



Press release  
Paris, 21st July 2011

## Green light from European Commission for certification of biofuels sustainability through 2BSvs voluntary scheme

*During a press conference on 19<sup>th</sup> July, the European Commission announced its decision to recognise the voluntary certification scheme filed by the 2BS\* consortium. This system called 2BSvs certifies the compliance of biomass, biofuels (biodiesel and bioethanol) with the sustainability requirements of the Renewable Energy Directive. The decision was published in the European Union Official Journal dated 21<sup>st</sup> July.*

*The 2BSvs voluntary certification scheme documents were made public on the European Commission's transparency platform.*

### A voluntary scheme for sustainability available to all producers

Created and established by French biofuels producers, the 2BSvs voluntary certification scheme can be used by all biomass and biofuel producers throughout the world.

By applying the procedures from the 2BSvs scheme and having them audited by independent certification bodies, certified biofuels and biomass producers can claim the sustainability of their products throughout Europe.

Of the 7 voluntary schemes recognised by the European Commission, 2BSvs is one of three from the European Union.

### A reminder : European regulations

As part of the European Union's Climate and Energy Package, the Renewable Energy Directive (known as the RED) set strict standards for implementation.

The objective of at least 10% renewable energies for transport by 2020 is matched with strong criteria for biofuels sustainability:

- **35% reduction** in greenhouse gas emissions with scheduled increases.
- No production in **highly biodiverse areas** and in nature protection areas unless crops respect that protection.
- **No conversion of areas with high carbon stock** (forests...).
- **Reporting** by the member states on the country of origin of the raw materials, the measures taken for soil, water and air protection, the restoration of degraded land and certain social issues.



## Why a voluntary sustainability certification scheme ?

Biofuels consumed in the European Union must justify their sustainability to Member States as soon as they implement the RED. This is necessary for these biofuels to count towards national targets for renewable energy used in transportation and also to gain access to the national support measures.

The 2BS Consortium includes the main players of the French biofuels production chains and has submitted a voluntary scheme to the European Commission enabling independent certification of biofuels production. This certification strictly respects the sustainability criteria defined by the European Directive for Renewable Energies no. 2009/28/CE.

Based on the mass balance method, the chain of custody of the 2BSvs voluntary scheme guarantees the tracing of “sustainable” raw materials used in the manufacture of biofuels at every stage of the production chain and helps to demonstrate the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions of biofuels compared with fossil fuels.

### \*About 2BS

*The 2BS consortium was founded in 2010 by the French biofuel, biodiesel and bioethanol production industries to create and manage the 2BSvs Biomass Biofuels Sustainability voluntary scheme, helping to comply to the European Union requirements in terms of biofuel sustainability.*

*It gathers the following organisations: AGPB (General Association of Wheat and other cereal Producers), AGPM (General Association of Corn Producers), CGB (General Confederation of Beetroot growers), COOP de France Métiers du Grain (French cereal cooperatives), FNA (Federation of agriculture traders), SNPAA (National Union of Agricultural Alcohol Producers) and ONIDOL (National federation of organisations dealing with Oleaginous crops). For more information please visit [www.2BSvs.org](http://www.2BSvs.org)*