



Workshop: EU Policy and Industry Perspectives on Biofuels in a Global Context

Copenhagen, 14 May 2018

Main Messages

The **ART Fuel Forum** (*Support for Alternative and Renewable Liquid and Gaseous Fuels Forum – Policy and Market Issues*) organized the workshop “**EU Policy and Industry Perspectives on Biofuels in a Global Context**” on Monday, May 14, in Copenhagen, in the frame of the 26th European Biomass Conference & Exhibition (EUBCE 2018). The workshop attracted many participants, who attended the presentations on the global dimension of the Advanced Biofuels and Low Carbon Fuels Industry delivered by FAO, IRENA, IEA, ETIP Bioenergy, below50, ART Fuels Forum and contributed to the Q&A closing session.

In this workshop, the capability and the development of the Advanced Biofuels Industry were discussed under the global perspective for wider deployment. The opportunities and threads stemming from the policy framework in various regions of the world were also highlighted.

The lecturers confirmed the significance of a global view and strategy of industry and argued on the main messages which are the following:

- Sustainable bioenergy is an indispensable component of the necessary portfolio of low carbon technologies in climate-change mitigation scenarios. Biofuels plays an important role in decarbonizing transport especially in aviation, maritime and heavy-duty road transport, where electrification is not the most appropriate solution. In order to comply with the 2°C target of the Paris Convention, low carbon fuels must be developed rapidly to cover significant part of transport energy demand.
- The issue of the availability of feedstocks to sustainably meet the bioenergy needs, should be tackled with a broader approach: Advanced Biofuels should be seen as another opportunity for investment in sustainable agriculture, rural development and bioeconomy.
- There are massive opportunities, technology diversity and innovation worldwide in the context of advanced bioeconomy development. However, there is a need to carefully evaluate the relative costs of both feedstocks and conversion technologies going forward. It is important to provide R&D support for promising technologies to produce liquid biofuels, as well as policy support on a technology and feedstock neutral basis so that the market can select the most cost-effective solutions. To this end adequate and specific financing of technology development is necessary that considers both financial and economic risks.

- The Advanced Biofuels Industry is convinced and committed to significantly contribute to the decarbonization of the transport sector in Europe and worldwide. However, a clear, long lasting and ambitious policy framework is needed to provide confidence to investors, as well as appropriate financial instruments that enable development and deployment of low carbon fuels. It is encouraging that some EU countries such as e the Netherlands, plan or examine implementation of very ambitious targets, higher than those set in RED II, for transportation GHG emissions reduction.
- Industry shares the concepts of international initiatives promoting the decrease of carbon emissions. Especially the EU biofuels industry being influenced by the RED II, is active at global level and, besides the great potential in Europe, anticipates the significant opportunities in Canada, Latin America, USA, India, China, etc. and expects incentives to proceed to the necessary investments.
- There is need for common effort to improve the acceptability of low carbon fuels, due to the bad reputation accompanying them in some regions for many years in the past. Such a campaign may not be addressed only to decision-makers, but also the broader society.