



11 June 2018

Dear European Council Members,

Cc: Environment and Energy Ministers

I am writing to you on behalf of The Prince of Wales's Corporate Leaders Group, a cross sectoral group of European business leaders working together to accelerate progress towards a zero-carbon, sustainable economy.

As you know, this month will be a busy time for climate action, with the EU Talanoa Dialogue, the Petersburg Dialogue, the Ministerial on Climate Action, the Environment Council, and the European Council. As you deliberate and participate in these discussions I urge you to be as bold and ambitious as you were three years ago and live up to the promises you made in the Paris Agreement on climate change.

The leading businesses in the Corporate Leaders Group, alongside many of their peers across Europe, have placed climate action and sustainable business models at the heart of what they do. They understand the challenges and opportunities of bold climate action. They are committed to working together with Governments to deliver a prosperous and sustainable European economy.

Europe has shown strong climate leadership in the past with your collective actions having blazed a trail. Now, more than ever, it is important that your leadership continues. Clear government leadership helps create the context needed for businesses to innovate and transform the economy. For example, more and more businesses are setting net-zero carbon emissions targets, and calling on governments to set similar levels of ambition, so they have the strong political signal they need to invest in deep decarbonisation.

Therefore, I hope you will be able to use the discussions ahead to:

- reaffirm your commitment to the successful implementation of the Paris Agreement;
- ensure that EU climate and energy measures, such as the EU's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), the Clean Energy Package, and National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs), are strong, ambitious, and Paris compatible; and
- develop a comprehensive and ambitious long-term, net-zero carbon climate plan for your country, working openly and transparently in consultation with the private sector, civil society, and other stakeholders.

Ahead of the EU Talanoa Dialogue, I have enclosed our business submission to the Talanoa process. We have chosen to highlight some of the ways we are already acting and pledge to act in the future. We welcome collaboration with you in the future to ensure all our Paris obligations are met and look forward to continuing to work with you on these very important EU and global issues.

Yours sincerely,
Eliot Whittington

Director, The Prince of Wales's Corporate Leaders Group

