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In this issue:

Our interventions

PL-CZ-SLO meeting of the Committee on Steel, Coke, Mechanical Engineering, Energy and Environment

HIPH Conference

HIPH Council session

INNOSTAL Steel Sectoral Program

Our voice in the media

Events attended

The Board of HIPH sent in a number of letters about many important and priority issues involving the member companies of the Association including, but not limited to:

- the Ministry of Development (Ms Jadwiga Emilewicz) - about the publication of national annexes to Eurocode 2. We requested the implementation of next steps of actions aimed at supporting the international competitiveness of the domestic steel sector with the participation of, but not limited to, the Ministry of Infrastructure and Construction - 29.11.2016.

- the Minister of the Environment - about the draft MoE regulation on the requirements for the establishment of sub-installations under the ETS system, the scope and method of data collection to determine the initial installed capacity and the installed capacity of the installation and sub-installation, the method of determining the historical activity levels and the levels of activity and the method of calculating the preliminary annual emission allowances - 30.11.2016.

- the Minister of the Environment - about a draft law amending the Waste Law - 06.12.2016.

- the Ministry of Development - about a draft law amending the Access to Environmental Information Law - 09.12.2016.

- the Minister of Environment about the environment levy regulation - 09.12.2016.

- the Prime Minister, Ms Beata Szydło – the position of the steel industry on the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) - 12.12.2016.

- the Minister of Energy, Mr Krzysztof Tchórzewski – sending in comment of Polish Steel Association to the draft capacity market law - 19.12.2016.

- the Ministry of Development (Ms Jadwiga Emilewicz) and the Ministry of Energy (Wojciech Kowalczyk) about the implementation of the demands contained in the Resolution No 8 of the Social Dialogue Council RDS of April 7, 2016 following the meeting at the Ministry of Development on 10.10.2016 - 5.01.2017.

- the Ministry of Infrastructure and Construction and the Ministry of Development about the amendment to the quality standards for reinforcing steel, and the implementation of sustainability standards in the public procurement with a request to discuss the possibilities of improving the implementation of infrastructure projects where steel products are used - 20.01.2017.

The Polish-Czech-Slovak Meeting of the Committee on Steel, Coke, Mechanical Engineering, Energy and Environment

On 31.11 and 1.12.2016 Ustroń saw a meeting of the Polish-Czech-Slovak Committee on Steel, Coke, Mechanical Engineering, Energy and Environment. These three steel industry associations signed a joint declaration where they appealed that their governments take action aimed at sustaining the competitiveness of the steel sector. Market defences against unfair imports, rational principles of emissions trading, energy costs and MES China (Market Economy Status) are the most important matters to be addressed nowadays.

HIPH Conference

On 1 and 2 December 2016 Ustroń saw a conference of HIPH member companies.

During the meeting issues were discussed about: the steel market, coke and refractory materials situation, EU Steel trades with third countries, T-TIP, EU trade defence instruments (TDI) modernization and the current anti-dumping and anti-subsidy proceedings in the international steel and raw material trade. The update was delivered about the possible consequences of granting the market economy status (MES) to the Peoples Republic of China, low effectiveness of currently applied EC's market protection instruments and the legal possibilities of limiting increasing imports dumped steel products from third countries.

HIPH Council Session

On 5 December 2016 the headquarters of HIPH at saw the Council session convened.

At the meeting the Board Members were updated about the steel, coke and refractory market situation after 9 months of 2016. The status of the coalition works formed with the participation of HIPH and law firms was summarised relating to the steel AD proceedings against steel imports from Belarus, and the Plan for Metallurgy. Trade defence instruments, MES China, TTIP, Energy Efficiency Law, talks with PSE on DSR, transitional fees and INNOSTAL sectoral program were discussed, too.

INNOSTAL Steel Sectoral Program

On 15 December 2016 the NCBiR National R&D Centre published a ranking list of projects for financing under the INNOSTAL scheme.

As a result of the substantive assessment 19 projects got positive assessment ratings and qualified for funding. The NCBiR decided to grant an additional amount of PLN 95 million for the second competition round in 2017 (the call for proposals is expected to take place in the third quarter of 2017).

Our voice in the media

- Press release on the necessary defense of Polish steel market sent to journalists of the most widely read newspapers and news agencies in Poland (30.11.2016);
- Open letter to the Heads of State and the Government of the Republic of Poland about the protection of the steel industry - Magazyn Hutniczy (1.11.2016);
- We Fight for the Future of the European Steel Industry - Magazyn Hutniczy (1.11.2016);

- The Steel Sector May Accept an Increase in Coking Coal Prices, But Not One So Irrational - WNP (31.10.2016);
- The Steelworks May Disappear from Europe - Puls Biznesu (4.11.2016);
- Report on the impact of the steel sector on the Polish economy. Every Tenth Coal Mining Penny Comes from Steel Sector - WNP (7.11.2016);
- The Effect of Metallurgy on the Rest of the Economy Is Huge - WNP (22.11.2016). Energy Prices Stall the Growth of the Steel Sector - PAP (23.11.2016);
- The Steel Makers Advocate Limiting of Unfair Steel Imports - WNP (30.11.2016);
- Steelworkers from Poland, Czechia and Slovakia Together Call for the Market Protection - PAP/WNP (1.12.2016);
- Steel Price Rally - Puls Biznesu (7.12.2016);
- Marry Climate and Industry. The Future of the European Steel Sector Depends on the EU's Climate Policy - Puls Biznesu (18.12.16);
- The Benefits of a Steel War - Puls Biznesu (27.1.2017) - Another Good Year for the Polish Steel Industry - WNP (18.01.2017).

Events attended:

- Meeting of steel representatives with PSE, Warsaw (30.11.2016);
- PL-CZ-SLO meeting of the Committee on Steel, Coke, Mechanical Engineering, Enrgy and Environment, Ustroń (30.11. - 1.12.2016);
- Commercial Directors Forum, Ustroń (1-2.12.2016);
- Meeting of the Energy-Intensive Industries Team, the Ministry of Development, Warsaw (07.12.2016);
- Corporate Responsibility Council, Dąbrowa Górnicza (14.12.2016);
- The Committee on the Protection of Metallurgy History and Monuments, SITPH Katowice (11.01.2017);
- Meeting of industry associations on the initiative of KIG and GIPH, Katowice (13.01.2017);
- Meeting and dinner with the Members of the European Parliament on the EU ETS, Strasbourg (18.01.2017);
- IPO cooperation meeting, Use of Steel in Building, World Steel Association, Cologne (23-24.01.2017);
- Teleconferences and numerous meetings with EY in the framework of the Steering Committee and the Coalition for the Competitiveness of Polish steel industry and teleconferences organized by FOEEiG Forum of Electricity and Gas Consumers and CO2 Forum.