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Press Release

ARGENTINIAN BIODIESEL IMPORTS TO EU MUST BE SUBJECT TO COUNTERVAILING DUTIES

Following DG TRADE's last year decision to abruptly end anti-dumping duties on biodiesel, the European Union import volumes from Argentina have increased dramatically by 1.5 million tonnes between September 2017 and July 2018.

On 3rd October, the Trade Defence Instruments Committee will be discussing the European Commission's decision not to impose provisional countervailing duties on biodiesel imports originating from Argentina.

"Such a choice to opt for inaction is baffling. The US administration has decided to protect itself against Argentinian biodiesel differential export taxes by imposing countervailing duties since the beginning of 2018," said Pekka PESONEN, Secretary General of Copa and Cogeca.

This situation is harming European rapeseed producers. European biodiesel companies are being forced to close factories, or moth-ball production sites. They cannot compete with the well-known unfair Argentinian practice of differential export taxes on the European biofuel market, which is capped by the ILUC Directive (EU) 2015/1513

"Copa and Cogeca call on the Committee to demand that DG TRADE urgently imposes legitimate countervailing duties on biodiesel imports originating from Argentina," said Arnaud Rousseau, Chairman of the Copa and Cogeca Working Party on Oilseeds and Protein crops.

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