

Speech delivered on behalf of the ED by Cédric Philibert
Biofuture Platform – High Level Event
Bonn– 16 November 2017, 6:30-8:00pm

Dear Minister Sarney Filho, dear Amb. Marcondes - dear Ministers, ladies and gentlemen

First let me present you our apologies on behalf of our Executive Director Fatih Birol, who is stuck in another event he is currently moderating.

- It is a great pleasure to be here – this is what Fatih Birol would have said - at this Biofuture Platform event. We congratulate Brazil for taking the lead in this initiative, which is very relevant and timely for a number of reasons.
- We were delighted when at the end of October Brazil became an IEA Association Country. Bioenergy will be an important area for our cooperation, together with many other *IEA Family* countries participating to the Platform, including China, India, Indonesia and Morocco.
- The IEA gives great importance to bioenergy in the context of the overall energy mix. Today, modern bioenergy (i.e. excluding traditional use of biomass) contributes five times as much to final energy consumption than wind and solar combined.
- Most importantly, there is no climate change mitigation scenario without an important role for bioenergy, which can particularly contribute to decarbonizing transport in sectors where electrification is challenging, such as aviation, shipping and long haul road transport.
- However, there is a large disconnect between the rate at which bioenergy should be growing in a scenario in line with the Paris agreement and current market trends. Today, the share of biofuels in transport is only around 3%. Conversely, biofuels in transport would need to grow three fold by 2030, and provide almost 30% of total transport energy demand by 2060 to keep up with climate commitments.
- Most of this additional bioenergy must come from advanced technologies using non edible feedstocks, including waste and residues. These can also guarantee that biomass is supplied and used in a sustainable way, provide strong net emissions reduction and help to solve important trade-offs, such as the *food vs. fuel* issue.
- Action is urgently needed to massively accelerate progress. For instance, tripling total biofuels means that advanced biofuel production need to scale up more than 50 times by 2030.
- Massive scale up will not happen without a step change in support policies. In this context, we very much welcome the Biofuture Platform initiative as a way of providing a much needed new focus and emphasis on bioenergy and stimulating urgent action.
- We were delighted to participate in the launch event at the last COP in Marrakesh and at the recent Summit meeting in Sao Paulo, and to contribute to the development of the initiative.
- We thank Brazil for its leadership in developing the Biofuture Platform and we congratulate the countries who are committed to its aims. We believe that the mix of countries involved – developed and emerging economies – is very encouraging, especially given the need to make bioenergy something which grows in every region rather than being confined to just a few leading countries and regions as today.
- For our part, we will be publishing an update of our Bioenergy Roadmap at the end of this month, which will identify the measures we feel are needed to accelerate deployment of sustainable bioenergy in line with international decarbonisation goals.

Thank you.