



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
Ministry of Environment and Energy

**Secretary General
for Energy & Mineral Resources**

Athens, 07 December 2020

To:

PROF. PASPALIARIS

Director Of EIT RAW MATERIALS HUB

Regional Center Greece

(Ref: 5th Greek Raw Materials Community Dialogue, December 8-9, 2020)

Dear Prof. Paspaliaris,

Dear attendees,

It is a privilege for the General Secretariat of Energy and Mineral Resources to participate in your two-days event even with this letter, as we are keen supporters of the sustainable development of the national, European and global mineral value chains.

We strongly recognize the essential role of the Greek Regional Center of European Institute of Innovation and Technology-Raw Materials, its function as an interaction point between EIT-RM and Greek raw materials community and its action -as a one-stop- shop in multiple directions (education, innovation transferability, industry, society, authorities).

Based on the most recent raw materials European actions which include:

- EU new Industrial Strategy for Europe to maintain European industry's global competitiveness, make Europe climate-neutral by 2050 and shape Europe's digital future (launched in March 2020).
- European Recovery Plan to make Europe more resilient against future shocks (launched in May 2020) .
- Taxonomy regulation on financing sustainable growth (into force on July 2020).
- Critical Raw Materials communication including a new list of 30 CRMs and a 10 point action plan to increase Europe's resilience and strategic autonomy on CRMs (launched in September 2020)
- the European Raw Materials Alliance (launched in September 2020) on increasing EU resilience in the rare earths and magnets value chains, as this is vital for most EU industrial ecosystems.

Our General Secretariat and the competent General Directorate for Mineral Resources:

- Renew our participation in the European Innovation Partnership for Raw Materials (EIP-RM)
- As a member of the Raw Materials Supply Group, participates in the process leading to development of EU principles for sustainable raw materials. The objective is to align the understanding of extractive and processing operations amongst member states and define the general direction towards the SDGs.

- Participate in the European group for the collection of available techniques for the prevention of environmental impacts in non-energy extractive industries.
- Participate -as an invited stakeholder- in European new projects for responsible mining and sustainable management (RE-SOURCING, SUMEX)
- Approved national projects, regarding Lithium investigation in various areas which are currently in progress by Hellenic Survey of Geology and Mineral Exploration.
- Approved the creation and publication of two national roadmaps for mineral resources and geothermal energy, respectively, in order to encourage and foster entrepreneurship (in progress by Hellenic Survey of Geology and Mineral Exploration).

Beyond the regular work of implementation of legal framework for exploration and exploitation of national mineral and geothermal resources (L.4512/2018, L.4602/2019), our Ministry's agenda also includes:

- the master plan for the transition of coal-dependent regions
- the plan for restructuring and selling of LARCO GMMSA.
- the modification of concession contract with Hellas Gold SA.
- the national project about Special Spatial Plan for the Mineral Raw Materials (coordinated by the General Directorate of Spatial Planning)
- the participation in the European action about the elaboration of guidelines for best Risk Management approaches in the extractive sector.

In the frame of the transition to a sustainable and green development model, we encourage the role of the Regional Center in the Greek Raw Materials Community and we wish you a successful progress of your actions.

Kind regards,

Alexandra Sdoukou

Secretary General for Energy & Mineral Resources