

Lines to take on PV-IPCEI

[for the passive-occasional communication till the PV-IPCEI will be launched officially]

- 1) In summer 2021 ESMC initiated the IPCEI framework for the PV manufacturing in cooperation with the partner organizations of the European Solar Initiative. The PV-IPCEI initiative is open for all the European PV manufacturing industrial partners and research institutes dedicating their efforts to ensure sustainable competitiveness of the European PV manufacturing along all the full value chain.
- 2) 50 members (PV manufacturing companies and research institutes) from 14 European countries have already joined the initiative and the active work has been started in 5 IPCEI Project Groups. The PV-IPCEI framework is dedicated to create the demand for the support incentives by securing at least of 20 GW sustainably competitive PV manufacturing capacities along the full value chain by 2025 in the EU with a view to scale it to 100 GW by 2030, representing at least 15% of the future global market share. The PV-IPCEI framework and the Gigawatt scale projects in particular are targeted to boost the PV manufacturing capacities of the EU by addressing strategic dependency issue and enabling breakthrough research innovations and infrastructure projects through the integrated industrial framework. The circularity of the PV production and the integrated PV solutions are the essential components of the framework to ensure the sustainability and competitive advantage of the European PV upstream sector. Local PV production in Europe could benefit the green transformation and the whole economy as it has lower CO2 emissions and will reduce the import dependency on Asia.
- 3) The future PV-IPCEI has been strengthened not only by the united industrial efforts under the created platform but also by the European Commission Communication on IPCEI adopted on 25 November, which will be applied from 1 January 2022. The Communication puts new emphasis, *firstly*, on the open strategic autonomy of the EU by enabling breakthrough innovation and infrastructure projects through cross border cooperation and with positive spill-over effects on the internal market and the society as a whole and, *secondly*, highlights the strategic dependency issue as the positive evaluation will be given to the potential IPCEI projects which addresses a clearly identified and significant strategic dependency.
- 4) The Invitation letters to the EU countries requesting to initially support the PV-IPCEI framework is in the distribution stage. Among these letters the invitation to support PV-IPCEI framework has been already addressed to the newly formed German Government including the signed support of the 14 companies and research institutes.
- 5) During January-March 2022 it is expected to develop the Gigawatt scale PV-IPCEI projects and secure the EU Member States support for the PV-IPCEI initiative. Afterwards it is planned to officially launch the PV-IPCEI framework and to start the State Aid clearance process with a view to secure PV-IPCEI support incentives in 2023.