

**Joint open letter to European Commission First Vice President Frans Timmermans, Vice-President Maroš Šefčovič, Commissioner Violeta Bulc, Commissioner Miguel Arias Cañete**

21/10/2016

**Industry calls for the Commission to set policy framework to support European investments in advanced biofuels – today's solution to accelerate decarbonisation in the transport sector by 2030.**

Dear First Vice President Timmermans,  
Dear Vice-President Šefčovič,  
Dear Commissioner Bulc,  
Dear Commissioner Cañete,

*Your services are currently reviewing the Renewable Energy Directive. Our companies stand ready to further deploy and supply the most innovative technologies to produce advanced biofuels from currently unused, underutilized or otherwise wasted raw materials. Our products reduce emissions up to 90%, contribute to energy security, drive economic growth and create new jobs.*

As part of its low-carbon economy roadmap, the EU plans to cut emissions to 80% below 1990 levels in 2050 and all sectors will need to contribute. **The GHG emissions from the transport sector will become the single most important source of emissions in the EU by 2030.** For the vast majority of vehicles which will still run on liquid fuels by 2030 and even beyond, the only solution is to increase their efficiency and replace fossil fuel with sustainable alternatives so that GHG emissions can effectively be reduced on a well to wheel basis. The time for action is now.

**A stable and predictable business environment will be essential** to trigger new substantial investments in EU advanced biofuels production capacity. This can only be created through a long-term and reliable policy specifically promoting advanced technologies, without stranding investments already made.

Advanced biofuels are those low carbon fuels produced from non-food feedstock, that meet the EU sustainability standards, including protection of biodiversity and land, and are certified by EU approved certification schemes that verify environmental, social and economic impacts.

**To develop such advanced biofuels, we urge you to set a binding, ambitious and realistic energy based target for advanced biofuels in 2030:**

1. **A binding target of at least 3,5% in 2030** for advanced biofuels based on lignocellulose and biomass-based feedstock from forestry and forest-based industries, MSW, and algae (enabled by new innovative production technologies)
2. **A binding target of at least 3,5% in 2030** for other non-food based advanced biofuels, (based on more mature production technologies).

Intermediate targets (in 2025) should be set in order to send a strong signal to the market to invest in production capacity of advanced biofuels now.

Such targets could be assigned to companies bringing transport fuels into the market.

This scale-up is feasible and realizing the investments in advanced biofuels production is achievable. The US ethanol industry as well as the EU wind and solar industry have shown that a significant increase of production capacity is possible provided the right policy framework is in place. This is backed by recent findings of the University of Sussex.<sup>1</sup>

We are ready to supply additional information about the significant impact that our industry can bring, in terms of **CO<sub>2</sub> reductions, investment, jobs, revenues for farmers and energy security.**

**Our industry is committed to make a significant contribution to meeting the EU ambitions of decarbonising the transport sector.** With the right policy framework in place, our industry can deliver the necessary volumes of advanced low carbon fuels by 2030.

An initiative by:



With the support of:



<sup>1</sup> <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2214629615300827>

## **The Leaders of Sustainable Biofuels**

The LSB is a group composed of Leading European advanced biofuel producers and European airlines. The initiative aims at supporting the development of second generation biofuels in Europe. The leaders of BioChemtex, BTG, Clariant, Dong Energy, St1, UPM and British Airways are joining forces to ensure the market uptake of advanced sustainable biofuels by all transport sectors.

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