

EREF

European Renewable Energies Federation

Press declaration

23.1.2008

The new Draft Directive on the promotion of Renewable Energies in Europe until 2020

EREF welcomes the new draft directive as a sound and good step forward to define the legal, administrative conditions, policies and targets to go beyond the current state of deployment of renewable energies in EU 27.

EREF President Peter Danielsson: “The discussion process towards this decisive draft was long, intensive and partly tedious. The European Commission put committed Member States, independent Renewable producers and the whole RES industry back in the driver seat.”

The Commission gave ample room for direct exchange of opinions with the Member States, the RES industry and the overall energy sector.

Commissioner Andris Piebalgs and his team have our deep respect in managing this very difficult path towards a feasible result.

EREF is very pleased that the arguments of a strong alliance between committed Member States, Renewable energy independent producers and the RES industry finally won a decisive dispute over the so-called flexibility mechanisms to help Member states to reach their binding targets. Costly and inefficient mechanisms which would have endangered feed-in support mechanism by introducing virtual paper trade which was the objective of strong lobbying by the central power utilities and their allies from EURELECTRIC and RECS has wisely been rejected.

But extreme vigilance still needs to be exercised during the legislative process which starts now.

EREF will be a strong ally to the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission to further improve parts of the Directive.