



COPA- COGECA Seminar

Biomass: challenges and opportunities Brussels, 29-30 November 2007

COPA-COGECA Secretariat, 61 Rue de Trèves, 1040 Brussels

Energy is a key in helping Europe achieve its objectives of Lisbon Strategy. High oil prices put the spotlight on Europe's increasing dependency on imported energy. The increase reliance on renewable energy sources, given the potential to produce them domestically and their sustainability is one element which can help Europe to reduce dependence on energy imports and stimulate growth and jobs. Biomass presently amounts for about half of the renewable energy used in Europe. If made full use of its potential, it would more than double biomass use by 2010 while complying with good agricultural practice and without significantly affecting domestic food production.

Energy and transport are responsible for an estimated 80% of all greenhouse gas emissions that are contribution to global warming, a percentage which is still increasing.

Oil reserves are limited in quantity and restricted to a few world regions. Fossil fuels in transport can be directly substituted by bioethanol and biodiesel blended with fossil fuels and can readily be integrated into fuel supply systems.

Therefore, biomass from agriculture and forestry has a huge potential to supply the energy market if the framework conditions are favourable to this end.

The objective of this seminar is to address and provide a forum for discussion regarding the EU Biomass Action Plan and the EU Strategy on biofuels and to communicate how the reformed CAP and the rural development policy 2007-2013 contributes to sustainable development in the field of renewable energy. The challenges and the opportunities for farmers and forest holders associated to the full potential use of biomass from agricultural and forestry sources would be identified.

- **Programme and downloadable speeches**
[\[IP\(07\)1926\]](#)
 - Joint position on the promotion of bioenergy from forests [\[FP\(07\)2178\]](#)
 - Memorandum: Renewable raw materials: contributions of agriculture and forestry to the bioenergy
[\[Pr\(07\)167F2\]](#)
 - **Conclusions**
 - [\[IP\(07\)3811\]](#)
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- [IP\(07\)3812](#)
- **Press release** [CDP\(07\)3808](#)
- [Photo gallery](#)

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