

INFORSE-EUROPE

International Network for Sustainable Energy - Europe

SE NR: 26497531

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October 24, 2007

PRESS RELEASE: INFORSE-EUROPE CALLS FOR an IMMEDIATE MORATORIUM on SUPPORT and on IMPORT of AGROFUELS

INFORSE-Europe calls for an immediate moratorium on incentives for agrofuels (liquid fuels from large-scale monoculture agriculture) in EU countries including tree plantations and a moratorium on EU imports of such agrofuels.

We also call for the immediate **change of all targets for biofuel use in transportation to targets for sustainable transportation**, such as targets for transport energy from sustainable renewable energy, energy efficiency increases, reductions of unnecessary transport, and shifts to more environmentally benign forms of transport.

This call for a moratorium for agrofuels does not include the use of biofuels in truly sustainable ways, such as the replacement of imported fossil fuels by the local use of sustainably produced biofuels.

Why to do this move ? INFORSE-Europe has called repeatedly for sustainable production of biofuels; but the practice that we see in a number of countries, including Indonesia and several Latin American countries, leads to increasing destruction of nature and of many peoples livelihoods. We can no longer justify the expansion of biofuels for transport when a part of this fuel comes from such destructive practices.

We need sustainable transport systems. To achieve that **we must shift the focus** from just changing the fuel to increase sustainability in all elements of the transport systems. This will include promotion of electric vehicles driven by renewable energy, use of public transport, and minimisation of transport to truly economic optimal levels by eliminating all subsidies and applying environmental taxes.

The moratorium will **provide time to study in depth the consequences** of large-scale agrofuel production in order to make a sound and comprehensive assessment of their socio-economic and environmental implications. During the moratorium we are calling for an assessment of both short and long term impacts and returns of proposed agrofuel targets and of alternative policies that can reach the same objectives, while guaranteeing the prevention of the serious negative impacts that are already being experienced.

Read INFORSE-Europe's call for moratorium in detail at www.inforse.org/europe

Read more about INFORSE-Europe and its 72 members throughout Europe, also on www.inforse.org/europe.

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