The Commission is fully aware of the fierce competition for access to raw materials, including wood, and met the transformation wood industry, that presented the challenges it faces. Trade defence measures, such as anti-subsidy measures, or any measures restricting exports can be taken only if the relevant criteria, deriving from the World Trade Organization rules, are met. For the time being, the Commission has not received factual evidence proving a case of critical shortage of an essential product where the EU interests call for immediate intervention. Nonetheless, the Commission will continue to monitor the situation in cooperation with Member States and EU industry and invites the Honourable Members to share any factual evidence in this regard with the Commission services.

The Commission is also working with the Member States to improve the competitiveness of the downstream industry to ensure its ability to purchase local products at market prices. In particular, several national plans under the Recovery and Resilience Facility include measures to address the need to build capacity in supply chains. Initiatives were put forward with the aim to matchmaking between supply side and consumer side of raw materials, notably in the supply chain of wood.