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From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

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Subject: Council Regulation amending the Council Regulation (EU) No 560/2014 of 6 May 2014 establishing the Bio-based Industries Joint Undertaking
- Adoption
= Statement by Croatia, Greece, Portugal, Slovenia and Spain

Statement supported by Croatia, Greece, Portugal, Slovenia and Spain, on the proposal for a Council Regulation amending the Council Regulation (EU) No 560/2014 of 6 May 2014 establishing the Bio-based Industries Joint Undertaking

The Commission proposal sets out substantial changes. However, no impact assessment has been carried out, nor public consultation either, on it. Therefore, there is no evidence that the proposed changes will be welcome by all stakeholders, in particular, by those who are not members of the Bio-Based Industries Consortium (BIC).

Without the in-cash contribution of industry at programme level, the value added of this Joint Technological Initiative (JTI) is notably less. A set of open calls in the societal challenge 2 of Horizon 2020 would very probably provide more EU added value per euro spent, as open calls are the best way to implement the principle of excellence, and they can tap into the whole potential available in Europe (not only in the BIC members).

For all the above-mentioned reasons, we expect that this proposal does not set a precedent for future unilateral requests of changes in the regulations of other JTIs, nor for industrial financial contributions in future JTIs.
