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**WORKING PAPER**

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<th>From:</th>
<th>ERAC Secretariat</th>
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<td>To:</td>
<td>ERAC (European Research Area and Innovation Committee)</td>
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<td>Subject:</td>
<td>Policy conclusions of the ERAC workshop on R&amp;I investments for sustainability and competitiveness</td>
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Delegations will find attached the PowerPoint presentation concerning the item 4.2 of the ERAC plenary agenda of 17 December 2019.
Policy conclusions of the ERAC workshop on R&I investments for sustainability and competitiveness

1. New policy cycles open opportunities to re-align/ re-direct national R&I Strategies with SDGs in support of the sustainability transitions.

2. “Whole of government” approach is required to maximize directionality across all policies (systemic approach of R&I policy).

3. Use the right policy mix, including different types of both financial and non-financial support (i.e. tax incentives, competitive funding, institutional funding).

4. Achieve directionality through the combination of regulations, investments (Horizon Europe-Missions) and reforms (smart specializations strategies, ERA, European Semester).

5. Leverage private sector investment: for example, use public funding smartly to leverage business investment; increase SMEs engagement.

6. Foster learning and policy experimentation to close knowledge gaps.

7. New indicators and monitoring are needed for enriching the intelligence and evidence on the role of R&I for achieving the transitions and addressing the trade-offs.

8. Higher education institutions and citizens can be better mobilized to engage in addressing the sustainability challenges.