

EBB

European Biodiesel Board

Boulevard Saint Michel, 34 - 1040 Bruxelles
Tel: +32 (0)2 763 24 77 - Fax: +32 (0)2 763 04 57
E-mail: info@ebb-eu.org - Website: www.ebb-eu.org

345/COM/13

April 11th, 2013

EBB PRESS RELEASE

THE EUROPEAN INDUSTRY WELCOMES COMMISSION DECISION ON REGISTRATION OF IMPORTS FROM ARGENTINA AND INDONESIA

The European Commission published today a Regulation making Argentine and Indonesian biodiesel imports subject to registration in frame of an anti-subsidy complaint. This decision supports the arguments drawn by European biodiesel industry that policy-based Differential Export Taxes play a distortive role in International trade.

In reaction to damaging imports of biodiesel from Argentina and Indonesia supported by Differential Export Taxes (DETs) policy, the European Biodiesel Board (EBB) launched both an anti-dumping and an anti-subsidy complaint in 2012. These initiatives were coupled with a request for registration of imports in order to ensure that flows would be considered in defining potential duties.

The Commission Regulation indicates that it has at its disposal sufficient *prima facie* evidence that imports of the product concerned from the countries are being subsidised through a system of Differential Export Taxes.

The EC Commission is clearly recognising that in the anti- subsidy complaint the Union industry, represented by EBB, provided evidence that the product concerned is being subsidised in both countries concerned through a system of Differential Export Taxation. In both countries concerned an export tax is charged on the raw material, at rates which are higher than those charged on the export of biodiesel. This approach effectively obliges the producers of the raw material to sell on the domestic market, thus depressing prices and artificially reducing the costs of the biodiesel producers.

"After registration of imports for anti-dumping, decided last January, 28, this further move of the Commission recognises that there is enough prima facie evidence of the distortive effect of DETs and of the injury suffered by European industry due to unfair imports of Argentine and Indonesian biodiesel", said today Raffaello Garofalo – EBB Secretary General.

With respect to blends, importers are now required, by the Regulation published today, to indicate to customs the proportion of the total content of biodiesel in the blends, for subsequent registration. The registration measures will remain in force for the next 9 months, meanwhile investigations will continue in the next weeks to establish provisional and definitive duties against both dumped and subsidised imports from these two countries.

"We are now expecting the outcome of investigations for both anti-dumping and anti-subsidy with potential provisional measures as early as May 2013", explains Mr Garofalo. EBB intends to oppose any attempts to undermine fair International trade of sustainable biodiesel. *"Biodiesel is a cornerstone for Europe's green economy, guaranteeing sustainable alternatives to fossil fuels, while also supporting European employment for up to hundred thousand of EU jobs."*