



*18ENV108  
Brussels, 30 May 2018*

## **EU Biofuel Chain outreach to Council on inclusion of 7% conventional biofuels in blending obligations on fossil fuel suppliers**

Dear Madam/Sir,

Ahead of the next negotiating round on the post-2020 Renewable Energy Directive, the EU Biofuel Chain would like to reiterate the importance of finding an agreement among the institutions based on the structure proposed by the Council's Presidency in its latest proposal, which foresees the inclusion of conventional biofuels in transport's incorporation obligations on fossil fuel suppliers under Article 25.

**Without an obligation that includes conventional biofuels in the renewable fuel mix, their effective share would risk to go down shortly after 2020**, as EU fuel suppliers would not be incentivised to use them any longer.

While supportive of the advanced generation of biofuels, the EU Biofuel Chain warns against the risk associated with any reduction of the share of conventional biofuels to make room for future technologies. Advanced biofuels are not meant to replace the conventional generation of biofuels but should contribute to the decarbonisation of the transport sector in addition to the existing ones.

Those who have invested in the conventional biofuels sector are the 'investors-to-be' in the advanced industry. Hence, **a policy change in this direction would discourage future investments in the sector.**

For these reasons, the EU Biofuel Chain believes that, in order to meet the EU 2030 climate and energy objectives, **the RED II should maintain blending obligations both for conventional biofuels and for advanced feedstocks with an overall minimum share of at least 14% of renewable energy in transport by 2030, to which conventional biofuels – including biodiesel and bioethanol – should contribute up to 7%.** This would ensure that the European Union is on track to achieve its ambitious decarbonisation goals.



A reliable policy framework is an essential condition to our industry's own economic stability and contribution to the EU climate and renewable energy goals beyond 2020, as well as to new investments.

We would like to thank you in advance for your time and consideration and we remain at your disposal for any further information.

Yours sincerely,

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C.I.B.E. Director

Pekka Pesonen  
Copa and Cogeca  
Secretary General

Philippe Dusser  
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CEPM  
Permanent Delegate



The **C.I.B.E.** is the international confederation of sugar beet growers. It represents the interests of beet growers vis-à-vis European Institutions and international organisations since 1927. CIBE is composed of national and regional associations from 18 European beet-producing countries. These include 140,000 growers from 16 EU countries (Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, the Slovak Republic, Sweden, the United Kingdom) and roughly 130,000 growers from 2 non-EU countries (Turkey and Switzerland).

**Copa and Cogeca** are the united voice of farmers and agri-cooperatives in the EU. Together, they ensure that EU agriculture is sustainable, innovative and competitive, guaranteeing food security to half a billion people throughout Europe. Copa represents over 23 million farmers and their families whilst Cogeca represents the interests of 22,000 agricultural cooperatives. They have 66 member organisations from the EU member states. Together, they are one of the biggest and most active lobbying organisations in Brussels.

Founded in 2002, the **European Oilseed Alliance (EOA)** brings together the oilseed producing organizations from the main European countries (Germany, France, UK, Poland, Czech Republic, Finland and Belgium) and represents 90% of European oilseed production.

The **European renewable ethanol association (ePURE)** represents the interests of European renewable ethanol producers to the European institutions, industry stakeholders, the media, academia and the general public. The organisation, established in 2010, promotes the beneficial uses of ethanol throughout Europe. Based in Brussels, ePURE represents 42 member companies, with 50 production plants in 16 member states, accounting for about 85% of the installed renewable ethanol capacity in Europe.

**FEDIOL** represents the interests of the European vegetable oil and protein meal industry. With over 180 facilities in Europe, the sector provides over 20.000 direct employments. Our members process approximately 55 million tonnes of basic products a year for the food and non-food markets. Oilseed crushing produces vegetable oils and protein meals as co-products. While vegetable oils are used for food and technical uses (pharmaceuticals, paints, detergents, biodiesel, etc.), protein meals are used to meet the increasing global demand for meat and protein.

The **European Biodiesel Board (EBB)** is a non-profit organisation established in January 1997. Today, EBB gathers close to 70 members across 21 Member-States, which represents 75% of the European output. Biodiesel is the main European solution to reduce emissions from transport and dependence on imported oil. EBB aims to promote the use of biodiesel in the European Union and is committed to fulfil International standards for sustainability in GHG emissions and sustainable feedstock. EBB is constantly working towards the development of improved and greener technologies.

**CEPM** brings together Professional and inter-Professional organisations whose mission is to represent and defend in their respective countries the interests of all or part of the maize chain: corn, maize silage, maize seed and sweet corn. To fulfil these objectives, CEPM carries out monitoring, lobbying and communication activities, and makes concrete proposals.