



**CEMFOCUS**

**5 MARCH 2018**

### **CEMBUREAU**

- Attended the **High-Level Group meeting** between Energy Intensive Industries (EII's), the European Commission and Member States. EII's presented the institutions with a joint paper suggesting to work on a masterplan for a competitive, low carbon economy (linking all sectoral Roadmaps), engaging in a discussion on policy and (breakthrough financing) needs and insisting on a full supply chain approach in policymaking. Member States and European Commission welcomed the joint approach and insisted on the need for decarbonisation while also recognizing the enabling role of EII's supply chains in the transition to a low carbon economy. The challenge on how to respond to future growing energy needs was highlighted in all EII's interventions, including CEMBUREAU's presented by Gonçalo Salazar Leite.
- Was **awarded the prize** for "outstanding contribution to the discussion on use of alternative fuels" at the CemFuels Conference in Berlin on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2018 where CEMBUREAU's Frank Brannvoll made the inaugural speech with an overview of the global fuels markets.

### **EU POLICY**

- The European Commission has requested Deloitte consultants to carry out a study on the **Energy Taxation Directive** which foresees in a minimum taxation for fuel use but includes a non-application provision for fuels used for transformation in mineralogical processes. From CEMBUREAU's own research, it became clear that the scope of this provision is not applied similarly across the EU in terms of parts of the manufacturing process covered. It appeared from the discussion CEMBUREAU had with the consultants that the non-application or its scope would not be questioned in the study but this will be closely monitored.
- The European Commission has set up a **Fire Information Exchange Platform** with Member States. While fire safety is mainly a national competence, the European Commission intends to look at issues such as fire engineering, an area where CEMBUREAU has, within the European Concrete Platform, carried out a study with CERIB which results in concrete being better positioned than steel.

### **LEGISLATIVE AND EVENTS CALENDAR**

- The European Commission has published the [Draft Withdrawal Agreement between the United Kingdom and the European Union](#). This Draft will now be subject to discussions with the other Member States and the European Parliament before the EU starts negotiations with the UK. The Agreement also foresees in a transition period which should not last beyond 31 December 2020 during which the UK will still be bound by legislation adopted at EU level but will no longer participate in decision making as from the date of its withdrawal (March 2019). The EU Commission has a [full database with Brexit information](#), including an interesting [slide presentation on regulatory issues](#) (see p. 39-47 for REACH, for instance).

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