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NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations

Subject: AOB for the meeting of the Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council on 8 June 2026
Clean Transport Corridor initiative
- Information from the Commission

Driven by the CO₂ emission performance standards, the market uptake of zero-emission trucks is projected to increase from the current 29,000 to more than 400,000 by 2030. Given that the majority of these trucks is expected to be battery-electric, a corresponding expansion of recharging infrastructure is a required. Logistics operators need certainty that sufficient charging infrastructure is available to invest in zero-emission vehicles, particularly for long-haul operations. Ensuring seamless cross-border connectivity is crucial, as zero-emission trucks must remain operational across international routes without disruption.

On 5 March 2025, the European Commission announced the establishment of the Clean Transport Corridor Initiative (CTCI) as part of the Industrial Automotive Action Plan¹. The CTCI should help identify infrastructure and investment needs along key Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) corridors in the EU, facilitating mutual agreement among stakeholders on relevant measures to fast-track the deployment of critical infrastructure.

¹ COM (2025) 95 final, Industrial Action Plan for the European automotive sector

In the first phase of this initiative, two TEN-T corridors have been selected as test cases since they provide important North-South and East-West connections as well as high freight traffic volumes: the Scandinavian-Mediterranean Corridor and the North Sea-Baltic Corridor. On 16 September 2025, nine Member States situated along these two corridors signed a ministerial declaration, representing both a joint political commitment and a strategic guide for current and future policies on truck recharging infrastructure.²

The first two roadmaps developed under the CTCI will be endorsed in the margins of the Council meeting by relevant ministers. These roadmaps function as operational instruments to identify and better align concrete joint actions by Member States, the European Commission, and industry stakeholders. Their primary focus lies on accelerating the rollout of recharging infrastructure for heavy-duty vehicles, with a particular emphasis on cross-border coordination, the identification of missing infrastructure links, and enhanced knowledge-sharing among participants.

The development of these roadmaps has been conducted in close cooperation with authorities in the energy sector, given that timely and transparent access to electricity grids represents a prerequisite for the swift and efficient deployment of truck recharging infrastructure.

The Commission will also publish a detailed mapping of existing and planned truck recharging projects that have received funding from the Commission or Member States along the two corridors. This mapping exercise is intended to provide clarity on current progress while pinpointing persistent gaps and needs in infrastructure to ensure that both corridors can fully support seamless zero-emission truck operations by 2030.

The Commission intends to extend the CTCI to all remaining TEN-T corridors later this year, therefore inviting all Member States to participate in a constructive dialogue focusing on gaps in truck recharging infrastructure and measures to accelerate rollout of the charging infrastructure for HDVs across the entire TEN-T. The Commission will also involve relevant stakeholders and expert groups of the Sustainable Transport Forum.

² https://transport.ec.europa.eu/news-events/news/eu-ministers-commit-faster-truck-recharging-deployment-2025-09-16_en