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*Committee on Regional Development*

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**2013/0241(NLE)**

11.11.2013

## **DRAFT OPINION**

of the Committee on Regional Development

for the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

on the proposal for a Council regulation on the Bio-Based Industries Joint Undertaking

(COM(2013)0496 – C7-0257/2013 – 2013/0241(NLE))

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## AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Regional Development calls on the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following amendments in its report:

### Amendment 1

#### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 11

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(11) The Joint Technology Initiative on Bio-based Industries should mitigate the different types of market failures that discourage private investment into pre-competitive research, demonstration and deployment activities for bio-based industries in Europe. In particular, it should ascertain the availability of reliable biomass supply taking into account other competing social and environmental demands, and support the development of advanced processing technologies, large scale demonstration activities and policy instruments, thus reducing the risk for private research and innovation investment in the development of sustainable and competitive bio-based products and biofuels.

##### *Amendment*

(11) The Joint Technology Initiative on Bio-based Industries should mitigate the different types of market failures that discourage private investment into pre-competitive research, demonstration and deployment activities for bio-based industries in Europe. In particular, it should ascertain the ***continuous*** availability of reliable biomass supply taking into account other competing social and environmental demands, and support the development of advanced processing technologies, large scale demonstration activities (***taking particular account of individual agricultural entities and agricultural areas***) and policy instruments, thus reducing the risk for private research and innovation investment in the development of sustainable and competitive bio-based products and biofuels.

Or. pl

##### *Justification*

*Access to knowledge, research outcomes and the latest technologies is of great importance, and farmers should now be able to benefit from this in order to reap the greatest possible results from their efforts. Therefore, the Joint Technology Initiative should ensure that the outcomes of its research and activities in the area of new technologies also reach the smallest entities at all stages of the value chain, which in this case would include farmers.*

## Amendment 2

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 13

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(13) The objective of the Joint Technology Initiative on Bio-based Industries is to implement a programme of research and innovation activities in Europe that will assess the availability of renewable biological resources that can be used for the production of bio-based materials and on that basis support the establishment of sustainable bio-based value chains. These activities should be carried out through collaboration between stakeholders along the entire bio-based value chains, including primary production and processing industries, consumer brands, SMEs, research and technology centres and universities.

#### *Amendment*

(13) The objective of the Joint Technology Initiative on Bio-based Industries is to implement a programme of research and innovation activities in Europe that will assess the availability of renewable biological resources that can be used for the production of bio-based materials **and bio-chemicals** and on that basis support the establishment of sustainable bio-based value chains. These activities should be carried out through collaboration between stakeholders along the entire bio-based value chains, including primary production and processing industries, consumer brands, SMEs, **clusters**, research and technology centres and universities. ***What is crucial in that respect is lasting interregional cooperation at all levels, good coordination and communication, the exchange of best practices, and the active participation of the regions in drawing up strategies for the bio-economy and research and innovation that take account of the regions' characteristics.***

Or. pl

#### *Justification*

*Clusters play a vital role in establishing links between economic operators, businesses and research centres. Clusters introduce innovative products, services and technologies more often. It is therefore crucial that the Joint Technology Initiative also incorporates cooperation with clusters.*

*Inter-regional cooperation is vital for the flourishing of the bio-economy, environmental protection, and the development of technology and innovation. After all, it is the regions that have the greatest knowledge of value chains on their territory, innovative projects and unused potential. This cooperation means that the Joint Technology Initiative will be able to achieve its stated objectives in a much more effective manner.*

### Amendment 3

#### Proposal for a regulation Recital 16

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(16) To achieve maximum impact, the Bio-Based Industries Joint Undertaking should develop close synergies with other Union programmes in areas such as education, environment, competitiveness and SMEs, and with the Cohesion Policy funds and Rural Development Policy, which can specifically help to strengthen national and regional research and innovation capabilities in the context of smart specialisation strategies.

*Amendment*

(16) To achieve maximum impact, the Bio-Based Industries Joint Undertaking should develop close synergies with other Union programmes in areas such as education, environment, competitiveness and SMEs, and with the Cohesion Policy funds and Rural Development Policy, which can specifically help to strengthen national and regional research and innovation capabilities in the context of smart specialisation strategies. ***It is vital to step up coordination, communication and complementarity with other policies and funds, as well as to find cross-financing opportunities.***

Or. pl

*Justification*

*Better coordination, communication and complementarity with other policies and cross-financing are actions that are vital for the successful execution of projects under the Joint Technology Initiative. These will facilitate the implementation of new technological solutions, the purchase of new equipment, the improvement of infrastructure and training.*

### Amendment 4

#### Proposal for a regulation Recital 16 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(16a) Joint Technology Initiatives on bio-based industries should be based on a grass-roots approach, which is of enormous importance for making use of the potential of all regions, and, in particular, on supporting local and***

*regional actions while remaining in constant contact with the local and regional authorities. This should increase public awareness of the importance of the bio-economy and of the enormous benefits that it brings. It should draw on the specialised knowledge of the regions, step up cooperation between science, enterprises and public authorities within the so-called ‘Triple Helix’, which aims to construct an open and expansive economy, to facilitate the cross-border flow of investments and to encourage effective cooperation, the basis of which is competitive complementarity and the optimal use of research infrastructure between scientific facilities, as well as between scientific facilities and businesses.*

Or. pl

#### *Justification*

*A grass-roots approach increases the coherence of decisions taken at local level, improves the quality of management, contributes to strengthening social capital in the regions and encourages the use of innovative solutions.*

*Increasing public awareness of the bio-economy and of establishing a bio-based society is one of the vital factors accelerating the full transition to industry based on renewable biological resources in Europe.*

*The regions are closest to the public and stand as an element bringing together research institutions, companies, local and regional authorities, and civil society. They therefore play a vital role in raising public awareness and should be included in the wording.*

#### **Amendment 5**

##### **Proposal for a regulation Article 2 – point b**

###### *Text proposed by the Commission*

b) to contribute to the objectives of the Biobased Industries Joint Technology Initiative for a more resource efficient and

###### *Amendment*

b) to contribute to the objectives of the Biobased Industries Joint Technology Initiative for a more resource efficient and

sustainable low-carbon economy and **increasing** economic growth and employment, in particularly in rural areas, by developing sustainable and competitive bio-based industries in Europe based on advanced biorefineries that source their biomass sustainably; and in particular to:

sustainable low-carbon economy and **accelerating** economic growth and **increasing** employment, in particularly in rural areas, by developing sustainable and competitive bio-based industries in Europe based on advanced biorefineries that source their biomass sustainably; and in particular to:

Or. pl

## Amendment 6

### Proposal for a regulation Article 2 – point c

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

c) demonstrate technologies that enable new chemical building blocks, new materials, and new consumer products from European biomass and which replace the need for fossil based inputs;

#### *Amendment*

c) Demonstrate **and promote** technologies that enable new chemical building blocks, new materials, and new consumer products from European biomass and which replace the need for fossil based inputs; **support, furthermore, innovation and the pursuit of new sources of growth that make it possible to take full advantage of intellectual capital;**

Or. pl

#### *Justification*

*Better and more effective promotion of innovative technologies will accelerate their use at all levels of the bio-materials value chain.*

*Making full use of intellectual capital (human resources in companies, experts and scientists) will accelerate the development of the Bio-Based Industries Joint Undertaking and of all measures aimed at promoting a flourishing bio-economy, and, in so doing, will strengthen Europe's global competitiveness.*

## Amendment 7

### Proposal for a regulation Article 2 – point d

*Text proposed by the Commission*

d) develop business models that integrate economic actors along the whole value chain from supply of biomass to biorefinery plants to consumers of bio-based materials, chemicals and fuels, including through creating new cross-sector interconnections **and** supporting cross-industry clusters; and

*Amendment*

d) develop business models that integrate economic actors along the whole value chain from supply of biomass to biorefinery plants to consumers of bio-based materials, chemicals and fuels, including through creating new cross-sector interconnections, supporting cross-industry clusters **and closer interregional cooperation**; and

Or. pl

## Amendment 8

### Proposal for a regulation Article 2 – point e a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***ea) ensure that the outcomes of research into innovative bio-economy technologies are passed on to all entities, including individual farmers, in order that everyone may make the greatest possible use of them.***

Or. pl

### *Justification*

*Current structural conditions in agriculture and related sectors and the excessively low amount of own resources mean that entities do not always have information on how to access innovative technologies. Other problems also arise with regard to the rapid application of scientific knowledge.*

## Amendment 9

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Annex - paragraph 1 - point h

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

h) information, communication, exploitation and dissemination activities by applying mutatis mutandis the provisions of Article 22 of Regulation (EU- No.../2013 [the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme];

##### *Amendment*

h) information, communication, ***promotion***, exploitation and dissemination activities by applying mutatis mutandis the provisions of Article 22 of Regulation (EU- No.../2013 [the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme];

Or. pl

##### *Justification*

*Better and more effective promotion of innovative technologies will accelerate their use at all levels of the bio-materials value chain.*