

SUMMARY OF THE 34TH IETS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING 24-25 MAY 2022 ONLINE (TEAMS)

This online meeting was set up by the IETS Secretariat from the premises in Gothenburg, Sweden. The meeting lasted from 14.00 – 18.00 on both days (instead of two full days).

ExCo members (delegates and/or alternate delegates) from ten member countries and three sponsor organizations, the IEA Desk Officer, all Task Managers and the IETS Secretariat staff participated in the whole or parts of the meeting. The theme for the preceding internal workshop was “How to act and reach out more considering the new oil and gas situation in the world”.

SUMMARY OF THE EXCO MEETING

Several new activities were discussed during the meeting, e.g., proposals for new Subtasks in Tasks XXI as well as an online workshop on the new situation for oil and gas with the IEA End-Use Working Party.

The ongoing planning for an open conference, covering important areas of the IETS work for decarbonization was also presented and discussed, as well as a possible collaboration with Mission Innovation on experiences of large decarbonization projects in industry.

Status reports, including proposals for new activities, were given from all current Tasks:

Task XI (Industry-based biorefineries towards sustainability) has moved from a phase of establishing things into a mode of execution. Two Subtasks were approved and started earlier this year:

- ”Decision Support Tools and Ex-Ante Research for Evaluating Bioeconomy Transformation Strategies.
- “Technology Pathways towards Negative and/or Net-Zero Emission Biorefineries” - subject for approval by ExCo early 2022.

Task XIV (Energy-efficiency in the Iron and Steel Industry) has been on hold for some years, but efforts are being made to restart. A workshop with country experts was held 18 May, aiming at identifying areas of common interest and possible collaboration activities. The workshop was led by former Annex XIV Manager Mikael Larsson. There was a high interest from participating countries, which could result in a possible Task proposal.

Annex XV (Industrial Excess Heat Recovery) has completed the Task 3 and the Final Report has been submitted for review and approval. ExCo suggested some improvements and the revised final report will be subject to per capsulam approval and posted at the IETS website.

Task XVII (Membrane processes in biorefineries) is completing the current Subtasks and will compile a Final Report to be presented at the next ExCo meeting, together with suggestions for new Subtasks.

Task XVIII (Digitalization, Artificial Intelligence and Related Technologies for Energy Efficiency and GHG Emissions Reduction in Industry) are working according to plan. Two new Subtasks started earlier this year:

- Methods and Applications of Digital Twins
- Lessons Learned and Created Values by Digitalization

One more is being prepared:

- Road mapping the implementation of digitalization in the energy intensive process industries

Task XIX (Electrification in Industry) is working in Subtask2, “Enabling a shared view on system aspects of industrial electrification”, which will be completed by the end of the year.

Task XX (Knowledge sharing on Industry Transition Roadmaps) will be put on hold at least for the period 2022-2023 since no new subtasks or activities have been identified so far. The Final Report from Subtask 1 will be ready for review in June.

Task XXI (Decarbonizing industrial systems in a circular economy framework) had submitted the Final Report from Subtask 1 for review and approval

before the meeting. ExCo suggested some improvements and the revised final report will be subject to per capsulam approval and posted at the IETS website.

Proposals for two new Subtasks were presented and approved:

Subtask 2 Circular Carbon

- Modelling, in cooperation with ETSAP
- Carbon capture in industry
- Bioenergy, in cooperation with Task XI

Subtask 3 Industrial Symbiosis

- Definition and delimitation
- Good practice examples
- Business Models
- Awareness raising and incentives

Suggestion for a new Task “Experiences of large projects for decarbonization” was discussed. The main aim with this international cooperation is to improve knowledge through sharing of experiences from large industrial projects for deep decarbonization in the planning, implementation and operational stages, taking into account the following aspects:

- economy, financing, operability, uncertainties with new technologies,
- policy instruments, risk abatement,
- system consequences/optimization/ process integration (with complex changes)
- business models,
- cooperation between many stakeholders.

Aalto University, Finland, has accepted the invitation as sponsor for participation in Task XVIII Digitalization, Artificial Intelligence and Related Technologies for Energy Efficiency and GHG Emissions Reduction in Industry.

The dates (28-30 March 2023*) and the location (Gothenburg, Sweden) have been set for the upcoming IETS conference. The conference committee has worked further on the programme, which will include sessions related to all ongoing IETS Tasks, as well as a session on Process Integration and one on CCUS.

The following Topic Sheet will be produced:

Decarbonizing industrial systems in a circular economy framework - based on the Final Report from Subtask 1 in Task XXI, which will be published later this year.

Process for electing a new Chair

Chair Thore Berntsson, Sweden, will not continue after the current term, which ends 31 December 2023. To ensure a smooth replacement process, the new Chair will be elected already at the next ExCo meeting to get a good introduction to the assignment. A nomination committee, which will collect nomination from the member countries, was appointed.

The next IETS ExCo meeting will be held in November, date and venue TBD.

**SUMMARY OF THE WORKSHOP:
“HOW TO ACT AND REACH OUT MORE
CONSIDERING THE NEW OIL AND GAS
SITUATION IN THE WORLD”**

The background for this workshop is the new situation regarding oil & gas due to Russia’s war against Ukraine. The transition from oil and gas needs to be quicker.

The discussion was on possible actions for the IETS TCP, which were approved by the ExCo:

- Possibilities for radical energy efficiency measures with higher gas and oil prices and/or need for higher security---surveys in our ongoing Tasks
- “Brainstorming” workshop with a small number of experts from the Vienna workshop (maybe together with the IEA Secretariat)
- Information “brochure” to e. g. all National Support Groups about international expert networks in our Tasks related to energy efficiency opportunities
- Energy efficiency opportunities to be highlighted at our IETS Conference

*) **NB!** Since the ExCo meeting, where the dates and location for the IETS conference were communicated, it has been rescheduled to 9-11 May.