

14/6/18

Press Release

Copa and Cogeca outline views on agreement reached on EU renewable energy policy post-2020

Reacting to the agreement struck in the trilogue talks on the updated EU renewable energy policy post 2020, Copa and Cogeca believe that it goes in the right direction for a long term stable policy but there are still points of concern.

Copa and Cogeca Secretary-General Pekka Pesonen stressed “The compromise deal gives a positive signal. It is good news that the EU will have an overall target for renewable energy of 32% and a binding blending obligation on fuel suppliers of at least 14%, without technological restrictions, and that the maximum accountable share for crop-based biofuels used in transport will be maintained at 7% until 2030. It will give our biofuel producers a long term stable framework to work with”.

“We regret however that EU crop-based biofuels will not have the opportunity to expand because the phasing out of the use of palm oil has been postponed, especially since EU crop-based biofuels generate protein rich co-products for use in feed which livestock producers need. They also play a bigger role in stabilising agricultural markets facing increasing volatility. It is disappointing too that the Directive still contains artificial multipliers which gives the wrong impression of the true environmental impact”, warned Pesonen.

For forest bioenergy, it is good news that the Directive takes account of existing legislation on forests and forest management in the EU and in Member States. “We need to make sure that implementation of the updated Directive will ensure stability for current and planned investments and simplification both at EU and national level. We are disappointed that Member States have the possibility to include additional sustainability requirements for forest bioenergy”, said Pesonen

The decision is also not consistent with other policy areas like the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) as biofuel production plays a crucial role in providing farmers with an additional source of income and stabilizing agricultural commodity markets.

For further information, please contact:

Dominique Dejonckheere

Senior policy advisor

Tel.: +32 2 287 27 30

Dominique.Dejonckheere@copa-cogeca.eu

Amanda Cheesley

Press Officer

Mobile: + 32 474 840 836

amanda.cheesley@copa-cogeca.eu

CDP(18)4756:1
