

Ron mentions that the time is very tight, and the WP will be sent to SRG for consultation by the end of January. The GB will adopt the WP possibly on 16 March and thus the 1st Clean Aviation call is expected to be launched by the end of the month.

Some **SRG members (TR, GR, PT)** ask for more information, such as the conditions of the call for proposals, the rationale that have been chosen for the topics of the 1st call and if there would be an additional call for Associated members. It was also requested to have sufficient time for the consultation.

Ron highlights that all funding in Clean Aviation will be decided on the basis of outcomes of open calls. He provided some brief information about the establishment of the programme. He also proposes an extraordinary meeting to provide all the requested clarifications before the adoption of the WP. The date is to be defined by the SRG Chair and the CAJU.

6. New role and tasks of the Clean Aviation States' Representatives Group

Christos Vasilakos (CAJU) presents the new role and tasks of the Clean Aviation SRG. He highlights the advisory role on some specific matters, the reporting to the Governing Board, the possibility to issue opinions, recommendations, and proposals to CAJU, as well as the obligation for the submission of an annual report. **Christos** also notes the specific role of SRG on additional tasks, like the contribution to the implementation of synergies and complementarities between the Clean Aviation Research and Innovation actions and national research programmes, the support to increase the involvement of SMEs and the synergies with Cohesion Policy funds. All these slides are uploaded in CIRCABC.

Jane (EC) mentions the need for coordination with other European partnerships, such as the Single European Sky ATM Research 3 and Clean Hydrogen. Beyond that, the cooperation with other European aviation initiatives is needed.

7. SRG planning in support of the Clean Aviation programme and objectives

Christos (CAJU) highlights that the Clean Aviation SRG has an enhanced and more important role in the governance of the CA partnership and a key role on some considerable activities, like the synergies with the ERDF, the complementarities and coordination between the Clean Aviation and the national/regional research programmes as well as to the dissemination events and any other communication actions in Member States and Associated countries. Therefore, the SRG members are called to discuss on these issues and plan their support activities.

Christos (CAJU) also mentions the Call for Expression of Interest that will be launched by CAJU, with a view to build strategic synergies with Member States/Regions/Associated countries, who are interested to invest in activities related to Clean Aviation programme.

The **Chair** will share the draft CEI with the SRG members, asking their comments by the 27th January. He also recalls to the members the old AirTN next Gen project, that had carried out a comprehensive in-depth study about the aviation national and regional programmes. Although this study is obsolete, the templates could be used for the current needs.

Chair and **Christos (CAJU)** will prepare a draft for the planning SRG activities to be shared with the members and discussed in the next meeting.

8. Planning of SRG meetings 2022

CAJU proposes some indicative dates for the next SRG meeting: Wednesday 30 March and Wednesday 15 June 2022. These dates will be confirmed later.

9. AOB

Some new members want to be informed about what happened during the shadow period of SRG, as well as about the procedures.

Chair proposes to call an informal meeting to inform all the members what happened the last period and provide clarifications to any questions.

The Chair, the CAJU and the European Commission thank all the members for their active participation and the constructive discussion and close the meeting.