

## “Green Recovery – Emerging stronger from the crisis”

Virtual briefing on climate policy: Germany’s Council Presidency in the run-up to COP26

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Federal Foreign Office, the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety and the German Climate Consortium are pleased to invite you to a briefing on Germany’s Council Presidency:

**Monday, 26 October 2020, 2.00 p.m. – 4.15 p.m.**  
**virtual event**

**Registration:** <https://www.deutsches-klima-konsortium.de/registration>

On 1 July, Germany took over the Presidency of the Council of the EU – at a time of crisis and high expectations of viable and sustainable solutions.

Overcoming the impacts of the COVID-19-pandemic and rebuilding Europe’s economies in a resilient manner as quickly as possible are among Germany’s top priorities during its Council Presidency. Combining these efforts with the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the UN Sustainable Development Goals as our long-term goals will be challenging. Yet the willingness of governments across Europe to spend extraordinarily large amounts of money to end the massive economic downturn fast is unprecedented. It allows us to not only rebuild, but also to improve. In our response to the crisis, we have – as the UN Secretary-General pointed out – a choice: “We can go back to where we were, or we can invest in a better, more sustainable future”.

We invite you to discuss with us ways to effectively implement the European Green Deal in times of economic crisis and turn the COVID-19-pandemic into an opportunity. Achieving greenhouse gas neutrality by 2050 and reaching an ambitious agreement on a new 2030 greenhouse gas mitigation target remain of utmost importance and will be Europe’s contribution to a sustainable future.

Against this backdrop, we would like to discuss the following questions with you:

- To what extent is the COVID-19-crisis recovery strategy in line with the European Green Deal?
- How is the European Climate Law progressing and what is its significance for the next COP?
- What are the options for the EU to send a strong signal to the international community and help make COP 26 a success in 2021?

We kindly ask you to register **by 21 October** using the following link only:

<https://www.deutsches-klima-konsortium.de/registration>

We look forward to your participation.

Yours faithfully,

**Dr Karsten Sach**

Director-General for International and European Policy, Climate Policy at the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

**Dr Hinrich Thölken**

Director for International Climate and Energy Policy and Digital Transformation, Federal Foreign Office

**Marie-Luise Beck**

Managing Director, German Climate Consortium (DKK)

## Event programme

1.45 p.m. Log-in

**Moderation**

Conny Czymoch, journalist and international conference moderator

**Mid-term review of Germany's Council Presidency and economic recovery plans – where do we stand?**

2.00 p.m. Heiko Maas, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs

2.05 p.m. Svenja Schulze, Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

**How to move forward to a sustainable Europe**

2.10 p.m. **Panel Discussion**

- Karsten Sach, Director-General for International and European Policy and Climate Policy, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety
- Hinrich Thölken, Director for International Climate and Energy Policy and Digital Transformation, Federal Foreign Office
- Maja Göpel, Secretary General, German Advisory Council Global Change
- Martin Kaiser, Executive Director, Greenpeace Germany

**How to keep up momentum ahead of COP 26**

3.00 p.m. **Statement from scientific community**

Mojib Latif, Chairman of the Board of the German Climate Consortium (DKK)

3.20 p.m. **Panel Discussion**

- Nick Bridge, Special Representative for Climate Change, Foreign & Commonwealth Office, UK
- Kristina Jeromin, Head of Group Sustainability, Deutsche Börse Group
- Anita Engels, Professor for Sociology, especially Globalisation, Environment and Society, Universität Hamburg
- Lutz Weischer, Head of Policy Berlin, Germanwatch

4.15 p.m. End of event

**Registration**

Please register online **by 21 October**:

<https://www.deutsches-klima-konsortium.de/registration>

**If you have any questions or require further information, please contact the German Climate Consortium (DKK)**

Tel.: +49 30 767718690, Email: [info@klima-konsortium.de](mailto:info@klima-konsortium.de)

