



**BUSINESS**at**OECD**

Business and Industry Advisory  
Committee to the OECD

# **Environment and Energy Committee**

2025 Activity Highlights

Annual Briefing  
**January 2026**

# About the Environment & Energy Committee

## Why the OECD Matters

The OECD's work on environment helps governments design effective policies to address pressing sustainability challenges - including climate change, resource efficiency, and biodiversity loss. The OECD analyses evolving trends, provides evidence-based policy recommendations, fosters international government collaboration, and administers over 45 of the OECD's environment standards. Collaborating closely with the International Energy Agency (IEA) and the International Transport Forum (ITF), the OECD makes contributes to policy debates at national, regional and international level - including to the G7, the G20 and the UNFCCC negotiations.

## How Business Engages

The *Business at OECD Environment and Energy Committee* provides cross-sector business priorities and positions to ensure the OECD's recommendations on sustainability are both environmentally effective and economically efficient. Fostering policy continuity, coherence and collaboration, Business at OECD facilitates business exchanges with the OECD and governments, and informally liaise with the IEA, an autonomous body within the OECD framework. Business at OECD's Energy and Environment Committee meets bi-annually in Paris, convenes additional thematic ad-hoc sessions, and organizes policy events in partnership with the OECD.

## Our Institutional Role

As the institutional private sector stakeholder, the *Business at OECD Trade Committee* actively contributes to the:

- OECD Environment Policy Committee
- OECD/IEA Climate Change Expert Group Global Forum
- OECD Green Growth and Sustainable Development Forum
- OECD Working Party on Climate, Investment and Development
- OECD Working Party on Resource Productivity and Waste
- OECD Working Party on Integrating Environmental and Economic Policies
- OECD Joint Working Party on Trade and Environment

## Our Priorities in 2025

As a member driven Committee, we engaged in a wide range of trade policy discussions throughout the year. Priorities included, but were not limited to:

- Fostering business engagement in the design of climate frameworks
- Supporting the revision of the OECD's environment acquis
- Promoting public-private collaboration on skills for the green transition
- Enabling circular economy trade facilitation through the relevant OECD Decision
- Implementing the Revised Environment Chapter of the OECD's MNE Guidelines

# January

Our Environment & Energy Committee actively contributed to the revision of the **OECD Recommendation on Digital Technologies and the Environment** with a written submission underlining the dual role of digital technologies in enhancing environmental sustainability while highlighting challenges related to energy demand, resource use and e-waste management.

# February

A *Business at OECD* delegation actively participated in the **OECD Environment Policy Committee (EPOC) at Senior Level** on 19-21 February. Discussions focused on the OECD flagship report on the triple planetary crisis of climate change biodiversity loss, and pollution, selected work related to finance and investment for environmental goals and sustainable infrastructure, the revision of OECD standards on energy and sustainable transport, and a proposal for a joint Ministerial Meeting with the Chemicals and Biotechnology Committee.

## 2025 Consultation with the OECD Secretary General and Ambassadors

On 17 February, business leaders from our global network convened in Paris for our *Annual Consultation with the OECD Secretary-General, Leadership and Ambassadors*, which was a key opportunity to underline the need to defend open markets as a top business priority for the OECD agenda in 2025. As the high-level consultation was organised under the theme *Delivering Prosperity Through Economic Cooperation*, we called on the OECD to urgently foster open and fair

market as well as raising the competitiveness of our market-based economies to shape the industries of the future. In this context, our Executive Board Member, Dominique Mockly underlined our Committee position on the proposed *OECD Standards on Sustainable Transport* and on *Clean Energy*. Executive Board Member Karen Westley underlined business as solutions partner for a sustainable transition, and shared our perspectives on a proposed OECD update of the *Polluter Pays Principle*.



*Business at OECD (BIAC) Chair Charles (Rick) Johnston calling on the OECD to deliver prosperity through economic cooperation in February 2025.*

# March

*Business at OECD* members participated at the Spring session of the **OECD /IEA Climate Change Expert Group Global Forum** on 18-19 March. The session discussed the preparation of ambitious NDCs informed by the global stocktake outcomes, the integration of adaptation indicators into UNFCCC reporting processes, and early lessons from Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs) to support the next round of NDCs. Additionally, discussions addressed key considerations for the selection of indicators

and unlocking climate finance under the new collective quantified goal (NCQG).



Agnes Vinblad from USCIB participated in the OECD/IEA Climate Change Expert Group.

In March, *Business at OECD* joined our Costa Rican national members UCCAEP and CICR in San José, Costa Rica, for our **Consultation in Preparation of the 2025 OECD Ministerial Council Meeting**. As the event was jointly organized with TUAC, we provided tangible business recommendations to Costa Rica's Minister of Environment and Energy Franz Tattenbach, as well as OECD Secretary-General Mathias Cormann, alongside representatives of Australia, Canada, and Lithuania serving as Ministerial Vice-Chairs. In this context, our Executive Director Hanni Rosenbaum underlined that sustainability and security are deeply interconnected, Alejandra Castro underlined that business supports a sustainable green transition through innovation and open trade, and Tomas Dueñas urged open trade and investment frameworks to drive sustainable development.

## April

On 8 April, *Business at OECD* released a special project on **The Risks of Divergence between Global ESG Reporting Standards**.

The report explored the growing complexity and cost burdens that companies face, amid a fragmented global ESG reporting landscape, and confirmed that the ESG reporting ecosystem imposes heavy and uneven burdens on companies across industries and regions.

*Business at OECD* also released a joint report in collaboration with the IOE on **Forging Green Talents: Developing Worker's Skills for the Green Transition through Vocational Training**. The report compiled more than 20 use cases from various industries on how companies try to reduce internally the gap between the need for certain skills and the offer available on the job market. Based on the use cases, the report draws policy recommendations to help shape the future OECD agenda in this regard.

A *Business at OECD* delegation participated in the session of the **OECD Joint Working Party on Agriculture and Environment** on 10-11 April, to discuss the OECD work on climate change mitigation in agriculture, especially on agricultural resilience, natural disasters, and environmental impacts in food systems, among other issues.

*Business at OECD* actively contribute to the **OECD Multistakeholder Dialogue on SME sustainability Reporting** on 29 April 2025. The meeting discussed a draft OECD guidance on SME sustainability reporting, focusing on whether proposed indicators meet financial institutions' needs and SMEs' capacities, and identifying what support is required for banks' implementation and SMEs' compliance.

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## May

Our members contributed to the **OECD Working Party on Biodiversity, Water and Ecosystems** on 14-15 May. The meeting focused on updates on new legal instruments for forestry and climate adaptation, a review of the OECD Council Recommendation on Water, integrating water-related risks into

financial stability frameworks, developing a global observatory for water financing, and advancing innovations in water quality monitoring.

## June

Our **Business at OECD Environment & Energy Committee** met in Paris and virtually to exchange on preparations for the Spring OECD Inclusive Forum on Carbon Mitigation Approaches (IFCMA) session, the update of several OECD environmental standards and the proposal of a joint Ministerial Meeting with the Chemicals Committee. Delegates also met with OECD Environment Directorate Leadership and Senior IEA representatives to discuss energy investment.

Our Environment & Energy Committee Chair, Hans-Jörn Weddige and several Vice-Chairs led our delegation to the **Inclusive Forum on Carbon Mitigation Approaches** on 11-12 June. The meeting focused on inclusive multilateral dialogue, updates on IFCMA work, cross-border spillover effects, capacity building, progress on the Climate Policy Database and related modelling, pilot studies, and a private sector roundtable on aligning climate objectives with economic growth and competitiveness.

### 2025 OECD Ministerial Council Meeting

On 3-4 June, *Business at OECD* participated in the OECD's 2025 Ministerial Council Meeting, chaired by Costa Rica under the theme *Leading the Way towards Resilient, Inclusive, and Sustainable Prosperity through Rules-Based Trade, Investment and Innovation*. Our delegation, led by our Chair Rick Johnston emphasized business concerned about the state of open, fair, rules-based trade and investment, encouraged OECD work to enhance multilateral cooperation and rules-based

international trading system. Executive Board Member Minna Aila joined OECD Ministers for a discussion on how trade policies should be considered in light of environmental and social goals.

A *Business at OECD* delegation contributed to the **OECD Working Party on Resource Productivity and Waste**. This meeting provided an opportunity to comments on the revised version of the Regional Plastic Outlook for ASEAN and on the implementation of the Prior Informed Consent (PIC) procedure.

*Business at OECD* joined the summer session of the **OECD Working Party on Integrating Environmental and Economic Policies** on 24-25 June. The meeting covered AI practices and barriers, health impact valuation (SWACHE), updates to the PINE database, green hydrogen cost-benefit analysis, and innovation for critical raw materials.

*Business at OECD* participated to the **OECD Working Party on Finance and Investment for Environmental Goals** on 26-27 June. The meeting focused on mobilizing finance and investment for climate goals, leveraging NDCs for growth, strengthening inter-ministerial coordination, assessing Paris Agreement alignment, advancing corporate transition plans, and scaling clean energy finance.

## July

*Business at OECD* participated in the **OECD Working Party on Climate Change (WPCC)** on 1-2 July where our Australian Board Member, Philip Aiken, led our engagement. The session addressed climate change mitigation and adaptation, COP30 preparations, enhanced NDCs through a joint OECD-UNDP report, forest and land-use policies, a draft Recommendation on clean energy transition, and progress on a legal instrument for climate adaptation.

## September

Our members participated at the Fall session of the **OECD /IEA Climate Change Expert Group Global Forum** on 16-17 September. The session focused on advancing the New Collective Quantified Goal on climate finance and developing Global Goal on Adaptation indicators under the UAE-Belém work programme to support UNFCCC negotiations.

We actively contributed to the **OECD Joint Working Party on Trade and Environment** on 30 September & 1 October. Discussions covered the future of solar photovoltaics supply chains, ongoing work on green iron, trade and plastics – including packaging value chains, plastic waste flows, and secondary plastics – analytical work on critical raw materials, and the evolving role of mutual recognition instruments in facilitating efficient trade.

## October

Our delegation participated in the **OECD Environment Policy Committee** on 9-10 October. The session focused on shaping the OECD future work programme on the environment, strategic foresight, sustainable infrastructure, plastics policy, forest-based climate solutions, contributions to IFCMA, and future strategic orientations. IN this context, *Business at OECD* also raised concerns about the OECD Environmental Outlook on the Triple Planetary Crisis.

## November

A *Business at OECD* delegation actively contributed to the **OECD Working Party on Resource Productivity and Waste** on 18-20

November. The meeting addressed plastics and circular economy instruments, updates to EPR guidance, innovation for critical raw materials, and improving procedures for transboundary waste movements.



*The Business at OECD delegation at the WPRPW led by Kristen Edgreen Kaufman, Senior Vice President, Global Impact Initiatives, (USCIB).*

## December

Our **Business at OECD (BIAC) Environment & Energy Committee** met on 15 December to discuss priorities for 2026 and exchange on and recent developments. Participants also discussed with the OECD deliverables of the flagship *Inclusive Forum on Carbon Mitigation Approaches*, including the climate policy database, work on policy choices and leakage, and the Inclusive Multilateral Dialogue on carbon intensity metrics.

*Business at OECD* members actively contributed to the **Inclusive Forum on Carbon Mitigation Approaches (IFCMA)**. The session reviewed IFCMA's latest developments, discussed key findings from the Climate Policy Database and spillover modelling, and held an Inclusive Multilateral Dialogue on carbon intensity metrics.

# Upcoming Engagement Opportunities

For your tentative planning, we are pleased to let you know that as a member of the *Business at OECD* (BIAC) Environment & Energy Committee you will be invited to contribute to the following meetings scheduled in 2026:

|       |           |                                                                     |
|-------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10-12 | February  | OECD Working Party on Biodiversity, Water and Ecosystems*           |
| 24-25 | February  | OECD Working Party on Climate Change*                               |
| 2-3   | March     | OECD Working Party on Environmental and Economic Policies*          |
| 2-3   | March     | OECD Working Party on Finance & Investment for Environmental Goals* |
| 2-6   | March     | Joint Working Party on Trade and Environment (JWPTE)*               |
| 16-17 | March     | OECD Environment Policy Committee*                                  |
| 17-18 | March     | OECD/IEA CCXG Climate Change Expert Group Global Forum *            |
| 10-11 | April     | OECD Joint Working Party on Agriculture and the Environment*        |
| 17-18 | June      | OECD Working Party on Resource Productivity and Waste*              |
| 15-17 | September | OECD/IEA CCXG Climate Change Expert Group Global Forum*             |
| 22-24 | September | OECD Working Party on Biodiversity, Water and Ecosystems*           |
| 6-7   | October   | OECD Working Party on Climate Change*                               |
| 7-8   | October   | OECD Forum on Green Finance and Investment*                         |
| 12-15 | October   | OECD Working Party on Environmental and Economic Policies*          |
| 12-13 | November  | Joint Working Party on Agriculture and the Environment*             |
| 17-19 | November  | OECD Working Party on Resource Productivity and Waste*              |

Please note that dates are still be subject to confirmation, and we will follow up with further information regarding the registration procedure, event modalities (in-person/virtual/hybrid) and engagement opportunities ahead of individual sessions.

# Environment & Energy Committee Leadership

## Chair

**Hans-Jörn Weddige**

ThyssenKrupp - Germany

## Vice-Chairs

**Frits de Groot**

VNO-NCW - Netherlands

**William Garcia**

CEFIC - Belgium

**Luca Matrone**

Intesa Sanpaolo - Italy

**Hiroyuki Tezuka**

JFE Steel - Japan

## Secretariat

**Dominik Kümmerle**

Global Director, Policy and Strategic Communications

**Maxime Ledieu**

Policy Advisor

# Business at OECD (BIAC) National Members

|                |                                                                                   |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Australia      | <b>Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI)</b>                         |
| Austria        | <b>Federation of Austrian Industries (IV)</b>                                     |
| Belgium        | <b>Federation of Belgian Enterprises (VBO FEB)</b>                                |
| Canada         | <b>Canadian Chamber of Commerce</b>                                               |
| Chile          | <b>Confederation of Production and Commerce of Chile (CPC)</b>                    |
| Colombia       | <b>National Business Association of Colombia (ANDI)</b>                           |
| Costa Rica     | <b>Union of Chambers and Associations of the Private Business Sector (UCCAEP)</b> |
| Costa Rica     | <b>Chamber of Industries of Costa Rica (CICR)</b>                                 |
| Czech Republic | <b>Confederation of Industry of the Czech Republic (SP)</b>                       |
| Denmark        | <b>Danish Employers' Confederation (DA)</b>                                       |
| Denmark        | <b>Confederation of Danish Industry (DI)</b>                                      |
| Estonia        | <b>Estonian Employers' Confederation</b>                                          |
| Finland        | <b>Confederation of Finnish Industries (EK)</b>                                   |
| France         | <b>Movement of the Enterprises of France (MEDEF)</b>                              |
| Germany        | <b>Confederation of German Employers' Associations (BDA)</b>                      |
| Germany        | <b>Federation of German Industries (BDI)</b>                                      |
| Greece         | <b>Hellenic Federation of Enterprises (SEV)</b>                                   |
| Hungary        | <b>Confederation of Hungarian Employers and Industrialists (MGYOSZ)</b>           |
| Hungary        | <b>National Association of Entrepreneurs and Employers (VOSZ)</b>                 |
| Iceland        | <b>Confederation of Icelandic Enterprise (SA)</b>                                 |
| Ireland        | <b>Ibec (Irish Business and Employers Confederation)</b>                          |
| Israel         | <b>Manufacturers' Association of Israel (MAI)</b>                                 |
| Italy          | <b>The Association of Italian Joint Stock Companies (Assonime)</b>                |
| Italy          | <b>General Confederation of Italian Industry (Confindustria)</b>                  |
| Italy          | <b>Italian Banking Insurance and Finance Federation (FeBAF)</b>                   |
| Japan          | <b>Keidanren (Japan Business Federation)</b>                                      |
| South Korea    | <b>Federation of Korean Industries (FKI)</b>                                      |
| Latvia         | <b>Employers' Confederation of Latvia (LDDK)</b>                                  |
| Lithuania      | <b>Lithuanian Confederation of Industrialists (LPK)</b>                           |
| Luxembourg     | <b>FEDIL - The Voice of Luxembourg's Industry</b>                                 |
| Mexico         | <b>Employers Confederation of the Mexican Republic (COPARMEX)</b>                 |
| Netherlands    | <b>Confederation of Netherlands Industry and Employers (VNO-NCW)</b>              |
| New Zealand    | <b>BusinessNZ</b>                                                                 |
| Norway         | <b>Confederation of Norwegian Enterprise (NHO)</b>                                |
| Portugal       | <b>Confederation of Portuguese Business (CIP)</b>                                 |
| Poland         | <b>Polish Confederation Lewiatan</b>                                              |
| Slovakia       | <b>National Union of Employers (NUE)</b>                                          |
| Slovenia       | <b>Association of Employers of Slovenia (ZDS)</b>                                 |
| Spain          | <b>Confederation of Employers and Industries of Spain (CEOE)</b>                  |
| Sweden         | <b>Confederation of Swedish Enterprise</b>                                        |
| Switzerland    | <b>economiesuisse - Swiss Business Federation</b>                                 |
| Switzerland    | <b>Swiss Employers Confederation</b>                                              |
| Türkiye        | <b>Turkish Confederation of Employer Associations (TISK)</b>                      |
| Türkiye        | <b>Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Türkiye (TOBB)</b>                |
| Türkiye        | <b>Turkish Industry and Business Association (TÜSIAD)</b>                         |
| United Kingdom | <b>Confederation of British Industry (CBI)</b>                                    |
| United States  | <b>United States Council for International Business (USCIB)</b>                   |



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Committee to the OECD

Established in 1962, *Business at OECD* (BIAC) is the officially recognised institutional business voice at the OECD. We stand for policies that enable businesses of all sizes to contribute to economic growth, sustainable development, and societal prosperity. Through *Business at OECD*, national business and employers' federations representing over 10 million companies provide perspectives to cutting-edge OECD policy debates that shape market-based economies and impact global governance. Our expertise is enriched by the contributions of a wide range of international sector organisations.

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