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Press Release

Copa and Cogeca agree position paper on future of bioenergy sector in order to enable the EU to meet its 2030 climate and energy goals **# WinterPackage**

Copa and Cogeca have unanimously agreed on a joint position paper which aims to boost the use of agricultural and forest biomass in the bioenergy sector in order to achieve the EU's 2030 climate and energy goals.

Talking in Brussels today after the agreement was struck, Chairman of Copa & Cogecas' Bioenergy Working Party Mr Klein said "Bioenergy has many benefits in terms of fighting climate change, providing sustainable energy at the same time as boosting growth and jobs in rural areas and giving farmers an additional source of income. But the right conditions must be in place to achieve this. We consequently reject the EU Commission proposal to limit or even phase out the use of agricultural and forest biomass in the EU renewable energy mix.

By supporting waste-based fossil fuels, the proposal effectively makes fossil fuels more competitive, which contradicts the EU climate and energy targets and it is detrimental for agricultural and forest biomass. The Commission proposal to revise the EU Directive on the promotion of renewable energy cuts the share of conventional biofuels in transport fuel from 7% in 2021 to 3.8% by 2030 and allows Member States to set up national targets below the one of the EU which is totally unacceptable. If there is not a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in transport, it will also have to be compensated by other non ETS sectors which are agriculture and housing, he warned.

"We therefore propose that in transport, it is mandatory for fuel providers to include at least a 15% minimum share of all types of sustainable biofuels used in transport by 2030. The current 7% cap on conventional biofuels must also be kept until 2030 and fixed at EU level. The numerous benefits brought by conventional biofuels need to be maintained and Member states need to have flexibility in order to ensure that they keep to the 2021 baseline which will be determined by current legislation", he added.

"The priority grid and dispatching must be kept for electricity generated from solid and gaseous biomass as this electricity helps to balance the grids and stabilisation measures are much more necessary until 2030", he said.

In heating and cooling, the voluntary increase in renewable energy sources of 1 percentage point of calorific energy value each year proposed by the EC must be made mandatory for Member States. Only Member States where the share of renewable energy sources in the heating and cooling sector is already above 60% can be exempted, he said.

Wrapping up, Copa & Cogeca Secretary-General Pekka Pesonen said "As certain MEPs have been nominated to draw up the draft opinions on this in May, Copa and Cogeca call on them to take into account our proposals in their opinions in order to enhance the role of agricultural and forest biomass in all bioenergy sectors".

See full position paper:

[POSITION PAPER ON THE PROPOSAL FOR A DIRECTIVE ON THE PROMOTION OF THE USE OF ENERGY FROM RENEWABLE SOURCES AFTER 2020 \(COM\(2016\)767 FINAL\)](#)

[Wzmocnienie roli biomasy rolnej i lesnej we wszystkich sektorach bioenergii w celu osiagniecia celów energetycznych i klimatycznych UE na 2030](#)

[POSICIÓN - REFORZAR EL PAPEL DE LA BIOMASA AGRÍCOLA Y FORESTAL EN TODOS LOS SECTORES DE LA BIOENERGÍA PARA CONSEGUIR LOS OBJETIVOS ENERGÉTICOS DE LA UE EN 2030](#)

[Stellungnahme zum Vorschlag für eine Richtlinie zur Förderung der Nutzung von Energie aus erneuerbaren Quellen nach 2020 \(COM\(2016\)767 final\) und zu Artikel 11 des Vorschlags für eine Verordnung zum Elektrizitätsbinnenmarkt \(COM\(2016\)861 final\)](#)

[POSIZIONE DEL COPA E DELLA COGECA SULLA PROPOSTA DELLA COMMISSIONE PER UNA DIRETTIVA RELATIVA ALLA PROMOZIONE DELL'UTILIZZO DI FONTI DI ENERGIA RINNOVABILE POST 2020 \(COM\(2016\)767 DEF.\)](#)

[PRISE DE POSITION SUR LA PROPOSITION DE DIRECTIVE RELATIVE À LA PROMOTION DE L'UTILISATION DES SOURCES D'ÉNERGIE RENOUVELABLES APRÈS 2020 \(COM \(2016\)767\)FINAL\)](#)

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