

ENVI NEWS

Newsletter from the European Parliament's Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

April 26, 2016 / Issue N°7

CHAIR'S WELCOME



The next ENVI Committee meeting will take place in Brussels on 26 April 2016. Members will vote on the text agreed during interinstitutional negotiations on the **Emission Limits and Type Approval for Internal Combustion Engines for Non-Road Mobile Machinery**. The ENVI Committee will

also vote on five opinions regarding the **Energy Efficiency Labelling**, the **Renewable Energy Progress Report**, the **Implementation Report on the Energy Efficiency Directive**, the **Preparation of the Post-Electoral Revision of the MFF 2014-2020** and the **Implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**.

As part of the structured dialogue, **Mr Vytenis Andriukaitis**, Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, has been invited for an exchange of views, on a wide range of issues such as criteria for endocrine disruptors, the caloric content of alcoholic beverages, and antimicrobial resistance- or cross border healthcare. There will also be an exchange of views with **Ms Violeta Bulc**, Commissioner for Transport, on a possible ICAO Global Market Based Measure to **reduce CO₂ emissions from aviation**.

Finally, Members will also discuss a draft opinion on the **Liability, compensation and financial security for offshore oil and gas operations** as well as the state of play of the implementation of the **Tobacco Products Directive**.

[Giovanni La Via](#)

MEETING PREVIEW

Renewable energy progress report

Adoption of draft opinion (see [meeting documents](#))



The draft opinion will feed into the INI report by the ITRE committee on the **Renewable Energy Progress Report**. The report will be an important contribution of the

European Parliament into the **revision process of the Renewable Energy Directive** expected by the end of 2016.

The draft opinion underlines the contribution of renewable energy in achieving the **goals of the Paris agreement**, welcomes the **progress towards the EU target**; especially in the heating and cooling and electricity generation sectors as well as the progress in meeting specific national renewable energy targets. The Rapporteur expresses her concern that progress has slowed in meeting the **EU's 10% target** for renewable energy use in the transport sector. The Commission should promote a legislative framework offering prospects for **advanced biofuels** and lay down **sustainability criteria** for each renewable energy source under the circular economy policy.

The ENVI committee was granted exclusive competence on the sustainability criteria of biofuels under Rule 54.

There were **103 amendments** tabled. The rapporteur prepared **11 compromise amendments**, including a compromise on sustainability criteria for bioenergy.

Rapporteur: [Petir](#) (EPP)

Shadows: [Caputo](#) (S&D), [Wiśniewska](#) (ECR), [Selimovic](#) (ALDE), [Kyllönen](#) (GUE/NGL), [Auken](#) (Greens/EFA), [Affronte](#) (EFDD)

Implementation report on the Energy Efficiency Directive

Adoption of draft opinion (see [meeting documents](#))

The draft opinion will feed into the INI report by the ITRE committee on the implementation of the Energy Efficiency Directive, which establishes binding measures to enable the EU to reach its 20% energy efficiency target by 2020. Under the Directive, all Member States are required to use energy more efficiently at all stages of the energy chain from its production to its final consumption. The transposition deadline for this Directive was 5 June 2014.

In his draft opinion, the rapporteur stresses inter alia that the Directive has triggered many **positive developments** in the Member States, but that **poor implementation** is hindering its full potential. He points out that the main weakness of the existing Directive is that **most of the measures will expire in 2020** unless the Directive is appropriately amended. This means that its main provisions, in particular **Article 7**, **should be extended** not only up to 2030, but also beyond. Furthermore, the rapporteur for opinion regrets the target of **at least 27 %** for improving energy efficiency in 2030 adopted by the European Council in 2014, which he considers very



unambitious. In his opinion, it is mainly justified by an extremely unrealistic high discount rate from a previous impact assessment. He also calls for the elimination of loopholes in the existing Directive, especially in Article 7, while keeping flexibility for the Member States to choose among the different possible measures.

116 amendments were tabled to the draft opinion and **9 compromise amendments** have been drafted on the major issues raised by ENVI members.

Rapporteur: [Liese](#) (EPP)

Shadows: [Cabezón Ruiz](#) (S&D), [Duncan](#) (ECR), [Faria](#) (ALDE), [Konečná](#) (GUE), [Škrlec](#) (Greens/EFA), [Pedicini](#) (EFDD), [Goddyn](#) (ENF)

Energy efficiency labelling

Adoption of draft opinion (see [meeting documents](#))



In its proposal adopted on 15 July 2015 (COM(2015)0341), the Commission aims at more transparency for EU customers and authorities with regard to energy-related products, by repealing Directive 2010/30/EU on the indication by labelling and standard product information of the consumption of energy and other resources by energy-related products. The Commission proposal replaces the current energy labelling framework and introduces a mechanism for the rescaling of energy classes. It deletes classes A⁺⁺⁺, A⁺⁺ and A⁺ and empties classes A and B. The proposal also provides for a product database and lays out the obligations of the economic operators involved. Second hand products are excluded from the scope of the proposal.

The rapporteur tabled **12 amendments** for opinion: focusing on the reasons for, and frequency of, rescaling, the population of the top classes A and B, the obligations for the maintenance of the database, and the electronic display of the energy efficiency label. **168 amendments** in total were tabled in ENVI, focusing on the key issues mentioned above. The rapporteur proposes **9 compromise amendments**.

Rapporteur: [Patriciella](#) (EPP)

Shadows: [Bonafé](#) (S&D), [Duncan](#) (ECR), [Meissner](#) (ALDE), [Konečná](#) (GUE), [Rivasi](#) (Greens/EFA), [Pedicini](#) (EFDD), [Goddyn](#) (ENF)

Preparation of the post-electoral revision of the MFF 2014-2020: Parliament's input ahead of the Commission's proposal

Adoption of draft opinion (see [meeting documents](#))

In the context of the 2014-2020 MFF negotiations, the Parliament highlighted the need for a "post-electoral revision clause" enshrined in the MFF regulation



and fully involving the Parliament. The notion of "post-electoral" alludes to the need of ensuring the democratic legitimacy of the new MFF, by giving the opportunity both to the new Commission and to the newly elected Parliament of reconfirming and reassessing the EU's political and budgetary priorities by adjusting the MFF accordingly.

In his draft opinion, the rapporteur calls for an adaptation of the MFF in order to secure the achievements of the goals set in Paris at COP 21. The rapporteur also stressed the need to provide adequate funding to the LIFE programme, the Health and Growth programme, and to have provisions for food safety.

35 amendments have been tabled, with a large number of them related to the need to achieve the Paris goals on climate change. The rapporteur proposed **4 compromise amendments**.

Rapporteur: [Gambús](#) (PPE)

Shadows: [Grammatikakis](#) (S&D), [Torvalds](#) (ALDE), [Eck](#) (GUE), [Auken](#) (Greens/EFA)

Implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Adoption of draft opinion (see [meeting documents](#))

This opinion will feed into the EMPL own-initiative report on the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of



Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), with special regard to the Concluding Observations of the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD Committee).

The EU acceded to the CRPD in December 2010. This was the first international human rights treaty the EU



ratified as a whole. With the ratification, the **EU is now subject to scrutiny** by the CRPD Committee.

While the EMPL Rapporteur (Helga Stevens/ECR) focuses, in particular, on accessibility issues in relation to employment, the ENVI Rapporteur (Nessa Childers/S&D) puts a particular emphasis on the **right to health and access to healthcare** for persons with disabilities in the EU (Article 25 CRPD). In particular, she highlights: 1) the strong correlation between **disability and ill-health** (due to barriers in access to healthcare services for people with disabilities), 2) the need to address **intersectional discrimination** issues and to integrate disability-oriented approaches in the EU's health instruments and policies; and 3) the evaluation of the **implementation of the Cross-Border Healthcare Directive** from the perspective of the needs of persons with disabilities.

In ENVI, **56 amendments were tabled**. A set of **8 compromise amendments** are currently being elaborated upon.

Rapporteur: [Childers](#) (S&D)

Shadows: [Kovatchev](#) (EPP), [Girling](#) (ECR), [Faria](#) (ALDE), [Konečná](#) (GUE/NGL), [Rivasi](#) (Greens/EFA), [Evi](#) (EFDD), [d'Ornano](#) (ENF)

Emission limits and type-approval for internal combustion engines for non-road mobile machinery

Vote on the text agreed during interinstitutional negotiations



In September 2014, the Commission tabled a proposal for a regulation that would replace the existing directive, regulating the exhaust **emissions limits for engines to be placed in non-road mobile machinery (NRMM)**. This was submitted to Parliament and Council scrutiny so they could update the previous directive 97/68/EC that was no longer reflecting the current state of technology.

The new NRMM regulation will cover all kinds of combustion engines installed in machines ranging from small handheld equipment, construction machinery (like cranes), generating sets, railcars and locomotives, inland waterway vessels, to harvesting and agricultural machinery (like narrow tractors). The engines covered in the **scope** shall meet the same requirements regardless their fuels, so to boost the innovation in the engine sector.

The agreed text on which the vote will be held is the result of informal negotiations that allowed the **co-legislators to agree amongst others on the secondary**

legislation to be adopted by the Commission for the application of the regulation, the **exemptions granted** to engines to be installed on specific type of machinery and on a **review article** that oblige the Commission to submit a report that shall include an assessment of **further pollutant emission reduction potential** and on the possibility of laying down harmonised measures for the installation of retrofit emission control devices on engines already placed on the market.

Rapporteur: [Gardini](#) (EPP)

[Procedure file](#)

Shadows: [Dance](#) (S&D), [Duncan](#) (ECR), [Huitema](#) (ALDE), [Eck](#) (GUE), [Eickhout](#) (Greens/EFA), [Evi](#) (EFDD)

Liability, compensation and financial security for offshore oil and gas operations

Consideration of draft opinion (see [meeting documents](#))

The draft opinion will feed into the INI report by the JURI Committee related to the Commission's Report of 14 September 2015 on liability, compensation and financial security for **offshore oil and gas operations** pursuant to Article 39 of the Offshore Safety Directive 2013/30/EU (OSD). The INI report will comprise recommendations for the reinforcement of liability for damage from offshore activities. It will look into **responsibilities, financial capacities, and compensation disbursement** mechanisms. These topics are relevant to the work of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety in the context of **environmental disaster mitigation** in general.

The draft opinion recalls the Deepwater Horizon accident and reiterates the need for **sound risk analyses and environmental impact assessments** in view of the rising number of offshore facilities in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea. It calls for the incorporation of offences under the OSD in the scope of the **Environmental Crime Directive**, and it underlines the need for the strengthening and harmonisation of financial security instruments amongst Member States. The Rapporteur recommends that the Commission consider the establishment of a legislative compensation mechanism for **offshore accidents** along the lines of the Petroleum Activities Act in Norway.

Rapporteur: [Androulakis](#)(S&D)

Shadows: [Patriciello](#) (EPP), [Duncan](#) (ECR), [Faria](#) (ALDE), [Boylan](#) (GUE), [Rivasi](#) (Greens/EFA), [Affronte](#) (EFDD)

Implementation of health legislation

Exchange of views with Commission representative

This is the second session linked to the **implementation of health legislation** and will focus on questions related to Directive 2014/40/EU on the approximation of the laws,





regulations, and administrative provisions of the Member States concerning the **manufacture, presentation and sale of tobacco and related products** (Tobacco Products Directive).

Exchange of views with Ms Violeta Bulc, Commissioner for Transport, on a possible ICAO Global Market-Based Measure (GMBM) to reduce CO2 emissions from aviation



Commissioner Violeta Bulc is invited to the ENVI committee in view of the ENVI Committee delegation to the ICAO High-level Meeting on a Global Market-Based Measure (GMBM) Scheme, which will take place on 11-13 May 2016, in Montreal, Canada. The aim of this exchange of views is to hear about the progress of discussions in ICAO on the GMBM and about the EU position on the issue.

The outcome of the ICAO High-level Meeting is critical to the European Parliament in view of the expiry of the "stop-the-clock" legislation which exempts intercontinental flights from the EU ETS scheme until 31 December 2016. This exemption was agreed by the Parliament in order to give time to ICAO to decide on a **global market based measure by 2016**, which would be up and running as of 2020 and lead to effective reduction in CO2 emissions. The ETS regulation clearly states that decisions taken by ICAO on GMBM will condition further EU steps as regards CO2 emissions from aircrafts.

The ENVI Committee has always been very supportive of the EU position on transport environmental issues. On the specific issue of aviation emissions all the EU institutions took a strong stance for their inclusion in the **Paris Agreement**. The exchange of views will be very beneficial for a better understanding of the different positions and constraints for working together to move ICAO position closer to the EU stance on reducing global aviation emissions.

Exchange of views with Mr Vytenis Andriukaitis, Commissioner for Health & Food Safety as part of structured dialogue



Commissioner Andriukaitis is invited to the ENVI Committee in the framework of the structured dialogue.

Every year, the ENVI Committee holds exchanges of views with the Commission on the evaluation and implementation of the

Commission Work Programme and the priorities for the following year.

Following this exchange of views, ENVI coordinators will establish ENVI priorities for 2017 in the areas of public health and food safety.

NEWS FROM THE POLICY DEPARTMENT

Recent Publications:

- [Study on 'Wildlife crime'](#)
- [Wildlife crime in Germany, Netherlands, Poland, United Kingdom, Spain](#)
- [Food Contact Materials - How to Ensure Food Safety and Technological Innovation in the Future?](#)
- [Briefing on 'Key issues at Stake at the 69th Session of the IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee \(MEPC69\)'](#)

Upcoming Publications:

- In-depth analysis on 'Sustainable Forestry in Finland: ENVI delegation in May 2016'
- Study on the 'Implementation of the Ambient Air Quality Directive'

Forthcoming event:

- **24-May-2016:** Workshop on 'EU's Pesticides Risk Assessment System: the Case of Glyphosate'

To request hard copy of publication please contact: Poldep-Economy-Science@ep.europa.eu



NEWS FROM THE AGENCIES

European Environment Agency (EEA)



Renewables increasingly curbing reliance on fossil fuels

The use of fossil fuels across the European Union continues to decline due in part to increased consumption of renewable energy sources like wind, solar and biomass. The report, which assesses progress on the use of renewable energy, found that clean energy technologies are an important driving force in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and in creating employment in Europe. [More](#)

European Chemicals Agency (ECHA)



In the last week of April, ECHA will release new versions of IUCLID, used for creating REACH and CLP dossiers, and Chesar, used for preparing chemical safety reports. [More](#)

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)



ECDC brings you updated news reports i.a. on the accumulating evidence gathered by the WHO on the zika virus and its potential severe outcomes and new potential threats from outside the EU like lassa fever and yellow fever. [More](#)

European Medicines Agency (EMA)



The EMA's Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee (PRAC) has adopted the final rules of procedure for public hearings to be held by the Committee. The rules of procedure describe the process and practical arrangements for the preparation, conduct and follow-up of public hearings. Public hearings are a new tool for EMA to engage EU citizens in the supervision of medicines and to listen to their views and experiences. [More](#)

European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)



EFSA carried out an assessment into the effectiveness of treatments for *X. fastidiosa* in olive trees. The findings conclude that treatments being tested on olive trees in Apulia reduce the symptoms of disease caused by *Xylella fastidiosa* but do not eliminate the pathogen from infected plants, thus confirming experience from other parts of the world, where *X. fastidiosa* is also causing enormous damage and no treatment has been found to eliminate the pathogen from plants grown outdoors. [More](#)

Subscription

If you wish to receive the ENVI newsletter, please send an email with your contact details and the subject "newsletter" to: envi-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu. To sign up for ENVI committee press releases or for media enquiries, please write to envi-press@europarl.europa.eu

Watch online

Watch the Committee meeting live on the [EP web site](#) or on [Europarl TV](#). Past meetings are available via the [EP Live multimedia library](#) and you can also download the extracts of speeches.

Do you need more information?

Contact the ENVI Secretariat: envi-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu or visit the [website](#) of the ENVI Committee.

Next meeting of the ENVI Committee

23-24 May (Brussels). See also the [2016 meeting dates](#) for future meetings.

Further information sources

The EP Policy Departments [publish](#) studies, notes, information notes and workshop proceedings; to contact them, write to Poldep-Economy-Science@europarl.europa.eu. The EP Library regularly prepares briefings summarising information related to topical subjects. Find the latest updates via the links [briefings](#) and [blog](#).

About the editor

European Parliament, Directorate General for Internal Policies of the Union, Secretariat of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety - Responsible administrators: Tihana Vujatović, Elodie Carmona; Responsible assistants: Irena Aramina, Marie-Christine Della Faille

Legal disclaimer

The items contained herein are drafted by the ENVI Committee Secretariat and are provided for general information purposes only. The content is indicative and subject to changes. The opinions expressed in this document are the sole responsibility of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official position of the ENVI Committee. The newsletter contains links to websites that are created and maintained by other organisations. The ENVI Committee does not necessarily endorse the views expressed on these websites.