



Recommendations to the Leaders of the EU and Japan

Working Party 4 *Environment & Sustainable Development*

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Summary of the Recommendations

The following recommendations focus on what industry sees as the most effective, realistic levers for **advancing decarbonisation, resource security, biodiversity protection, and resilient urban development**.

They distil complex challenges into clear, actionable guidance for policymakers, grounded in technological and economic realities. Taken together, they outline how the EU and Japan can strengthen competitiveness while accelerating the transition to a sustainable future.

The Authorities are invited to consider these proposals as **practical pathways toward a cleaner, more secure, and more prosperous society** for all.



Highlighted Recommendations

WP-4/#01*/EJ to EJ: Measures and policies of both authorities regarding sustainability issues

- Effective utilisation of the agreement concerning Japan's association to **Horizon Europe**
- Build **resilient global supply chains** for clean energy, rare materials, and decarbonisation technologies
- Establish **interoperable, trustworthy data spaces** enabling cross-company and cross-border use of sustainability data and supply-chain data
- Steer towards **maximal benefit from AI to solve the complex issues** of sustainability and CO2 reduction, while also considering the CO2 emissions due to AI.
- Ensure the maintenance of a **fair and open international public procurement environment** between the EU and countries that have concluded an Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA/ETA) with Japan



Highlighted Recommendations

WP-4/#02*/EJ to EJ: Regulation should protect quality of life but not stifle innovation

WP-4/#03*/EJ to EJ: Promotion of resource efficiency and the circular economy

WP-4/#04*/EJ to EJ: Natural Capital and Biodiversity

- Continue leading global efforts on the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and accelerate 30by30 implementation, including OECM expansion.



Highlighted Recommendations

WP-4/#05*/EJ to EJ: Realisation of a resilient and comfortable life

- Develop resilient urban planning and high-quality infrastructure and services.
- Strive towards clean mobility (e.g. BEV/FCEV); identify and implement actions to minimize the use of fossil fuels, investigating the use of carbon neutral fuels
- Strengthen cybersecurity for critical infrastructure, including use of quantum-safe technologies,
- Promote adaptation finance to reduce disaster risks and protect natural environments



Other Recommendations

WP-4/#06/EJ to EJ: Work together to create a “green market”

- Ensure that policies and regulatory measures do not prevent fair competition and market access for decarbonization/green tech related products and services.
- Establish internationally aligned evaluation and certification frameworks to enable the creation of a green market where decarbonization value is properly evaluate.

WP-4/#07/EJ to EJ: Promote the widespread adoption of energy-efficient products and services

- Increase awareness of avoided emissions resulting from the use of energy-efficient products and services.
- Establish appropriate evaluation frameworks to accelerate the diffusion of such products and services and support the companies that provide them



Other Recommendations

WP-4/#08/EJ to EJ: Deepen the cooperation toward the adoption of the IMO Net-Zero Framework further

- Ensure coherent and globally applicable decarbonization rules to avoid regulatory fragmentation in international shipping and ensure a level playing field
- Leverage Japan and Europe's long history of cooperation to jointly exercise leadership in shaping a global framework at the IMO.

WP-4/#9/EJ to EJ: Advance Circular Economy Resource Efficiency Principles (CEREP) and facilitates the use by the private sector

- Advance CEREP by addressing key barriers, integrating and further developing relevant policies, and fostering effective public-private partnerships.
- Encourage companies to establish and strengthen circular economy initiatives, and promote broader engagement with the public and the financial sector.



Other Recommendations

WP-4/#10/EJ to EJ: Optimising city management

- Accelerate data-driven, AI-enabled city-management solutions (City-as-a-Service) that provide tailored services and healthier environments.
- Promote optimization across all scales, including buildings, neighborhoods, and infrastructure.