

Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety
The Chair

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Roberta METSOLA
President of the European Parliament
SPA AK 09B011
Brussels

Subject: Evaluation of Mr Maroš Šefčovič, Executive Vice-President for European Green Deal, Inter-institutional Relations and Foresight - Additional written questions

Dear President,

The Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety, with the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, the Committee on Transport and Tourism and the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development as associated Committees, in accordance with Rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure of the European Parliament, held a public hearing on Tuesday, 3 October 2023, with Mr Maroš Šefčovič, Executive Vice-President, who, subject to the positive outcome of the approval on the allocation of new responsibilities, will also be responsible for the European Green Deal.

As the ENVI coordinators, who met in camera after the hearing under my chairmanship for the evaluation of the Executive Vice-President, could not reach a majority of two-thirds of the committee membership, I hereby request, in line with Annex VII, Article 4(4)(d) that the following six supplementary written questions, annexed to this letter, be forwarded to the Executive Vice-President.

I would be very grateful if you could transmit the questions to the European Commission, requesting a very short deadline of Wednesday, 4 October, 7:00h, to receive the replies allowing a possible finalisation of the whole procedure during this plenary session. For this reason, we would exceptionally agree that the answers be provided in English only.

Yours sincerely,



Pascal CANFIN

CC: Bernd LANGE, Chair of the Conference of Committee Chairs
Cristian-Silviu BUŞOI, Chair of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy
Karima DELLI, Chair of the Committee on Transport and Tourism
Norbert LINS, Chair of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

Annex: Additional written questions, endorsed by ENVI Coordinators

Annex: Additional questions by ENVI coordinators

1. In your hearing, you committed to act according to the Advisory Board's advice, and defend a target of at least -90% net GHG emissions reduction by 2040. But you did not reply to the question whether scenarios that do not uphold the recommendation of the Board will also be included in the assessment. Could you precise exactly which scenarios will be included in the analysis in accordance with Article 4(5) of the Climate Law, and how will you take into account sufficiency and lifestyle changes? It is also clear from the Advisory Board's advice that early action is necessary to improve the fairness of the Union's contribution to the global effort to staying below 1.5°C. How do you intend to take this into account, in particular with regards to the 2035 target?
2. Can you specify the concrete timeline for the adoption of the key legislative files that are still pending under the Green Deal, without prioritisation, including the following:
 - REACH,
 - micro-plastics (unintentional release)
 - sustainable food systems,
 - animal welfare package,
 - forest monitoring,
 - corporate fleets,
 - multimodal digital mobility services.
3. Do you commit to defend the EU position on the energy embargo against Russia in all national capitals of the EU, including the one you know best?
4. What is your vision of the best way to achieve technological neutrality and the need to foster a level playing field in the energy sector with regard to the need to preserve and improve the environment?
5. The Commission has already been tasked in 2021 through Article 10 of the Climate Law to engage with sectors of the economy to prepare roadmaps towards climate neutrality. What concrete steps do you intend to make to finally implement this?
6. When will you set a deadline for the phasing out of fossil fuel subsidies consistent with the ambition of limiting global warming to 1.5 °C, in line with Article 3 of the 8th

Environmental Action Programme? Can you commit to use all means at your disposal to ensure that Member States include clear science-based targets for the phase-out of fossil fuels subsidies, in their national energy and climate plans, as well as concrete measures to meet those targets, including if necessary taking additional EU action? Can you commit to push for an ambitious Union's position for COP28 to phase out all fossil fuels?