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EBB Press Release

EU Heads of States underline the need to promote renewable fuels in transport also after 2020

















The European Council has defined last night long-term perspectives confirming a growing need to promote the use of renewable fuels after 2020. This is setting a new long-term perspective for GHG emission reduction in transport and sustainable biodiesel development.

The European Biodiesel Board (EBB), representing the major biofuels producing industry in the EU, applauds the European Heads of State's decision to confirm specific ambitious GHG emission reduction and renewable fuels targets in transport after 2020. Such a move supports the European Parliament's request to support specific action on EU transport.

Heads of State also invited the Commission "to further examine instruments and measures for a comprehensive and technology neutral approach" on EU renewable transport, indicating that EU policy on how to include Land Use Change should be considered only in the 2030 greenhouse gas mitigation framework. They also acknowledged that such land use legislation is today premature since they it will need to be established only "as soon as technical conditions allow" and Land Use models might deliver less uncertain results than today.

Such incertitude on Land Change were confirmed amid Council talks, yesterday, by the international scientific community during a major workshop on co-hosted by IEA - European Commission. Experts expressed the overwhelming sentiment that today Land Use effects *are "visible" only through econometric modelisation* and that the technical conditions are still far from a consistent modelling on Land Use Change.

In this frame EBB calls on the newly appointed Commission to rapidly re-consider its legislative perspective and vision on ILUC, based on yesterday's European Council conclusions and on new scientific findings.

Note to editors:

European Biodiesel Board (EBB) is a non-profit organisation established in January 1997. Today, EBB gathers nearly 80 members across 21 Member-States, which represents 75% of the European output. Biodiesel is the main European solution to reduce emissions from transport and dependence on imported oil. EBB aims to promote the use of biodiesel in the European Union and is committed to fulfil the International standards for sustainability in GHG emissions and sustainable feedstock. EBB is constantly working towards the development of improved and greener technologies.