



Good morning and welcome to this 6th edition of World Materials Forum,

This edition will be very special : due to the unusual circumstances of Covid 19, we are only 130 participants for this edition instead of 260 in 2019, mainly Europeans with a video link to our session chairmen and speakers from North America, Japan, Singapore... and the UK. I wish to warmly thank all of you for deciding to be with us today and tomorrow, for showing that life must go on, and for taking the time during the month of August which in France is usually not the busiest working month ... Thanks also to all you for understanding that the stringent precautionary sanitary measures that have been taken must be complied with, under the oversight of Muriel, steel hand in a velvet glove, that I warmly thank for her drive on this matter.

As a way of introduction to this session let me remind you why we are here and what are the key questions that we will address during these two days.

We are here because at World Materials Forum we are convinced that we can decouple economic growth and materials consumption, while creating value for our industries.

We are here because we are convinced that we need to make a step change in Using materials Less, Longer and Smarter.

Materials inefficiency is the root cause of 50% of CO2 emissions, 90% of biodiversity losses, and at the heart of the circular economy concept. So, Materials Efficiency deserves a top priority.

And, let me tell you, I am convinced that addressing this challenge is much more crucial and challenging for the planet than addressing the pandemic risk. I prefer love of life to fear of death

For this to happen, we must use our collective intelligence, speaking with facts and figures, not only to find ideas but to put them to work, be it with new business models or breakthrough technologies, while involving all stakeholders of the value chains - industrialists, start ups, academics and regulators.

In this room today, you are definitely a good sample of these players, and a lab for putting this collective intelligence at work.

So, what are the key questions that we will address during the two days of this 6th session in Nancy ?

We have 3 main objectives :

First sharing with you our progress on the « signature tools of WMF

1. Our Criticality Assessment : we will update our overview of the Mendeleev table, while proposing to you a new KPI about the environmental footprint
2. Our KPIs toolkit : we will now show you concrete applications in aerospace, automotive and construction sectors and how they can address the legitimate concerns of financial stakeholders
3. The launch of our « WMF Top 10 Technologies »: those technologies that the world must urgently develop to make a step change in materials efficiency . We will request your feedback on this 1st first list with the intent to get not only your view on the list, but perhaps more important on what we must do worldwide to cope in a disruptive manner with the usual roadblocks that would otherwise hinder their sound and fast development.

Second, sharing with you the progress we see on two « solutions » areas : fuel cells , after the thorough review of batteries last year , and plastics and composites recycling . You will see that solutions are underway.

And third, we will reward the best start up achievements through our World Materials Challenge . The winners of 2020 will join of our World Materials Connect platform that we launched last year. Nearly 100 start ups are on and we must now put the platform to work at full speed.

Finally we will benefit from the forward looking view of our two keynote speakers , Pascal Lamy, former EU Commisionner, former MD of the WTO and present Chairman of the Peace Forum who will be with us this afternoon, and Sunichi Myanaga Chairman of MHI that will address us by video late in the evening from Tokyo.

And now I want to give a warm thank you to you, Mayor Mathieu Klein, Chairman of Nancy Metropolis for welcoming us in this city, rich of its legacy in materials sciences and in industry - together with our President d'Honneur Andre Rossinot.

I will now leave the floor to Mathieu Klein . Thank you all in advance for your contribution , and do enjoy those two days