

STATEMENT

Brussels, 26 February 2019

POST 2020 CO₂ TARGETS FOR HEAVY DUTY VEHICLES

UPEI praises the introduction of a clear mandate for the European Commission to assess the full life-cycle emissions from heavy-duty vehicles (HDV) at EU level in the deal sealed by the European institutions on 19 February.

UPEI welcomes the European Commission's initiative to introduce CO₂ standards for the HDV sector for the first time, recognising the urgent need to cut GHG emissions from all segments of the transport sector.

The fuels sector is closely associated with vehicle manufacturing. Intensive work is ongoing to continue to build on past achievements and to improve the efficiency and environmental performance of fuels in transport. Solutions are required for the existing vehicle fleet which will have a significant lifespan to come, as well as for the future vehicle fleet which will combine improved known technologies with emerging, new technologies. Whilst vehicle manufacturers are in the front-line of the CO₂ standards for heavy-duty vehicles, the ambitious targets agreed will require a concerted and collective effort from other economic sectors, including the fuel supply sector and its customers.

UPEI believes that legislation should not bet on single solutions but should rather encourage the use of all fuels that demonstrate the capability to cut emissions. Abrupt or artificially-driven promotions of single technologies not only severely distort the market, but also slow down current progress towards a greater availability of lower-emissions alternatives such as sustainable biofuels, synthetic fuels, etc. To do so, a technology-neutral methodology for assessing vehicles' emissions is essential.

In this context, UPEI welcomes the introduction, of a provision mandating the European Commission to, no later than 2023, *"evaluate the possibility of developing a common Union methodology for the assessment and the consistent data reporting of the full life-cycle CO₂ emissions of heavy-duty vehicles that are placed on the Union market"*. We are also pleased that, by 2022, the Commission shall assess the possibility of developing a methodology to include the *"potential contribution to emission reductions of the use of synthetic and advanced alternative liquid and gaseous renewable fuels, including e-fuels produced with renewable energy"*.

This measure sends the right signal to developers who are working on solutions in the fuels sector, that can be applied to future technologies as well as existing ones. UPEI is committed to engage with the European Commission for the development of such methodology and follow up measures such as legislative proposals.

UPEI and its members will continue playing a pivotal role in the transition towards more sustainable mobility, and as such will further support efficient, balanced and ambitious policy-making.

Contact: Cécile Nourigat, Secretary General | +32 2 740 2020 | info@upei.org

UPEI represents nearly 2,000 European importers and wholesale/retail distributors of energy for the transport and heating sectors, supplying Europe's customers independently of the major energy producers. They are the interface between producers and consumers, using their own infrastructure and flexibility to supply existing demand for conventional and renewable liquid fuels, as well as non-liquid alternatives as part of the energy transition. They cover more than a third of Europe's current demand. The organisation brings together national associations and suppliers across Europe.

Independent fuel suppliers bring competition to Europe's energy market and are able to respond rapidly to changes affecting supply, contributing to security on a local, national and regional level. They have developed and maintain a comprehensive infrastructure for the sourcing, storage and distribution of transport and heating fuels, with a commitment to delivering a high-quality service to all consumers, including those in remote areas.

Since 1962 UPEI has been advocating for a level playing field and fair competition to ensure an affordable, sustainable and secure energy supply for Europe's consumers. Today, in the context of the transition to a low carbon economy, UPEI and its members are also addressing the challenges of adapting the product range and meeting consumer demand through market-oriented solutions.

With its strong track record in pioneering the supply of renewable fuels in the EU, UPEI's members remain committed to delivering and embracing new, cost effective solutions which further promote energy efficiency and reduce pollutants and emissions.