Subject: Meeting with A7.

Date: Jundi 6 mai 2024 17:51:00

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Earlier this afternoon Cristina Lobillo met on-screen with her new Azerbaijani counterpart, Deputy Energy Minister Orkhan Zeynalov (OZ), while previous counterpart Elnur Soltanov is now seconded as CEO of COP29 organisation committee. OZ is well known to us as he was heading the international department of the Energy Ministry in the past. This meeting was requested as a short courtesy call, but the meeting turned out to have a broad agenda and participation on the Azerbaijani side, running quickly through the topics of gas supplies, SGC expansion, methane action, the Black Sea cable/PMI process, hydrogen, and the energy day of COP29. Cooperation on offshore wind was only briefly mentioned.

Main take-aways:

OZ outlined COP organisation around 3 workstreams – (1) negotiations (aka
"implementation track"), incl.
; (2) the COP Presidency action agenda, where energy-related several
initiatives could be featured such as green energy corridor and methane. Presidency
agenda to be disclosed to partners incl EU in the coming days; (3) thematic days, incl an
energy day probably in the first week of the COP, after the finance day. Could be bundled
as "energy transition and industry". Will be busy schedule - over 30 events were organised
on the energy day at COP28.

- On gas supply, SOCAR VP Vitaly Baylarbayov shared that discussions were progressing
- On green energy corridor/Black Sea cable, OZ informed of a 6th Ministerial meeting to be held in Thillisi on 15 May and sought further information on the PMI process.
- On hydrogen, the AZ Energy Ministry intends to prepare a national strategy with support. Seek EU support too.
 Shahbazov wants a side event at COP29, possibly with the EU.
 proposed collaboration.
- On methane, SOCAR VP Afgan Isayev reports on progress.
 AZ just joined GMP, SOCAR to in the coming months.
- On RES, IRENA is planning an investment forum at COP29, day 1 with governments, day 2 with investors. First national RES auction recently launched
- On EE, launch of the national energy efficiency fund recently announced, established with EU support.
- AZ works also with is
 Company on geothermal, CCUS and bleu H2 and company to develop of battery storage.
- Pre-COP possibly convened in October.

Best,





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