

Press Release



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SUBJECT: Presidency Conclusions Brussels European Council

eBIO: “Great news for the EU bioethanol industry”

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Today the European Council endorsed the policy proposal of the European Commission that there should be at least a 10% share of biofuels in all road transport fuel by 2020 in all EU Member States. The binding nature of the target has also been confirmed. “This is the best news in years for the industry” said Ramón de Miguel, President of eBIO, after reading the conclusions.

This decision means that biofuel use in Europe finally has reached the point of no return. According to Mr. de Miguel the European Council has demonstrated courage, vision and leadership by showing the world what is the right way forward to combat climate change and bring down substantially GHG emissions from road transport.

For the EU bioethanol industry the Council’s position will end a period of uncertainty on the future of this still nascent industry. The new target will make many announced projects feasible. It will also trigger new investments in demonstration plants for more cost-efficient production of bioethanol that at the same time will contribute to better GHG performance of this green fuel.

The Council has now asked the Commission to present this year a proposal for a new comprehensive renewable energy Directive.

eBIO is hoping that the Commission will present a proposal as soon as possible and, above all, will seriously consider to write into the Directive proposal an interim target for 2015 helping the industry to plan the investments needed to achieve the 2020 10% target.

At the same time it is crucially important that the European regulators will adopt coherent legislation. eBIO strongly advocates a Directive on fuel quality that will not be an obstacle into the achievement of the 10% target.

eBIO is a non-profit European industry association under Belgium law. It is fostering bioethanol fuel production and use in the EU as well as advocating the proper legal and regulatory framework. eBIO was Founded in May 2005 and has 33 members.

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