Bio-based Industries Joint Undertaking: financial contributions

2017/0024(NLE) - 06/10/2017 - Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading

The Committee on Industry, Research and Energy adopted, following the consultation procedure, the report by Miroslav POCKET (S&D, CZ) on the proposal for a Council regulation amending the Council Regulation (EU) No 560/2014 of 6 May 2014 establishing the Bio-based Industries Joint Undertaking.

The committee called on Parliament to approve the Commission proposal subject to the following amendments:

- the Bio-based Industries (BBI) joint undertaking should aim to contribute to the implementation of the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020) ('Horizon 2020') through increased investment in the development of a sustainable bio-based industry sector in Europe and to make the **Union a champion** of research, demonstration, and deployment in the bio-based products and biofuels marketplace;
- **better collaboration with stakeholders,** in particular small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) within the bio-based value chain;
- the proposed amending regulation allows the bio-industries consortium and its constituent entities to deliver the financial contribution not only as payments to the BBI Joint Undertaking. Members stated that this new delivery mode is to **ensure that the financial contributions become more commercially viable** for BIC and its constituent entities;
- the Commission should submit a report to the European Parliament and to the Council **assessing the effectiveness of this Regulation**, in light of the BIC's obligation to deliver its financial contribution by 31 December 2024;
- in future cases, the Commission should always carry out a **public consultation** in order to ensure that any proposed changes are accepted by all interested parties, and are developed in the most transparent and open manner possible. Similarly, the Commission should conduct impact assessments of the measures proposed measures.