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**ENV 1316
CLIMA 575
COMPET 1280
IND 566
AGRI 668
FOOD 112
PECHE 430
ENER 642
MI 995
ENT 270
MAP 151
RECH 534**

NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject: A strategic framework for a competitive and sustainable EU bioeconomy
- Exchange of views

1. On 27 November 2025, the Commission presented a Communication on a Strategic Framework for a Competitive and Sustainable EU Bioeconomy¹, which aims to enhance the use of renewable biological resources from land and sea and provide alternatives to critical raw materials, thereby enabling the EU to move forward towards a more circular and decarbonised economy.

¹ 16071/25 - COM(2025) 960 final + ADD1.

2. In order to guide the exchange of views on the Bioeconomy Strategy at the forthcoming meeting of the Council (Environment) on 16 December 2025, the Presidency has prepared a background paper and two questions, as set out in the Annex to this note.
3. The Committee of the Permanent Representatives is invited to take note of the Presidency's background paper and to forward it to the Council for the abovementioned exchange of views.

A strategic framework for a competitive and sustainable EU bioeconomy

- Exchange of views -

Presidency background paper with questions for Ministers

The European Commission presented “A Strategic Framework for a Competitive and Sustainable EU Bioeconomy” on 27 November 2025.¹

The vision in the Bioeconomy Strategy is that by 2040, sustainable bio-based materials and products are widely deployed in the EU, making biosolutions competitive. It focuses on upscaling and innovation, developing lead markets, ensuring sustainably sourced biomass and harnessing global partnerships and opportunities.

Commission President Ursula von der Leyen has identified the bioeconomy as key to providing sustainable solutions to some of our greatest challenges on several occasions, including sustainable prosperity, climate change, resource scarcity, biodiversity loss, and to achieving the goal of making Europe climate-neutral by 2050.

Former President of the European Central Bank, Mario Draghi, has highlighted the bioeconomy as a key driver in reducing reliance on fossil fuels, advancing circular economy practices, creating green jobs, and achieving the European Union’s goals for a sustainable and competitive economy. The European Council conclusions of 27 June 2024 and the Strategic Agenda 2024–2029 emphasised the need to develop a resource-efficient economy, to promote the industrial development of clean technologies, and to fully realise the potential of the bioeconomy.

¹ 16071/25 + ADD 1.

In its 2023 Council conclusions, the Council also called for the mobilisation of rural and coastal areas through the development of new value chains.

The current dependence on fossil resources for energy, fertilisers, chemicals, and materials represents a geopolitical and strategic challenge. The *EU Bioeconomy Strategy Progress Report* from 2022 concluded that the EU is likely to face a biomass availability gap of 40–70% by 2050. However, the EU is currently largely self-sufficient in biomass supply (around 90%)² and it has the means to remain so, provided that coherent long-term measures are implemented that maintain productive capacity, ecosystem health, and resource resilience over time. The purpose of the bioeconomy strategy framework is to put in place these measures while contributing to the Union's growth, employment, competitiveness, European Green Deal objectives, including climate objectives and, biodiversity and environmental targets.

Ministers are invited to reflect on the following guiding question for the Exchange of views at the Environment Council Meeting:

- What are the key challenges and opportunities to securing a long-term resilient bioeconomy that is sustainably sourced, competitive and benefits local communities?
- Does the EU Bioeconomy Strategy contain sufficient elements to achieve the vision of the European Bioeconomy in 2040? If not, in your view, what elements are missing?

² JRC, EU Biomass supply, uses, governance and regenerative actions, 2025.