

EAA statement on the Energy Council Conclusions

A landmark step towards boosting industrial competitiveness in Europe

Brussels, 13 June 2014: Following the Council conclusions on energy prices and costs in Europe, the European Aluminium Association issues the following statement:

"Member States have sent the strongest signal to date of the need to address unsustainable energy costs that are crippling energy-intensive industries in Europe" said Gerd Götz, Director General of the European Aluminium Association. "EAA welcomes the Member States' call to develop measures to prevent investment leakage and provide long-term policy planning". The aluminium industry calls for robust compensation measures to relieve electro-intensive industries from the extra costs of climate policies embedded into energy prices that global competitors do not face. In particular, this should be addressed through free allocations for ETS direct costs and the establishment of an EU-wide mechanism for its indirect costs. It is only with those measures that we can achieve a true European industrial renaissance. It is therefore essential that the next Commission answers the Council's call to restore industrial competitiveness" he added.

This acknowledgement follows a European Commission report¹ which demonstrates that EU climate and energy policies have a significant impact on the global competitiveness of aluminium production in Europe. Plant closures and curtailments have already led to drop more than one third of the production capacity between 2007 and 2012, despite consistent and growing European demand for aluminium products and innovative resource efficient solutions.

More information: [EAA factsheet - Key findings of the CEPS Cumulative Cost Assessment of EU rules](#)

About the European Aluminium Association:

The European Aluminium Association, founded in 1981, represents the whole value chain of the aluminium industry in Europe, from alumina and primary production to semi-finished, end-use products and recycling. The European aluminium industry directly employs about 255,000 people and yields an annual turnover of 36.8 billion €. For information, please visit www.alueurope.eu

For further information, please contact:

Erich Cuaz, Public Affairs and Communication Director
Tel +32 (0)2 775 63 59, Email cuaz@eaa.be

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item_id=7124&lang=en&tpa_id=169&title=Final-report---Assessment-of-Cumulative-Cost-Impact-for-the-Aluminium-Industry