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Results of the on-line website

DG TREN “Questionnaire”

ASSESSMENT OF THE RESPONSES TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE ON THE EU BIOMASS ACTION PLAN

http://europa.eu.int/comm/energy/res/biomass_action_plan/index_en.htm

Boyan Kavalov, Stathis D. Peteves

European Commission

Directorate-General Joint Research Centre

Institute for Energy

Sustainable Energy Technologies Reference and Information System (SETRIS)

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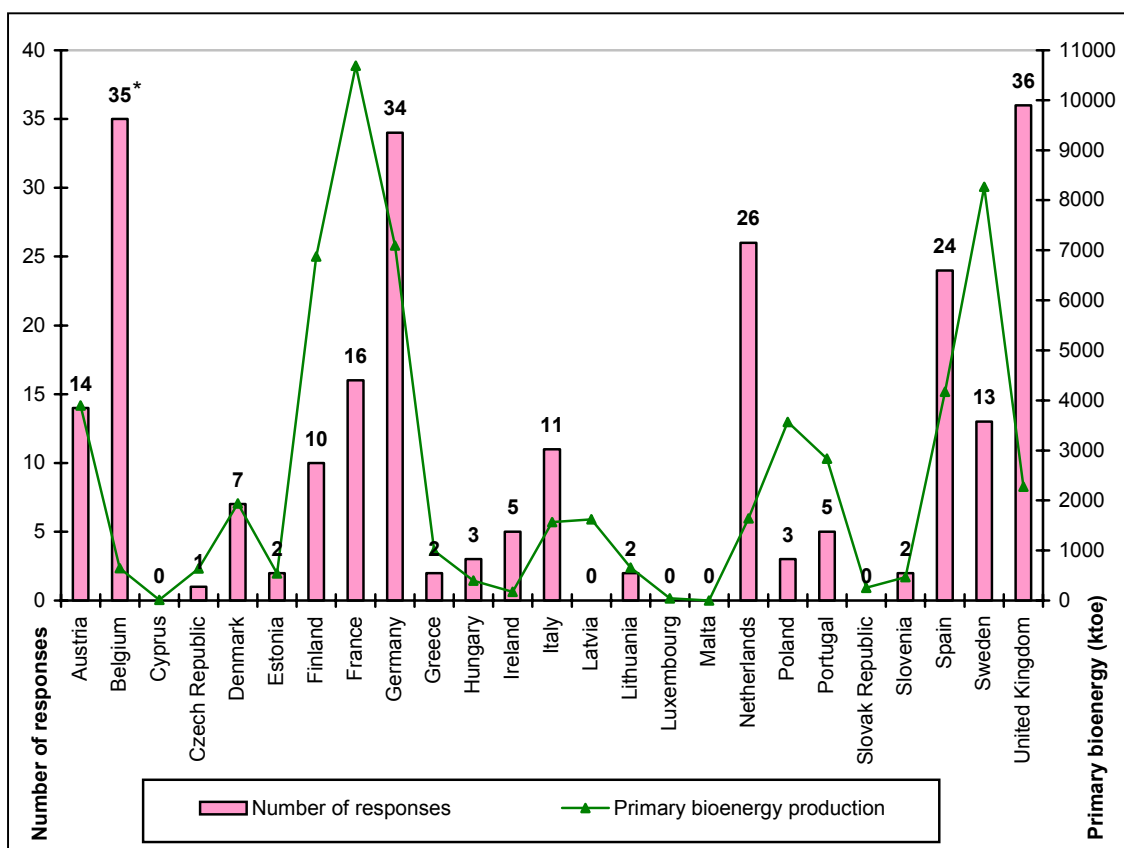
INTRODUCTION

This report analyses the replies to the “Biomass Action Plan“ Questionnaire, which was placed at the web site of the Directorate-General for Energy and Transport and accessible to all public from 02 February 2005 until 31 March 2005.

1. STATISTICAL PART

262 stakeholders in total responded to the questionnaire. 251 of them (96%) originated from the EU-25. The remaining 11 responses came from Benin (1), British Virgin Islands (1), Croatia (1), Romania (1), Switzerland (3), Ukraine (1) and USA (3). The breakdown of responding stakeholders by EU member states is given in Figure 1.

Figure 1
Number of stakeholders responding to the questionnaire by EU member states juxtaposed to the absolute primary bioenergy production (in ktoe) by countries in 2002¹



¹ All figures for bioenergy production in this analysis are taken from EUROSTAT, “ENERGY: Yearly statistics data 2002”, Office for Official Publication of the European Communities, Luxembourg, 2004.

* The great majority of the responses assigned to Belgium come from branch associations, NGOs and special interest groups that are based in Brussels.

Figure 1 indicates that 62% (155) of the responses from the EU-25 came from 5 countries (Belgium, Germany, Netherlands, Spain and the U.K.), which account for 26% of the EU primary bioenergy production. In a broader context, the great majority of responses – 219, equal to 87% of all EU-25 responses, came from 10 member states, all of them amongst the EU-15 (Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and the U.K.), accounting for 77% of primary bioenergy production in EU-25. Respectively, the response rate of the 10 new member states of the EU (NMS-10) was relatively low (5.2% of all replies from EU-25), compared to their share in bioenergy production of EU-25 (13.3% in 2002). In this context, no responses were received from 5 EU member states: 4 from NMS-10 (Cyprus, Latvia, Malta and Slovak Republic) and just 1 from EU-15 (Luxembourg). The following additional conclusions can be summarised from Figure 1:

- ✓ Few responses have been received from countries with negligible or no penetration of bioenergy.
- ✓ Few responses have been also received from countries with large penetration of bioenergy. This might indicate that the stakeholders in these countries do not face big obstacles in the implementation of bioenergy and hence, they have shown little interest in the EU biomass action plan initiative.
- ✓ The largest number of responses came from countries, where recently bioenergy has become a topical issue and/or where it experienced a significant marginal growth.
- ✓ The language factor was a key determinant for getting or not responses from different countries. The highest number of responses came from the U.K., Belgium (from international organisations) and the Netherlands. Extremely long recommendations were received from the U.K. A relatively high response rate (compared to national bioenergy production) was also assigned to Ireland.

Figure 2 presents the breakdown of stakeholders from the EU-25, who responded to the questionnaire by type of company / institution. It can be seen that the majority of respondents (166 or 66%) were from non-profit organisations and commercial SMEs.

Figure 2
Number of stakeholders from EU-25 responding to the questionnaire by type of company / institution

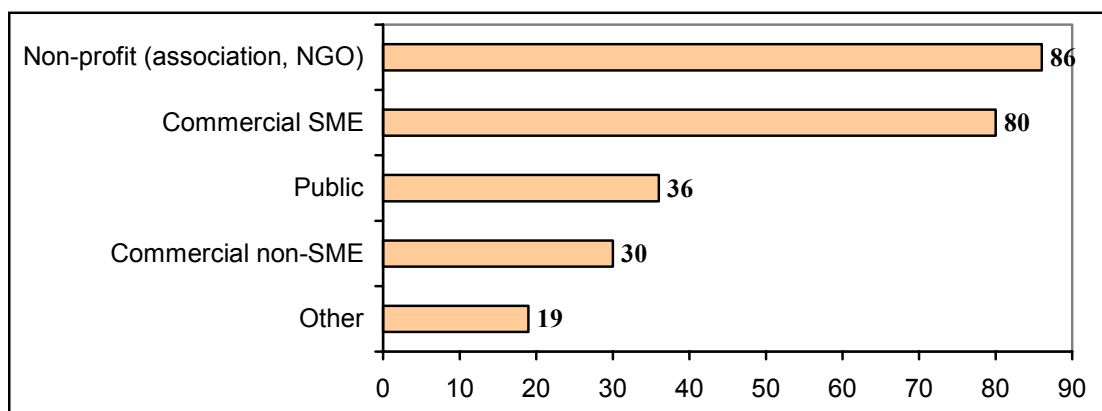


Figure 3 shows the breakdown of activities quoted by the respondents from EU-25. It suggests that most stakeholders came from fields, which were in a way or another closely or directly involved in, related to or affected by the elaboration and implementation of (bio)energy policies.

Figure 3
Number of activities quoted by the respondents from EU-25 (816 activities in total)²

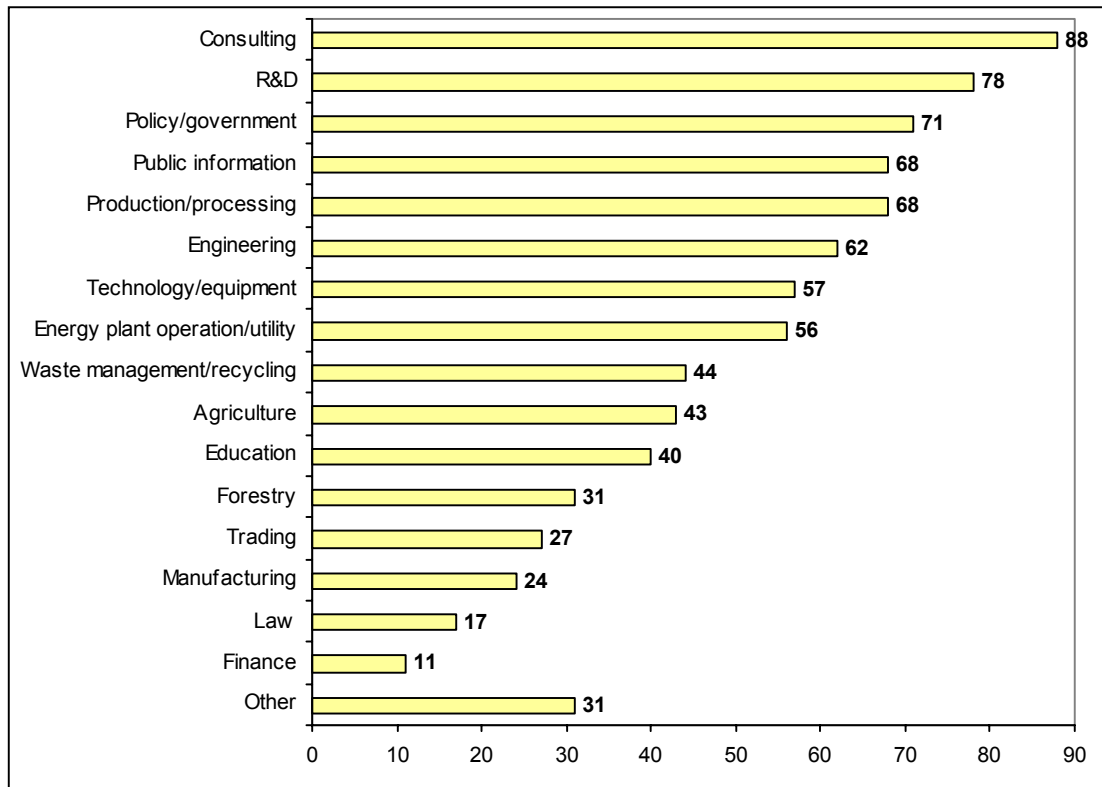
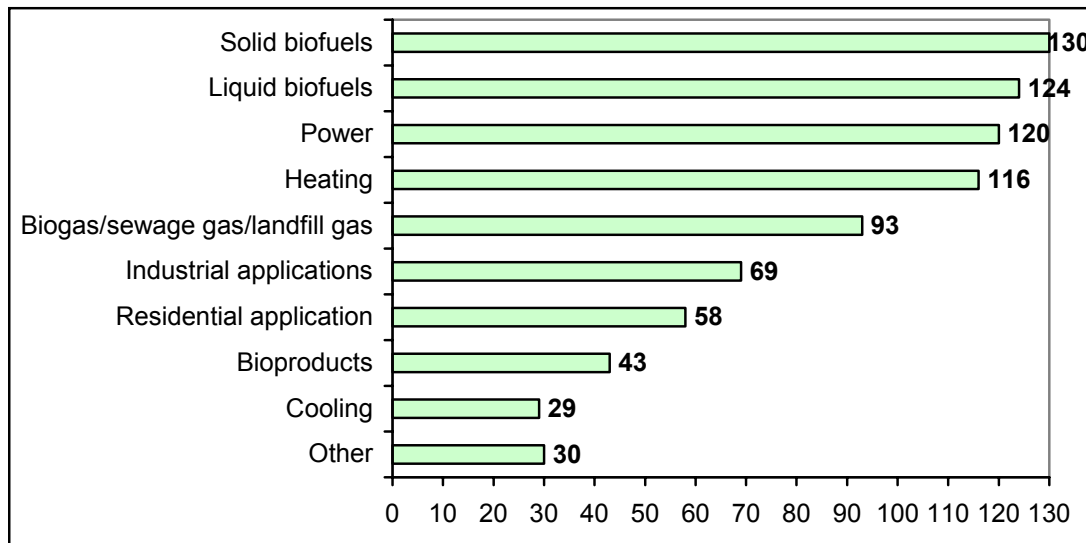


Figure 4 presents the breakdown of bioenergy markets/applications in which stakeholders from EU-25 are active. Most stakeholders identified themselves with fuels or technologies rather than with applications.

In total, 1300 recommendations for important activities to support biomass/bio-energy markets/applications were received from both EU and non-EU countries. This was equally split up (650/650) between recommendations at EU level and at member states level.

² The total number of activities exceeds the total number of responses, since the respondents have had the possibility to select more than one activity.

Figure 4
Number of applications quoted by the respondents from EU-25



2. LIMITATIONS IN THE ANALYTICAL PART

The following limitations were considered in the course of analysing the responses and the recommendations:

- ✓ The recommendations were analysed as received, i.e. assessing the soundness of the proposed measures in detail was not performed.
- ✓ Identical responses or recommendations from the same person or from the same organisation were considered as a single response or recommendation.
- ✓ Responses or recommendations from different persons from different branches of the same organisation were considered as separate responses or recommendations.
- ✓ Multi-section recommendations (spreading the recommendation over more than 1 field of the questionnaire or suggesting the same measure in more than 1 field of the questionnaire³) were considered as a single recommendation.
- ✓ Multiple responses or recommendations with *exactly* the same wording sent by different stakeholders were considered as a single response or recommendation.
- ✓ The following recommendations were not considered: general broad recommendations not linked to the subject of the Biomass Action Plan; publicity and advertising type of recommendations, including references to workshops, reports, articles, etc.; recommendations for measures, which have been already implemented; unclear recommendations; recommendations, which did not apply to the EU; recommendations at member states level which addressed country(ies) other than the country of origin of the respondent; recommendations at member states level from non-EU countries;

³ The Questionnaire template allowed the respondents to give (fill) up to 6 recommendations (fields) in total – 3 at EU level and 3 at member states level.

3. ANALYTICAL PART

3.1. At EU level

Out of totally 650 recommendations at EU level received both from EU and non-EU countries, 174 (27%) were not considered. From the remaining 476 recommendations, 538 proposals were extracted⁴. 36 proposals from the member states part of the questionnaire, which were made by international organisation, NGOs and special interest groups, were also taken aboard the EU level section. Hence, **the total number of proposals at EU level came up to 574.**

Table 1 summarises the 547 (95% of all considered proposals) most important measures at EU level, proposed by the respondents, ranked by frequency of quotation, while a more detailed description of the proposed measures is enclosed hereinafter.

Table 1
Summary of the proposed most important measures at EU level

Area	Frequency	Proposal
Fiscal measures	53	Consider external costs of fossil fuels and benefits of bioenergy in the price formulation, link bioenergy to CO2 trading
Standardisation	51	Harmonise quality standards for bioenergy products and amend, where necessary, existing quality & application standards according to the properties of bioenergy products
Renewable heat	49	Promote bioheat e.g. via a renewable heat directive
Information / communication	47	Rise awareness about benefits of bioenergy, exchange information
Agricultural policy	47	Amend CAP regulations, which are seen as a major barrier for bioenergy growth
Technology development	45	Increase R&D funding for bioenergy technologies
Co-firing and co-generation	39	Promote / set up mandatory share(s) of biomass co-firing with coal, especially in co-generation of power and heat
Trade regulations	38	Harmonise bioenergy trade regulations at EU level and create an EU bioenergy market
Long-term policies	31	Stability and long-term perspective of bioenergy support policies, harmonise policy goals and support schemes
Biomass resource	30	Promote the energy, environmental and cost efficient use of the available bio-resource
Waste definition	28	Integration of the EU waste and renewable energy policies, clarify the definition of biowaste

⁴ Some recommendations contained more than one proposal, thus the number of proposals exceeds the number of recommendations.

Biofuels for transport	25	Transform the indicative shares for transport biofuels into mandatory
Biogas	25	Define targets for biogas
Bioenergy imports	20	Limit bioenergy imports to the EU, especially those of biofuels
Implementation	19	Quickly and fully implement at national level the EU directives, targeting at the promotion of bioenergy

Consider external costs of fossil fuels and benefits of bioenergy in the price formulation, link bioenergy to CO2 trading (53 proposals). A more complete consideration of external costs of fossil fuels (including harmonisation of fossil fuel prices across EU member states) and benefits of bioenergy will foster market penetration of the latter. Various CO2 avoidance mechanisms – CO2 trading schemes, carbon credits, green certificates, etc. are seen as particularly promising to promote bioenergy.

Harmonise quality standards for bioenergy products and amend, where necessary, existing quality & application standards according to the properties of bioenergy products (51 proposals). Common quality standards at EU level are still missing for a range of bioenergy products. The lack of such standards significantly prevents the development of bioenergy trade. The majority of the existing quality and application standards are also designed with regard to the properties of fossil fuels and their application technologies, which actually prevents the use of bioenergy products. Urgent establishment / adjustment of EU standards is particularly needed for solid biofuels and transport biofuels.

Promote bioheat e.g. via a renewable heat directive (49 proposals). Unlike bioelectricity and biofuels, regulatory incentives at EU level targeting at the promotion of bioheat are still missing. The implementation of such support will foster the development of the internal heat market and of bioenergy trading. A feasible tool for supporting bioheat can be the implementation of a renewable heat directive, setting up mandatory (but not indicative!) targets on a country-by-country basis by 2020, which targets take into account the available resources and the capacity already in place. Renewable cooling can be also considered in such a directive.

Rise awareness about benefits of bioenergy, exchange information (47 proposals). Create a bioenergy technology platform, split up by applications & fuels. Extend and strengthen European Research Area and Network of Excellence. Support information exchange about major successful projects and about the implementation of EU directives in different member states. Increase the number of educational and training activities about the advantages of bioenergy, e.g. by EU biomass centres in each member state. Improve the quantity and quality of information flow.

Amend CAP regulations, which are seen as a major barrier for bioenergy growth (47 proposals). It is proposed the support for short-rotation forestry and herbaceous energy crops to be increased, mainly in terms of increasing the size of the supported land area. This will also earn synergy benefits in other sectors – environment (CO2 reduction) and regional (rural) development.

Increase R&D funding for bioenergy technologies (45 proposals), in particular for novel feedstocks and processing technologies – energy crops, ligno-cellulosic ethanol, biomass gasification, small-scale CHP facilities, etc. Increase support for demonstration projects.

Promote / set up mandatory share(s) of biomass co-firing with coal, especially in co-generation of power and heat (39 proposals). Combined combustion of biomass with coal is the easiest and cheapest way of introducing biomass in power and heat generation. Particular emphasis has to be given on biomass co-firing in co-generation units of power and heat, owing to the high energy efficiency of co-generating units. As a first step, this can be achieved via amending or complementing the co-generation directive 2004/8/EC, where gradually increasing shares of biomass (co-fired) fraction can be incorporated.

Harmonise bioenergy trade regulations at EU level and create an EU bioenergy market (38 proposals). The lack of coherent trade framework at EU level for bio-feedstocks, solid biofuels, transport biofuels, bioelectricity, etc., similar to that for fossil fuels, is the major reason for the lack of well-functioning bioenergy market in the EU. Thus, bioenergy trade is often inefficient or blocked by artificial barriers, which respectively hinder the growth in bioenergy. Establishing a coherent trade framework will allow the creation of bioenergy exchange by brands with high liquidity and of bioenergy infrastructure that is currently missing.

Stability and long-term perspective of bioenergy support policies, harmonise policy goals and support schemes (31 proposals). Developing a new industry like the bioenergy one requires substantial investments over a long period of time. The stability and the long-term predictability of the bioenergy supporting policies is a decisive factor for investors. Hence, the validity of the directives, which promote bioenergy, has to be extended up to 2020-2030. A clear European vision on bioenergy is also needed i.e. which are the priorities, but not “everything is priority”. This vision has to take into account other policies and policy goals related to bioenergy, e.g. such on environment, agriculture, regional development, etc., in order to get a coherent and stable policy framework, giving clear messages to investors. This also means not to over-flood the market with too many regulations. Thus, before proposing a new directive, it is better first to estimate the impact and the potential of the existing policy measures.

Promote the energy, environmental and cost *efficient* use of the available bio-resource (30 proposals). The support for bioenergy has to concentrate on the optimum bioenergy chains, which earn largest energy, environmental and cost benefits, rather than to support everything. An assessment system with clear criteria has to be created. Such criteria can be: high energy and cost efficiency, large GHG savings, no generation of waste, soil and water protection. Owing to country specifics, the optimisation of biomass applications should be done on a country-by-country basis, but not at EU level.

Integration of the EU waste and renewable energy policies, clarify the definition of biowaste (28 proposals). Current definition of biowaste creates complications. Clearer and simpler definitions for what is waste and what is fuel, with respective impact on the

associated regulations, are needed. This implies integrated approach of energy and waste policies. The recovery of energy from biowaste should not be considered as waste incineration i.e. the residues from forestry, agriculture and the households sector, which are appropriate for energy application, to be considered as fuels, not as waste.

Define targets for biogas (25 proposals). Similar to bioheat, biogas appears to be also missing a strong support at EU level. It might be appropriate to establish a wide target for biogas in renewable energy production. As first steps, mandatory share(s) of renewable electricity from biogas can be set up. The synergies with the natural gas distribution network and appliances should be exploited (e.g. via feed-in tariffs), however upon standardisation of biogas quality. This will earn also benefits by reducing land filling.

Transform the indicative shares for transport biofuels into mandatory (25 proposals). It is perceived that the indicative targets of the biofuel directive 2003/30/EC are not sufficient to ensure market penetration of biofuels. Hence, it is proposed the indicative targets to be transformed into mandatory. In a broader context, it is believed that indicative targets for bioenergy have little impact. However, one has to be careful with a wider establishment of mandatory shares, since they tend to distort the market.

Limit bioenergy imports to the EU (20 proposals). In order to secure the development of the emerging bioenergy industry in the EU, the imports of bioenergy products from non-EU countries should be controlled e.g. via maximum imports volumes and/or import duties. This is particularly relevant for the imports of ethanol, for which larger supply at lower cost (compared to the EU) is available through import.

Quickly and fully implement at national level the EU directives, targeting at the promotion of bioenergy (19 proposals). The slow or partial implementation at national level of EU regulatory acts that promote bioenergy is seen as a major reason for the delayed growth of bioenergy in the EU member states.

In addition to the above proposals, other 27 proposals were also considered, which had however a much lower factor of frequency:

- ✓ Strengthen cooperation with non-EU stakeholders (7 proposals), in particular with those, which are well advanced in specific bioenergy technologies, e.g. Brazil and USA, as well as with international organisations, e.g. IEA.
- ✓ Enhance the direct support of state authorities to bioenergy (5 proposals) via promoting bioenergy use for their own purposes – in public buildings, public transport, etc.
- ✓ Stronger financial support to bioenergy through European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and structural funds (4 proposals)
- ✓ National biomass action plans in the EU member states (3 proposals)
- ✓ Ensure grid connection for small producers of bioelectricity (2 proposals)
- ✓ Exclude the genetically-modified organisms (GMO) from the energy crop support schemes (2 proposals)
- ✓ Give fuel ethanol its own CN number to distinct it from potable alcohol and chemical feedstock (1 proposal)

- ✓ Speed up and simplify the administrative procedures in the member states to launch bioenergy activities, e.g. faster issuance of certificates, permits, etc. (1 proposal)
- ✓ Consider ethyl-esters (fatty acid ethyl esters) as biofuel /biodiesel/ (1 proposal)
- ✓ Consider the impact of an increased biodiesel production on the glycerine and sorbitol markets in the EU (1 proposal).

3.2. At member states' level

Out of totally 650 recommendations at member states level received both from EU and non-EU countries, 543 proposals were formulated. The lower number of proposals compared to the number of recommendations is due to ignorance or aggregation of proposals, according to the criteria stated in section 2, which indeed were mainly applied to the member states section. The cases of multi-section recommendations (spreading the recommendation over more than 1 field of the questionnaire or suggesting the same measure in more than 1 field of the questionnaire) and multiple recommendations with *exactly* the same wording sent by different stakeholders were particularly frequent.

From these 543 proposals, 428 (79%) were considered, 79 (14%) were ignored and 36 (7%), which came from international organisation, were moved to the EU part of the analysis. Besides the reasons for ignoring / aggregating proposals from section 2, which were more widely applied to the member states section than to the EU section, the lower number of considered proposals at member states level compared to that at EU level (428 versus 574) appears to be due to the scope of the questionnaire – formulating a Biomass Action Plan at EU level, rather than at national levels.

Besides the remark in the EU section about the full and complete implementation at national level of the EU directives, targeting at the promotion of bioenergy, the following 5 most important measures to boost bioenergy growth in the EU member states, based on the received recommendations, can be roughly formulated:

- ✓ Long-term stable bioenergy vision and regulatory mechanisms;
- ✓ Preferential tax treatment of bioenergy products and applications;
- ✓ Simplification of administrative procedures;
- ✓ Increase awareness and dissemination activities, along with R&D;
- ✓ Full and complete utilisation of all available bio-resources, of the reserves to increase biomass availability and respectively – to increase bioenergy applications;

A more detailed description of the suggested priority measures on a country-by-country basis is enclosed below.

3.2.1. Austria

26 proposals considered, 2 proposals ignored: Guaranteed feed-in tariffs for green electricity for 20 years, in particular from co-generation units /now the tariffs change too often/ (9)⁵; National bioenergy action plan/programme with emphasis on CO₂ reduction, with climate goals for electricity, heat and transport biofuels (6); Support R&D for new biofuels & conversion technologies, e.g. biogas, biofuels from ligno-cellulosic material

⁵ Frequency of the proposed measure

(4); Promote energy crops e.g. with agricultural subsidies (3); Support biogas (2); Define a sub-target for electricity from animal manure and sewage sludge, accept animal manure and sewage sludge for co-firing (2);

3.2.2. Belgium

17 proposals considered, 8 proposals ignored: Simplify administrative & certification procedures for Green Certificates or similar tools, stability and long-term vision of the regulatory frameworks (9); Rise public awareness (3); Standardisation of bioenergy products (solid recovered fuel) (2); Exchange of green certificates between regions (1); Promote bioheat e.g. via Heat Energy Certificates (1); Biogas production from larger number of feed-stocks in agricultural farms (1);

3.2.3. Czech Republic

1 proposal considered, 2 proposals ignored: Adjust the energy taxation according to the external costs of fossil fuels and benefits of bioenergy (1);

3.2.4. Denmark

6 proposals considered, 2 proposals ignored: Tax incentives for bioelectricity, which take into account the advantages of bioenergy and external costs of fossil fuels e.g. feed-in tariffs (3); Allow the use of animal manure and fats as fuels for electricity & steam generation (2); Develop incentives for transport biofuels (1);

3.2.5. Estonia

5 proposals considered: Long-term bioenergy policy – green electricity, feed-in tariffs, promote decentralised power generation (1); Promote R&D (1); Establish a programme for energy-independent farms – wood and straw heating, electricity from biogas and pure plant oil for agricultural engines (1); Promote biomass co-firing with coal (1); National standards for wood pellets (1);

3.2.6. Finland

12 proposals considered: Further support (including R&D and dissemination activities) for forest residues supply chains, especially for small-scale pelletising (4); Preferential bioelectricity feed-in tariffs for small /1-5 MW/ CHP plants (3); Maintain existing support policies (2); Secure peat competitiveness, especially with regard to co-combustion with coal (2); Promote transport biofuels (1);

3.2.7. France

26 proposals considered, 2 proposals ignored: Increase the bioelectricity support price for small (<12 MWe) and medium-scale producers (<20 MWe) from current 49-60 EUR/MWh to 86-100 EUR/MWh, especially from CHP, green certificates trading, secure grid connection (9); Promote best practice, education and information campaigns (5); Biogas promotion and standardisation (3); Remove the excise duty on pure plant oil (2); Optimise biomass transportation (2); Reduced VAT charge for heat networks on biomass (2); Elaborate national biomass action plan (1); Consider wood waste as a fuel, not as waste (1); Review the potential of energy crops (1);

3.2.8. Germany

44 proposals considered, 13 proposals ignored: Clarify the definition of biowaste /consider it as a fuel, not as waste/ and extend the support for green electricity also to that generated from biowaste (9); Improve the information exchange, create a database of bio-resource availability by regions, promote R&D (9); Promote bioheat, especially at a low scale and from CHP, introduce heat feed-in tariffs (8); Standardisation and simplification of administrative /permission/ procedures, coherence and stability in regulatory acts and supporting incentives, e.g. tax exemptions, feed-in tariffs, prolong the tax exemption for biofuels beyond 2009, no reduction of the incentives for bioelectricity from wood for plants put in operation after 30.06.2005 (8); Implement CO2 trading and link it to bioenergy (2); Permit biogas feeding in the natural gas network, increase biogas use for electricity (2); Fuel public vehicles with biofuels (2); Introduce flexi-fuel vehicles (2); Clarify priorities in bioenergy (1); Extra bonus for bioelectricity from CHP (1);

3.2.9. Greece

4 proposals considered: Tax incentives for electricity generation from solid biomass and bio-waste and for biofuels (1); Investigate and support the development of supply chains for energy crops (1); Promote bioheating in residential and agriculture sectors, synergies between bioheating and solar heating (1); Promote biomass co-firing (1);

3.2.10. Hungary

4 proposals considered, 2 proposals ignored: Define the role of bioenergy in the national energy system (1); Support biomass use in power and heat generation with green certificates-like system (1); Identify suitable energy crops and land areas for their cultivation, and promote their cultivation (1); Strengthen and unite the bioenergy R&D potential (1);

3.2.11. Ireland

21 proposals considered, 2 proposals ignored: Increase supporting prices for green electricity (5); Reduce excise duty for biofuels for at least 5 years and define national biofuel targets (5); Promote bioenergy in CHP (2); Support biogas for electricity (2); Increase and optimise R&D spending (2); Simplify the procedures for bioenergy grants (1); Promote biomass co-firing with peat and coal (1); Introduce carbon credits for bioenergy (1); Develop national database on bioenergy (1); Reform agriculture to support bioenergy (1);

3.2.12. Italy

30 proposals considered, 5 proposals ignored: Exploit synergies with agriculture to increase biomass supply (6); Promote bioenergy in mountain regions /prevents forest fires, contributes to rural development/ (4); Preferential funding for SME (4); Increase awareness and exchange of information (4); Develop bioenergy market (3); Promote CHP and bioheating (3); R&D for new biofuels (2); Adjusting the regulation what is waste and what is fuel (1); Improve biomass & waste collection (1); Specific legislation for biogas (1); Increase biodiesel quota and biodiesel blending share (1);

3.2.13. Lithuania

4 proposals considered: Financial support for bioenergy from SME (1); Standardise solid biofuels and promote their application in district heating (1); Develop energy crops (1); Get information about market introduction of liquid biofuels from other EU countries (1);

3.2.14. Netherlands

35 proposals considered, 7 proposals ignored: More active institutional involvement and support for bioenergy, especially from residues; simplify procedures; select technologies to be supported (12); Promote CHP run on residues and manure, with emphasis on using bioheat (6); Stimulate small-scale bioenergy production, including residues from forestry and agriculture (6); Tax exemption for transport biofuels /at least for 10 years/ (6); R&D for residues, pilot plants (2); Raise the awareness about benefits from bioenergy (2); Prevent biofuel imports (1);

3.2.15. Poland

8 proposals considered: Create/stimulate bioenergy market (3); Tax incentives for energy crops, including under CAP (2); Promote bioheat (1); No tax for solid biofuels (1); Clear commitment to promote biofuels for transport (1);

3.2.16. Portugal

12 proposals considered: Support local bioenergy production via tax incentives, including the purchase of machinery (4); Create national bioenergy market (2); Promote sustainable forestry /consider fire risks/ (2); R&D for fuels and technologies (2); Clearer direction of legislative plans and measures (1); Support decentralised power & heat generation from biomass (1);

3.2.17. Slovenia

5 proposals considered: Reduce costs of bioenergy application (2); Increase awareness and information exchange (2); Promote bioheating (1);

3.2.18. Spain

53 proposals considered, 12 proposals ignored: Promote collection of bio-residues from forestry, agriculture and households (10); Stability of and long-term clear vision for tax incentives for bioenergy upon consultations with industry (7); Increase feed-in tariffs for bioelectricity up to and above the average EU levels, since biomass is more expensive in Spain (7); Rising awareness about bioenergy (5); Coordinate policies (4); Promote energy efficient use of biomass – establish evaluation committee(s) (3); Mandatory blending of biofuels with petrol and diesel (3); Promote energy crops (3); Support R&D in biofuels (2); Support bioheat and CHP (2); Limit biofuel imports (1); Promote biomass co-firing with coal (1); Speed up administrative procedures (1); Subsidise machinery for feedstock processing (1); Guarantee access to the grid for small power producers (1); Consider big power plants in bioelectricity schemes (1); Establish an agency to deal with bio-resources for electricity (1);

3.2.19. Sweden

16 proposals considered, 8 proposals ignored: Mandatory blending of biofuels with fossil fuels, increase blending limits (3); Increase awareness about and education in bioenergy (3); Limit bioethanol imports (2); Promote CHP (2); Promote biogas as a transport fuel (1); Extend the biogas development programme beyond 2006 (1); Promote energy crops (1); Support R&D in BTL fuels and hydrolysis ethanol (1); Prolong the validity of green certificates beyond 2010 (1); Promote bioheat, including with RES heat certificates (1);

3.2.20. United Kingdom

99 proposals considered, 14 proposals ignored: Promote bioheat and small-scale CHP via bioheat renewable obligation certificates (17); Simplify and harmonise the administrative (renewables obligations), tax and funding procedures and regulations (12); Bio-residues from forestry, agriculture and other similar sectors not to be considered as waste, but as fuels (12); Consider external costs of fossil fuels and the advantages of bioenergy /energy saving, CO2 credits and trading/ (8); Promote energy crops cultivation nearby power and heating plants (7); Rising awareness, public authorities to use bioenergy (7); Support the development of bioenergy technologies e.g. via capital grants for processing facilities (7); No or lower excise duty for transport biofuels, extended in time (6); Establish, support and optimise supply chains, with particular attention to vegetable & animal residues (6); Standardisation of bioenergy fuels and technologies (5); Mandatory targets & blending shares for biofuels, introduction of transport biofuels renewable certificates (4); Drop the duty on pure plant oil (4); Promote biomass co-firing with coal, increase biomass co-firing fraction (3); Open the natural gas transmission grid to biogas (1);