



**Minutes of Meeting**  
**States' Representatives Group**

**2023-04**

**29 Nov 2023, 9:00 – 12:00**

**(Hybrid Meeting – in-person + remote connection)**

<i>Agenda</i>	
<b>1.</b>	<i>Adoption of the agenda</i>
<b>2.</b>	<i>Approval of the minutes of the 28 Sep 2023 meeting</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <i>Review of implementation status of action points</i></li> <li>b. <i>Status of formal nominations; new participants (if any).</i></li> </ul>
<b>3.</b>	<i>Commission update</i>
<b>4.</b>	<i>SRG annual report to the GB</i>
<b>5.</b>	<i>Long-term plan for SRG activities</i>
<b>6.</b>	<i>Synergies with national / regional research programmes</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <i>Status of action plan on synergies with national programmes (country fiche)</i></li> <li>b. <i>Update on Action Plan with regions (tbc)</i></li> </ul>
<b>7.</b>	<i>Clean Sky 2 progress</i>
<b>8.</b>	<i>Clean Aviation update</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <i>Report from the Governing Board</i></li> <li>b. <i>Preparation of CA Phase 2/SRIA update</i></li> <li>c. <i>CEI for Associated Members</i></li> <li>d. <i>Action on Innovation Fund/DG Clima</i></li> <li>e. <i>Phase out planning</i></li> </ul>
<b>9.</b>	<i>Next meetings dates</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <i>Next meetings (e.g. at CA annual forum on 4-5 March)</i></li> </ul>
<b>10.</b>	<i>Any other business</i>

The Chair, **Juan Francisco Reyes (ES)** welcomed the States Representatives Group (SRG), JU staff, and EC representatives to the fourth meeting of 2023.

The meeting was hybrid. Five EU Member States and Associated Countries participated in-person and six via Microsoft Teams, for a total of 17. The European Commission and the Clean Aviation Joint Undertaking were also represented.

The countries present were as follows:

- In-person: **AT, DE, ES, NO, PT.**
- Remotely: **CY, HR, LT, LU, NL, TR.**

## **1. Adoption of the Agenda**

The Chair gave a brief synopsis of the agenda.

There were no comments or questions from members.

**Outcome:** Agenda adopted.

**Action:** JU to publish agenda on the Clean Aviation website.

## **2. Approval of minutes of the previous meeting (4 July 2023)**

The Chair reminded Members that the draft minutes of the last meeting had been sent to Members in advance of the present meeting. Members made no comments regarding the draft minutes. The minutes were thus adopted.

**Outcome:** The minutes of 4 July were adopted.

**Action:** JU to publish minutes on the Clean Aviation website in due course.

### **a) Review of action points**

The Chair listed the following action points from the previous meeting:

- SRG members to reconfirm the absence of sensitive information in country fiches by 5 December.
- The submission of remaining country fiches by SRG members was ongoing.
- The re-confirmation of SRG representative and alternate by SRG members remained ongoing.
- JU presented a summary of the country fiche exercise.
- JU to update SRG on the outcome of the Innovation Fund
- The JU to share the phasing-out plan.

**Action:** SRG Members to re-confirm the absence of any sensitive information in their country fiche so the document can be shared with the GB by 5 December.

**Action:** SRG Members to submit remaining country fiches to the JU.

b) Status of formal nominations; new participants (if any).

The JU noted it was still awaiting formal nominations from BG and LV. All SRG Members were asked to re-confirm representatives and alternates via email as a number of contacts were out of date.

**Action:** SRG Members to re-confirm the SRG representative and alternate by sending an email to the SRG functional mailbox ([SRG@clean-aviation.eu](mailto:SRG@clean-aviation.eu)) and EC ([Francky.callewaert@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Francky.callewaert@ec.europa.eu)).

### 3. Commission update

The European Commission presented the status of ERA pilot initiative action 12 covering digital and physical infrastructures with recommendations and prioritization. The draft document from the Commission was shared with the SRG just before the start of the meeting. The Commission noted that funding sources include Cluster 4, Cluster 5, and Pillar 3. The Commission requested comments on the document which had just been shared with the SRG by 8 December.

The Commission answered questions regarding the fast track to innovation initiative for aviation and the UK budget allocation. It was not clear how much of the UK's contribution would go to Clean Aviation and how much would go to aviation projects under Cluster 5. The JU expected that the UK contribution would align with its level of participation in the Clean Aviation programme and indicated having formulated a proposal to the Commission to ensure a substantial budget top up to the programme phase 2. Germany supported the need to ensure a substantial top-up of the JU funding also to avoid a "net" funding reduction to the EU Member States since UK entities will be fully eligible for EU funding. The issue was also discussed and envisaged in the JUs Single Basic Act.

Finally, the Commission gave a quick run through of the preparations for the Horizon Europe mid-term evaluations and a timeline for the adoption of the Work Programme 2025.

**Action:** SRG to send comments on the document to the Commission by 8 December 2023.

### 4. SRG annual report

The Chair presented the final version of the SRG annual report, which had already been presented at the Governing Board. The SRG adopted the final version.

**Outcome:** Annual report adopted.  
**Action:** JU to share final version of the SRG annual report with the GB.

### 5. Long-term planning of SRG activities

Next meeting scheduled for 9.00 on 5 March 2024, to coincide with the Clean Aviation Annual Forum, and the workshop on synergies of 4 March. The second meeting of 2024 was proposed for June, possibly aligned with ILA Berlin.

The JU underlined that an election for chair and vice-chair of the SRG would need to take place in early 2024, with Juan Francisco Reyes having held the position of Chair for two years by that time.

The JU also informed the SRG that the next joint meeting with the SESAR SRG had been postponed to the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2024 following the request from the SESAR 3 JU/SESAR SRG chair.

The SRG representative from the Netherlands suggested to invite a representative from the Commission to one of the next meetings to inform the SRG about dual use activities and military aspects within the Commission's R&I framework.

**Outcome:** Next meeting set for 5 March at 9.00.

**Action:** Germany to assess the feasibility of hosting the following SRG during ILA Berlin.

**Action:** EC to present dual use aspects at one of the next meetings

**Action:** JU to launch election for chair and vice-chair of the SRG on time for the next meeting.

## 6. Synergies

The JU updated SRG members on synergies with regions. Ongoing actions include MoC action signing with Piedmont and interest from various regions. The SRG was reminded of the joint DG R&I-Clean Aviation-Committee of the Regions event on 4 March 2024 regarding synergies between European & national/regional programmes in aviation. Finally, the JU underlined a possible “fast-track mechanism” was being discussed under the Commission for Collaborative Research.

## 7. Clean Sky 2/ Clean Aviation Progress

The JU presented highlights from Clean Sky 2 and Clean Aviation projects' progress.

## 8. Clean Aviation Update

### *a) Report from Governing Board*

The Chair gave a brief summary of the last Governing Board meeting held on 20 November.

### *b) Preparation of CA Phase 2/SRIA Revision*

The JU highlighted the need for alignment of Phase 2 with SRIA revision based on EU aircraft concepts (definition in the slides shared on CIRCABC) targeted for EIS by 2035. It was noted that they will focus on regional and SMR development only (as currently defined in the SRIA) to ensure delivery of results and to avoid any dispersion of the effort. The approach would include an integrated roadmap building for aircraft technological innovations. The proposed approach would also involve financial alignment of SRIA activities with CA funding and synergy activities.

Additionally, the JU presented a detailed timeline outlining the next steps and dates until the SRIA adoption in June 2024.

The JU also highlighted the on-going GB action on the lessons learned from the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Proposals (CfPs), which will serve as a potential input for the CfP preparation in Phase 2 of the Clean Aviation programme. A dedicated workshop will be organised in January 2024. The SRG was invited to share their lessons learned on the calls and the call mechanism with the GB.

**Action:** SRG to prepare a one-pager supporting the GB in this “lessons learned” exercise by January 2024.

**Action:** JU to inform SRG chair about the date of the workshop once available.

#### *c) CEI for Associated Members*

This was followed by an update on the Call for Expression of Interest for New Associated Members. All 20 shortlisted applicants were approved by the Governing Board on 20 November. The JU noted that seven out of the 20 were SMEs from seven different countries.

#### *e) Phasing out plan*

With regard to the phasing out plan, The JU noted that the Commission had provided guidance and a template for Joint Undertakings (JUs) to draft a "Phasing out plan". It was agreed with EC horizontal services that initially the focus would be on Chapter 1 (Introduction) and Chapter 5 (Administrative and Operational Adaptations), aiming for adoption via a written procedure by the end of 2023. The JU underlined that the completion of other chapters was scheduled for the first half of 2024, with a "full" Phasing-out Plan to be adopted by the end of 2024. This plan would include consultations with advisory bodies and members.

The JU summarised that the plan aims to facilitate the transition towards Framework Programme 10 (FP10) and the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), contributing to the HE mid-term evaluation and FP10 discussions in summer 2024.

**Action:** JU to share with SRG the 2023 phasing-out plan (as sent to the GB for adoption) for information.

## **9. Next Meeting Dates**

As discussed under agenda point five, the next meetings will be on:

- 5 March 2024 in Brussels (9.00 – 12:00)
- June (date and location to be confirmed)

## **10. AOB**

Questions were raised by Portugal and Germany regarding the innovation fund and the impact of new associated members on the composition of TC and GB respectively.

No other specific points were addressed under AOB.

The Chair closed the meeting.

- End of minutes -