

# The EU transport climate objectives can only be met with more sustainable biodiesel

European biodiesel producers publish their contribution to FF55 debate

**BRUSSELS, 2 February 2022:** the European Biodiesel Board (EBB), gathering European producers of biodiesel (FAME & HVO) from all types of sustainable feedstocks, is publishing its High-Level Position Paper on the Fit for 55 legislative package <sup>(1)</sup>.

As discussions on the proposed Fit for 55 (FF55) package progress in Brussels, the latest UN IPCC report on Climate Change <sup>(2)</sup> reinforced the need for the EU to put in place the policies that will allow it to meet its climate ambitions. *“The EBB welcomes the scale and ambition of the European Commission’s FF55 package. As European producers of sustainable biodiesel, we are convinced that biodiesel is key to effectively decarbonising all transport modes, especially in new sectors like the heavy-duty, maritime and aviation industries, and the Commission’s proposals reflect this,”* said Ms. Kristell Guizouarn, EBB President. Overall, the transport sector is the most challenging part of the FF55 package; the EU barely met its 2020 objectives and would not have without the artificial contribution of multipliers <sup>(3)</sup>. With FF55 growing demand still further, the future for Europe’s sustainable biodiesel industry looks bright.

Nonetheless, the glass is only half full. In the Impact Assessment for the revised EU Renewable Energy Directive (RED III), the Commission stated its overall approach would be to *“minimise the role of biofuels”* <sup>(4)</sup>, yet did not provide the rationale justifying this radical approach. *“The FF55 package is triggering more demand for renewable liquid fuels with lower feedstock availability, introducing diverging biofuel sustainability frameworks, and relying heavily on future technologies and fuels. All this to reduce the contribution sustainable biodiesel can make,”* stated Mr. Xavier Noyon, EBB Secretary-General. This *“minimisation”* of biofuels puts the EU’s ability to meet its transport sector climate ambitions at risk. In 2020 biofuels represented 80% of the renewable energy in transport: minimising their use risk not only slowing progress but reversing it. Moreover, an independent study <sup>(5)</sup> concluded **the RED III, FuelEU Maritime, and ReFuelEU Aviation mandates will cause demand for renewable liquid fuels to more than double by 2030**. This not even considering the further demand triggered by the incoming ETS for road transport <sup>(6)</sup>.

The EBB calls for higher ambition and a coherent framework for sustainable biofuels across all transport modes. We also call for technology neutrality based on real measurable GHG savings and the capacity for Member States to choose their path to reach a common EU target. We are keen to work with the co-legislators, the Commission, and other stakeholders to make the historic FF55 package fit for its objectives. The European biodiesel industry can deliver improved farming, energy security, circularity, traceability, sustainability, and social inclusiveness. We can meet the EU climate ambitions and European Green Deal objectives. Just let us

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<sup>1</sup> [EBB High-Level Position on FF55 - European Biodiesel Board \(EBB\) \(ebb-eu.org\)](https://ebb-eu.org)

<sup>2</sup> [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change - IPCC AR6 WGI SPM final.pdf](https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg1/)

<sup>3</sup> [Renewable energy statistics - Statistics Explained \(europa.eu\)](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/tgm/table.do?tab=table&init=1&language=en&plugin=1)

<sup>4</sup> [RED III European Commission proposal, with Annexes and supporting documents, including IA \(page 88\)](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/tgm/table.do?tab=table&init=1&language=en&plugin=1)

<sup>5</sup> [https://ebb-eu.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/21\\_1116\\_sGU-for-EBB\\_Roadmap.pdf](https://ebb-eu.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/21_1116_sGU-for-EBB_Roadmap.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> [The role of biodiesel in EU climate action - European Biodiesel Board \(EBB\) \(ebb-eu.org\)](https://ebb-eu.org)