

## Round-table series 2016

Round-table on Strategic Implementation Plan of the  
**European Innovation Partnership on Raw Materials**  
How can a sustainable mining sector contribute to the Polish economic and industrial growth

**2 June 2016**  
9.30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Ministry of Economic Development  
Meeting Room 1105 ul. Wspólna 2/4  
Warsaw - Poland

www.eesc.europa.eu

The round-table series 2016 is organized by the EESC's Consultative Commission on Industrial Change (CCMI) in partnership with relevant European and national organizations: Euromines, Euracoal, IndustriAll Europe, the European Commission and numerous national high level partners from academia, geological surveys, NGOs and civil society.

**The objective** of the round-table debates is to link the Member States' economic and industrial policy along the value chain from raw materials to end-products and to develop strategies and overcome obstacles to maintain a well-functioning European industrial fabric by improving investment conditions and creating new jobs.

**Industrial Roundtable on Strategic Implementation Plan of the European Innovation Partnership on Raw Materials "How can a sustainable mining sector contribute to the Polish economic and industrial growth", Warsaw, 2 June 2016**

### Conclusions

- It was announced that the minerals policy will be developed in Poland (Prof. M. Orion-Jędrysek was appointed Government Representative for Polish State Mineral Policy). The document will take into account the geological, technological, economic aspects and investment risks;
- It was pointed out that the minerals policy should be in line with the long term industrial policy of the country (e.g. the energy policy until 2050), and in this regard the availability of raw materials essential for the development of the industry should be defined;
- Innovative solutions in the mining industry should be effectively supported by the national government (favourable legal framework, multi-vector system of incentives, taxes and fees) as mining companies are not motivated to take large risks;

- It was stressed that due to the geological and mining conditions in the world, more and more raw materials are extracted by underground method and Poland has many outstanding specialists in this field;
- The profitability of new mining investments should be assessed in connection with other industries and their needs since they depend on the mining industry, and the deposits should be used in a sustainable manner (e.g. through enhanced recovery of by-and co-products);
- There is a need to consider and define strategic mineral deposits in land use planning and clarify the rules for access to geological information;
- There is a need to regulate aspects related to public consultations in the context of permitting of mining licenses and determining the approval dates for realizing such investments (at present this is a too lengthy process). The European Commission will compare best practice in Member States and needs to carry out an impact assessment of the implementation of the Natura 2000 network on the development of mineral extraction in the EU, it will continue to support mining development through the EIT KIC Raw Materials and through the European Strategic Investment Fund;
- Participation of R & D entities in the KIC Raw Materials should be supported by the state in Poland as it is in other EU Member States;
- It is necessary to support the development of environmentally friendly technologies of wider use of coal in other sectors than the energy sector, especially in the case of adverse charges for CO2 emissions. The EU policy discriminates coal mining, and instead should make use of existing EU resources;
- Strengthening education (i.e. on recycling), and increasing public awareness of the importance of raw materials in the economy, especially since currently there is no correlation with the challenges of education systems in the modern economy, including in the field of entrepreneurship;
- It is important to seek solutions for the recovery of raw materials through strengthened recycling (e.g.. WEEE, mules carbon) as this is in many areas still not economically and technologically competitive compared to primary sources. This is particularly important for the economic development of a Circular Economy.