

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT PLENARY VOTE ON ETS AND CBAM – CEMBUREAU REACTION

Timely implementation of CBAM is key to support the sector’s transition to carbon neutrality, says the European cement association

Brussels, 22nd June 2022 – CEMBUREAU, the European Cement Association (www.cembureau.eu), welcomed today the adoption of the European Parliament reports on the EU Emission Trading Scheme (ETS) and the EU Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM).

“Our sector needs a coherent and predictable regulatory framework to deliver on its carbon neutrality ambitions. The texts adopted today offer significant improvements on key issues – such as the reinforcement of CBAM, the inclusion of indirect emissions, the need for a strong export solution for CBAM sectors, the inclusion of waste incineration in the EU ETS and the support for key breakthrough technologies – which we welcome”, commented Koen Coppenholle, CEO of CEMBUREAU. “We however regret that the compromise reached suggests delaying CBAM’s implementation by a year, at a time when EU cement imports are growing exponentially”.

Eurostat data shows that EU cement imports have increased by 300% in the past five years (2016-2021), with specific spikes when the EU carbon price was at the highest (2020: +25%; 2021: +54%; please see below infographics). Data available for the first three months of 2022 reveals a further increase of +47% as compared to the same period in 2021. Against this background, CEMBUREAU advocates for setting up of a watertight CBAM, as well as a realistic implementation when it comes to the phase-out of free allocation.

“Looking ahead at trilogue discussions, we call on negotiators to further strengthen CBAM and agree on its timely introduction. We equally believe that our industry needs a supporting regulatory framework for carbon capture and CO₂ utilisation – such as innovation funding and fair CO₂ accounting rules. The European cement sector’s Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) projects are pivotal in decarbonisation of our industry”, added Coppenholle.

CEMBUREAU looks forward to engaging constructively with policymakers as both legislations are finalised over the coming months.

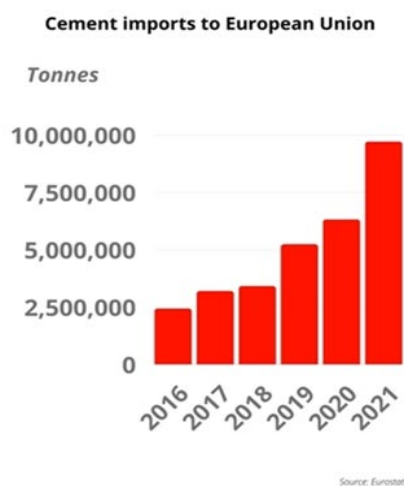
NOTES FOR EDITORS

CEMBUREAU – The European Cement Association

CEMBUREAU, the European Cement Association is based in Brussels and is the representative organisation of the cement industry in Europe. Currently, its Full Members are the national cement industry associations and cement companies of the European Union (except for Malta and Slovakia) plus Norway, Switzerland and Turkey. Croatia and Serbia are Associate Members of CEMBUREAU. Cooperation agreements have been concluded with Vassiliko Cement in Cyprus and UKRCEMENT in Ukraine.

Please click [here](#) to view the 2050 Carbon Neutrality Roadmap online, and click [here](#) to access CEMBUREAU's map of ongoing innovation projects.

EU cement imports – recent statistics



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