



European Commission

Enterprise Directorate General

FOREST-BASED INDUSTRIES

61ST UNECE TIMBER COMMITTEE

GENEVA, 7th – 10th October, 2003

POLICY FORUM: FORESTS, WOOD AND ENERGY

**“Some aspects of EU policies affecting the use of wood as
a renewable energy source”**

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MAIN EU POLICIES AFFECTING THE USE OF WOOD AS RES

INTERNAL:

ENERGY

INDUSTRIAL (ENTERPRISE)

AGRICULTURE

REGIONAL

TAXATION

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

GLOBAL:

ENVIRONMENT

COMPETITION

TRADE

**NB DIRECTORATE GENERAL
FOR EACH POLICY**



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RECENT CONCERN OVER THE USE OF WOOD
FOR ENERGY STEMS FROM:

UNCCC – KYOTO PROTOCOL

**1997 – EC WHITE PAPER FOR A
COMMUNITY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN :**

ENERGY FOR THE FUTURE:
RENEWABLE SOURCES OF ENERGY



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- > **WHITE PAPER INDICATIVE OBJECTIVE:**
- > **DOUBLING (to 12%) OF RES CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL EU ENERGY USE BY 2010**
- > **FOR BIOMASS X 3 = EXTRA 90 Mtoe**
- > **BUT: GOALS FOR DIFFERENT TYPES OF BIOMASS NOT WELL DEFINED**
- > **FLEXIBILITY FOR MEMBER STATES TO DETERMINE OWN TARGETS (VARIABLE)**



GOALS OF THE EU RES STRATEGY - BIOMASS

- > 1997 – variable situation between EU members:
- > % Biomass/total energy :
 - > Austria – 12%
 - > Finland – 23% UK, Belgium c. 1%
 - > Sweden - 18 %
- > MS have very different energy supply situations



> FOR BIOMASS, WHITE PAPER SCENARIO:

> FROM ESTIMATED UNEXPLOITED SOURCES/RESIDUES:

> BIOGAS	COULD DELIVER	15 Mtoe	FROM 80 Mtoe
> FARM & WOOD	“ “	30 “	FROM 150 “
> ENERGY CROPS	“ → “	45 “	

> HOWEVER, WOOD SEEN AS MAIN TARGET SINCE:

> - TRADITIONALLY USED, KNOWN TECHNOLOGY

> - AVAILABLE (ANNUAL FOREST CUT 65 % OF NAI), CHEAP

> - OTHER BIOMASS RES NOT WELL DEVELOPED



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JOINT STUDY: CEI-Bois, CEPI, DG ENTR., Fr. Min. Ag.,

NB - presumed political imperative to reach RES policy goals in any case

- assumed large wood component (27 Mtoe)
- used novel modelling technique (GFPM)

Results indicated RES taking 167 M m³ from forest-based industries by 2010; serious impact on prices of products.

Carried out 1998-9, summary published 2000



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EU DEVELOPMENTS WITH RES SINCE 2000:

- INCREASED FORECASTS FOR FOREST-BASED INDUSTRIES' WOOD CONSUMPTION, SO FAR MET BY IMPORTS (CEECS, RUSSIA)

EU legislation:

- “Green electricity Directive (22% RES by 2010)
- BIOFUELS DIRECTIVE
- CHP (Combined Heat & Power)
- (Directive on Energy Efficiency in Buildings)



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AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON WOOD, BIOMASS RES & THE EU FOREST-BASED INDUSTRIES

OBJECTIVE: TO EXAMINE THE
RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN EU POLICIES
AFFECTING RES AND THE EUROPEAN WOOD
SUPPLIERS AND WOOD USERS

MEMBERS: FOREST OWNERS, WOOD &
PAPER INDUSTRIES, ENERGY SECTOR, EU
COMMISSION SERVICES, EXPERTS



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ISSUES:

Trade policy: increasingly global markets for wood and forest products (NB pellets)

Industry policy: unregulated wood market

Competition policy: use of state aids

Taxation policy: taxes as economic lever

Environment policy: wood as an environmentally compatible material – Carbon storage v. RES

Agriculture and R&D policies: alternative biomass