

Position on COP 21

COP 21 is a chance to ensure EU industry's support to combat climate change

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IFIEC Europe is part of IFIEC World and joins its partner organizations in North- and South America in wishing COP 21 in Paris success in delivering more global and better balanced climate change activities around the world. To succeed:

Cut unfair burdens for EU energy intensive industry

IFIEC Europe members have among the world's most energy- and carbon-efficient manufacturing processes. They have to, as actions required from industries in Europe far exceed the burden on competing companies in the rest of the world. Pace-setting EU climate policy creates energy prices that threaten the competitiveness and survival of primary manufacturing in the EU.

Reduce widening gap with EU competitors

COP 21 is one of the last chances to narrow this gap. However, the EU is almost alone in filing an ambitious commitment (INDC – Intended Nationally Determined Contributions) as input for the Paris negotiations. If no comparable efforts are made in other economic blocks then the competitiveness gap will widen, EU energy intensive industry will lose its strength and no longer be a motor of economic recovery and innovations, many of which help to reduce carbon emissions worldwide.

Support a healthy and innovative EU manufacturing industry

Therefore, we would especially draw the attention of our EU negotiators and decision makers to the messages outlined in the IFIEC World paper: "Combating global warming will benefit from a healthy and innovative energy intensive industry".

Align Climate with Energy and Industry Policies ...

A challenging but realistic Emissions Trading System (ETS) which works with industry to grow efficient production is the way to narrow the competitive gap while achieving the reduction targets we all know are needed. The European Council in October 2014 clearly stated that the most efficient installations should not face undue carbon costs in a reformed EU ETS. We call on EU negotiators to deliver on this.

... which will contribute to realistic and economic CO2 reductions!

An EU ETS friendly to energy intensive industry would show other economic regions how a market can deliver a cost-effective solution to climate change, and that consistent worldwide combat against global warming can be a realistic vision.

IFIEC Europe represents European energy intensive industrial consumers where energy is a major component of operating costs and directly affects competitiveness.