

JOINT DECLARATION ON KICK-STARTING THE CCS VALUE CHAIN IN FLANDERS AND WALLONIA

signatories of the Joint Declaration

Signed at Mons, on 6 November 2025

The Government of Flanders and the Walloon Government:

HAVE the shared ambition to embed CCS in an integrated industrial decarbonization strategy. CCS must be part of a broader approach that combines energy efficiency, electrification, low-carbon and renewable hydrogen, and circular carbon use to ensure a cost-effective transition.

JOINTLY RECOGNIZE the urgency of advancing CCUS. Both governments recognize the increasing maturity of industrial projects and the urgent need to move forward together so that a complete CCS value chain can be rapidly developed in Flanders and Wallonia.

ARE READY to develop a coordinated, interregional, and cross-border approach. Both regions commit to close cooperation – among themselves, with industrial players, with neighboring countries, and with the European Commission – to ensure the technical, regulatory, and economic coherence of the future CO₂ network. This includes working at the European level to promptly establish a flexible mechanism to avoid the ‘double penalty’ risk.

ENDORSE the importance of providing a clear, stable, and predictable investment and governance framework. Both governments recognize the need for legally sound regulations that provide investor confidence and enable the long-term planning of CCS projects.

REITERATE their commitment to continue developing and, within available resources, implementing measures that help mitigate risks for:

- industrial CCUS investment projects, through instruments such as Carbon Contracts for Difference (CCfD) or equivalent mechanisms;
- transport infrastructure, to protect initial investments as volumes grow gradually.

ENGAGE themselves to provide support to companies in applying for European funding, while using its available instruments to maximize the success rate of the promising Flemish and Walloon applications and aiming for an equal level playing field for our companies.

The industrial companies:

CONFIRM that CCUS will play a key role in decarbonizing, while still facing significant obstacles.

ENDORSE that they are instrumental in the implementation of the industrial CCUS projects.

ENGAGE themselves to further develop their projects with due consideration for their economic context and to apply the best available technologies to ensure the efficiency and performance of their installations.

The Government of Flanders, the Walloon Government and the industrial companies:

EMPHASIZE that the success of CCUS rests on shared responsibility.

