



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
Office of the President Mr Jean-Claude Juncker

**Member of Cabinet**

30. 11. 2016  
Brussels,  
Ares (2016) 4910433

Dear Mr Trio,

Thank you for your letter of 1 September 2016 regarding fossil fuel subsidies and the ratification of the Paris Agreement. We apologise for the delay in replying.

The quick ratification of the Paris Agreement by the EU was decisive in enabling the early entry into force of this first ever universally binding climate change agreement. Now all countries will have to put the agreement into practice on the ground, where it matters. The EU has already started the process of delivery on its commitments. The Commission presented in summer a package of measures to accelerate the low-carbon transition, which will be complemented shortly with a new package of measures focussing more on the area of energy.

Shifting and rapidly scaling up investment is essential to support the transition to a low emission and climate resilient economy, and for avoiding the "lock-in" of high emissions infrastructure and assets. This includes the need to phase-out fossil fuel subsidies which are a major obstacle to innovation in clean technologies. The EU has consistently supported the ambitious agenda to phase out fossil fuel subsidies in the G20 and in the G7, including the analytical work undertaken by the OECD, and will continue to work with its international partners to address the issue of fossil fuel subsidy reform.

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Mr Wendel TRIO  
Director  
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The Energy Union package, which the Commission has adopted today, will mainstream the clean energy transition, increase transparency and will support growth and job creation in the European Union. In this context, the Commission will also provide some information on fossil fuel subsidies in the EU and will set out an enabling framework to support clean energy investment.

I count on your continued support to help make the global low-carbon clean energy transition a reality. The Commission is committed to driving this process forward domestically in the EU and also internationally through the G20 and the G7 and EU climate and energy diplomacy.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Kasil', is written over a long, thin horizontal line that extends across the page.

Antoine Kasil