

**CARBON SEQUESTRATION LEADERSHIP FORUM**  
**23 April 2018 — San Servolo Island, ITALY**

Ladies and gentlemen,

- Welcome in San Servolo on behalf of the Italian Ministry of Economic Development.
- We are very proud that the CSLF Technical Group Meeting can be held in Italy. This will give a great opportunity for a fruitful exchange of knowledge, during the CO2GeoNet Open Forum, between the CSLF delegates and the European researchers involved in studies on CCS.
- The last time Italy hosted a CSLF Technical Group Meeting was in Rome in 2013. Italy was one of the first countries to join the CSLF in Washington DC in 2003.
- The Meeting can represent a relevant opportunity to confirm our commitment to mitigate the impact of energy use on the global environment, and in particular on the global climate system. To this end let me also underline the strategic role of international collaboration for research and development (R&D) of new energy technologies, able to mutually address, in the medium-long term, energy security and environmental concerns.

- The international energy context is developing very rapidly as you know, with many issues which have to be carefully evaluated and addressed.
- In this context, the Italian Government has launched at the end of 2017 a new National Energy Strategy, focused on clear environmental goals and Climate&Energy targets in line with COP21. The Strategy foresees increased investment in energy efficiency and further impulse to the renewable energies. Italy has also decided for the complete phase-out of coal-fired power generation by 2025.
- The low price of CO<sub>2</sub> in the ETS and the difficult social acceptability have strongly reduced the perspective of CCS in Italy. Nevertheless in Italy there are some significant experimental capture and storage projects (for example the participation in the European ENOS project), but it is difficult to imagine a use of CCS that could have an appreciable impact on the country's CO<sub>2</sub> accounting in 2030.
- Possible application of CCS in the industrial sectors emitting large quantities of CO<sub>2</sub> (in the cement production sector for example) are currently undergoing feasibility tests. The Italian research system in the CCS sector has a

good international reputation, proving to be ready to catch all the most innovative opportunities.

- Italy has also joined the Mission Innovation initiative and decided to be present in the Carbon Capture Innovation Challenge led by US and Saudi Arabia.
- So your effort and the issues you will address during the meeting are very important for the governments and for the decisions to be taken in the next future in the energy sector.
- Thank you again for your kind attention and I wish you a very successful meeting and a very pleasant stay in San Servolo.