

## Policy Committee

Wednesday, 17 April, 2024, from 09.30 to 14.30  
Brussels, Belgium

### (DRAFT) MINUTES

#### Participants

##### Group participants:

Name	Organisation
1. Karin, Aase	Teknikföretagen
2. Guillermo, Amann	ORMAZABAL Electric SLU
3. Till, Barleben	ZVEI
4. Shane, Beirne	IBEC
5. Oliver, Blank	ZVEI
6. Federica, Boledi	Orgalim, Europe's Technology Industries
7. Louise, Bünemann	DI
8. Margaux, de Dinechin	FIEEC
9. Sascha, Deisel	CEFACD/HKI
10. Laure, Dulière	Orgalim, Europe's Technology Industries
11. Yann, Fromont	Schneider Electric
12. Mafalda, Gramaxo	AIMMAP
13. Francesco, Guerzoni	Orgalim, Europe's Technology Industries
14. Maika, Haddad	AQUA METERING
15. Laurent, Hellebaut	Agoria
16. Sabine, Hesse	FMTI / Metaltechnology Austria
17. Hyeonji, Hwang	Orgalim, Europe's Technology Industries
18. Peter, Johansson	Teknikföretagen
19. Aridge, Khayati	FIEEC
20. Peter Bay, Kirkegaard	Danish Industry
21. Joost, Koot	FME
22. Michael, Koplovsky	Amazon
23. Holger, Kunze	VDMA
24. Alberto, Lampasona	Europacable
25. Christophe, Lautray	FEM
26. Helena, Le Goff-Jedrzejowicz	Europacable
27. Lorenzo, Livraghi	Orgalim, Europe's Technology Industries
28. Malte, Lohan	Orgalim, Europe's Technology Industries
29. Jussi, Mäkinen	TIF
30. Maria, Marinelli	ZVEI
31. Julio, Mateos	Orgalim, Europe's Technology Industries
32. Stéphanie, Mittelham	Orgalim, Europe's Technology Industries
33. Rocio, MONDACA GHERARDELLI	Orgalim, Europe's Technology Industries
34. Iain, Munro	EFCEM
35. Andrea, Orlando	ANIMA
36. Fabienne, Ramirez	FIEEC
37. Mihai, Scumpieru	Danfoss

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38. Jurgen, Sturm	Texas Instruments
39. Joana, Valente	AIMMAP
40. Paul, van der Zanden	Euralarm
41. Arthur, Vandenberghe	FIM
42. Marco, Vecchio	ANIE
43. Daniel, Wennick	Orgalim, Europe's Technology Industries
44. Ulrike, Witz	FMTI

## Guests

Name	Organisation
1. Sophie Mueller	European Commission, DG GROW
2. Mehdi Hocine	European Commission, DG GROW

## Apologies

Name	Organisation
1. Adele Naudy	Siemens
2. Maria Eugenia Diaz Garcia	Sercobe

## 1. Welcome by chair and approval of the agenda and minutes, competition law reminder<sup>1</sup>

The Chair Mafalda Gramaxo welcomed the participants.

The proposed agenda for the meeting and minutes from the last Policy Committee meeting held on 16 November 2023 in Brussels were approved.

She reminded participants that Orgalim meetings need to be conducted in accordance with the relevant competition and antitrust laws and he referred to the Orgalim Code on competition law compliance, which applies to all Orgalim meetings.

## 2. Advocacy impact highlights presented by the policy team (For information)

The Secretariat of the various groups provided an update on the following topics. The order of the presentation was changed compared to what included in the latest agenda circulated to participants:

1. Decreasing regulatory burden
2. PFAS
3. Net-Zero Industry Act

<sup>1</sup> All Orgalim meetings need to be conducted in accordance with the relevant competition and antitrust laws. Participants are therefore reminded to refrain at all times from discussing any information which is confidential and/or which is likely to affect the commercial strategy or activities of a company. Participants are in the best position to judge what is, and what is not, commercially sensitive or confidential and so responsibility lies with the participants in the first place. Participants are also reminded to only discuss topics that are on the previously circulated and reviewed agenda. Failure to follow these guidelines may bring serious consequences for the participants as individuals, their organisations and Orgalim itself. Consequences include heavy fines. Please read the Orgalim Code on competition law compliance [here](#), which applies to all Orgalim meetings.

4. Standardisation
5. EU US conformity assessments
6. Other topics (Ecodesign & Machinery)

See details in slides 6 to 25 of the presentation used at the meeting.

### 3. Orgalim’s Policy Agenda (For information)

Orgalim Policy Director, Daniel Wennick, presented the key milestones connected to the European Parliament elections and the nomination of the new European Commission. He then mentioned Orgalim’s planned activities to ensure our industries are well-placed to contribute to the upcoming five-year legislative cycle.

See details in slides 27 to 29 of the presentation used at the meeting.

In the brief exchange that followed Mr Wennick’s presentation, the following elements emerged:

- Expressed need to take into account the Council Strategic Agenda in Orgalim’s Policy Agenda Roadmap.
- The Importance of ensuring that Orgalim facilitates meetings between the various Working Groups and the new institutional stakeholders was expressed
- One of the first initiatives of the new European Commission is likely to be a legislative proposal on AI in workplaces. Some members explained that this is going to be very important for them and asked Orgalim to get involved. Employment initiatives are currently outside of Orgalim’s scope; however the organisation will look into possible avenues for engagement in close cooperation with Ceemet.

Action		
Who	What	Deadline
Orgalim secretariat	Update slide with the Policy Agenda Roadmap to include the Council Strategic Agenda	As soon as possible
Orgalim secretariat	Explore if and how to engage on a likely upcoming legislative initiative on AI in workplaces	As soon as possible

### 4. Report from the Orgalim board discussion about the investment paper

Mr Wennick presented the outcome of the discussion in the Board regarding the possibility of developing a position paper on investment. Overall, the Board agreed on the need for such a paper and on several points to be made. However, they also identified the need to continue working on some of the messaging. See details in slides 30 to 32 of the presentation used at the meeting.

Orgalim Director General, Malte Lohan, provided further information on the reasons behind the board discussion and the importance of this paper. He explained that it has become imperative for Orgalim to develop a more detailed position on public and private investment since this topic has taken central stage in the European political debate about industrial policy.

Overall, members supported the initiative and stressed that attention should be given in particular to how to attract private investment. A recommendation was also made to align as much as possible with recommendations coming from other distinguished sources, for example the Letta report which discusses the issue of investment extensively.

## **5. Strategic discussion about standardisation, machinery and access to finance with DG Grow Heads of Unit**

Mr Wennick welcomed the two guests, Ms Sophie Mueller and Mr Mehdi Hocine, respectively Head of Unit for Standardisation Policy and Machinery & Equipment. He then introduced the topics for discussion:

- Importance of interplay between international standards and European standards and way forward for European standardisation.
- Conformity assessments agreements and other paths to decreasing obstacles with close trading partners.
- Risks and opportunities with market surveillance.
- Interplay between digital legislation and machinery/equipment legislation.

Mr Hocine thanked Orgalim for the valuable input provided on the new Machinery Regulation and particularly for our proposal to update the guide to application of the Machinery Directive to allow already now for the voluntary use of digital instructions. The Commission is now assessing whether this approach could be applied to other legal frameworks as this would contribute to reaching the 25% reduction target for reporting obligations.

On the proposal for an EU-US Mutual Recognition Agreement on conformity assessment, both guests expressed scepticism that the agreement will be reached and explained that there seems to be very little interest in achieving it from the US side.

On standardisation, Ms Mueller briefly mentioned the recent judgement of the Court of Justice of the European Union which officially states that harmonised European standards form part of EU law and therefore are subject to specific legal requirements. She then highlighted some challenges in the field of standardisation policy, including the difficulty to keep alignment between European and international standards; the complexity of the items for standardisation which poses huge technical challenges; and the difficulty in attracting young European experts to work in standardisation.

A brief exchange with the members of the Policy Committee followed. Some of the questions referred to the digital instructions for machinery products, trade barriers, development of harmonised standards, and interplay between AI Act and Machinery Regulation.

At the end of this session, the Chair thanked the participants for the interesting discussion and Orgalim Policy Team for their excellent work. She then closed the meeting.