

# Now YOU can influence the EU Research and Development Policy on biomass use for heating and cooling!

## INVITATION to participate in


### RHC – ETP

European Technology Platform for  
Renewable Heating & Cooling

The new European Technology Platform for Renewable Heating and Cooling (RHC-ETP) has been recently endorsed by the European Commission. This platform takes into account all renewable heating sources (biomass, solar thermal and geothermal) and deals with strategic issues for growth, competitiveness and sustainability. The formulation of a **Vision** and a **Strategic Research Agenda** for heating and cooling are clear mid-term goals.

The Commission underlines the importance of developing the platform and especially its future R&D priorities combined with the allocation of EU funding. The following calls of the Seventh Framework Programme in 2010 and 2011 will mainly focus on heating from renewable energy sources.

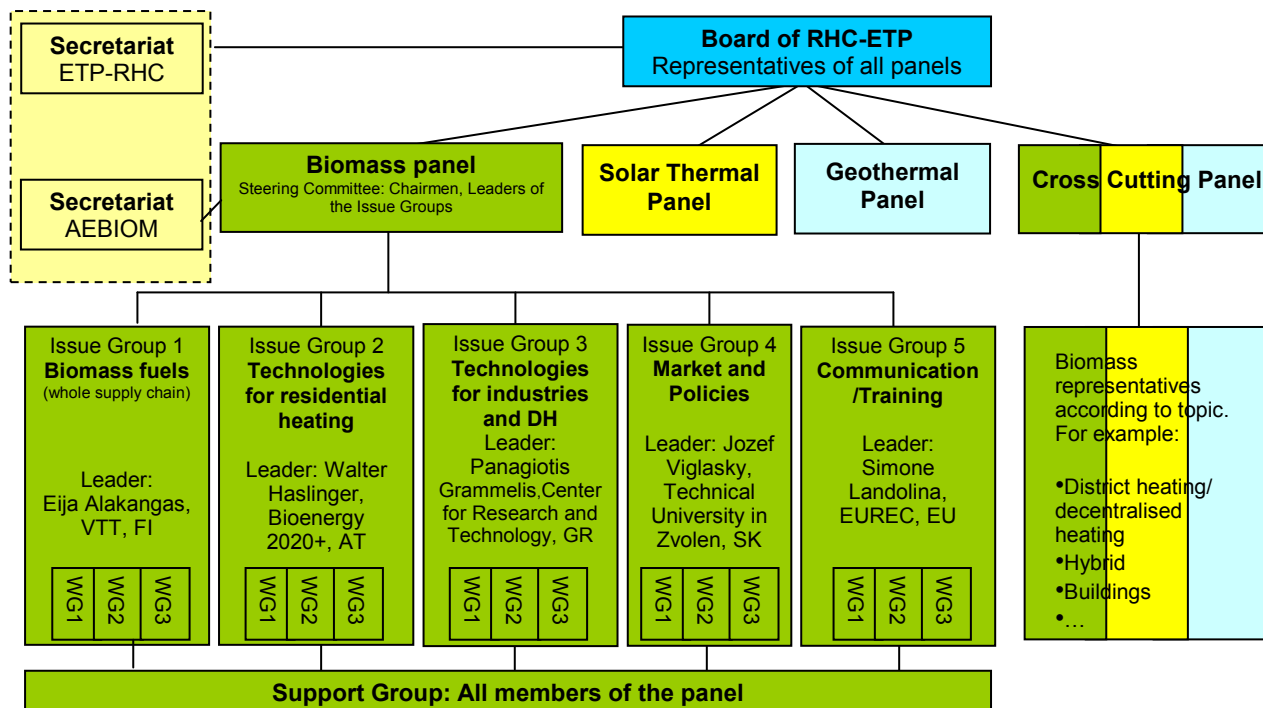
### Summary

<b>European Technology Platforms</b>	ETPs provide a framework for stakeholders, led by industry, to define research and development priorities, timeframes and action plans on a number of strategically important issues, looking at medium to long term	Directorate-General for Energy and Transport   EUROPEAN COMMISSION
<b>Goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ A Vision for the sector with medium and long term perspectives</li> <li>➤ A Strategic Research Agenda (SRA) giving priorities for R&amp;D</li> <li>➤ Implementation of the SRA</li> </ul>	
<b>Who should join</b>	The platform is open to all companies, research organisations, universities and other stakeholders within the European Union who have an interest in heating and cooling from biomass	
<b>Profit for participants</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Increased awareness among politicians and decision makers</li> <li>➤ Networking, information exchange</li> <li>➤ Increased funding for bioenergy projects R&amp;D</li> <li>➤ Development of the bioenergy markets</li> </ul>	
<b>Coverage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The priority is on heating and cooling</li> <li>➤ Biomass fuels supply chains, conversion technologies, environmental measures, market and policies, communication and training</li> <li>➤ Cross cutting issues together with solar/geothermal (cooling, district heating, etc.)</li> </ul>	
<b>Financing</b>	The participation in this platform is free of charge.	

## The structure

The European Biomass Association (AEBIOM) hosted the launch meeting of the biomass panel on 15 April 2009 in Brussels. The aim, structure and interim management of the platform were discussed. Please find detailed minutes at [www.aebiom.org](http://www.aebiom.org).

Five issue groups were established and their interim chairmen also form the current start-up committee of the biomass panel. This committee will organize the next meeting, select the topics to be covered (to form working groups) and prepare for the elections of the issue group leaders, the steering committee and its chairman.



## Interested?

The second meeting of the biomass panel will take place in the European Commission premises in **Brussels, 1 October 2009**. All stakeholders are welcome to submit topics to the interim leaders of the respective issue group who will prepare the program.

Therefore please let us know:

- I. If you would like to participate in the platform and how you think to contribute to its development
- II. Which is your specific area of expertise and which is your Issue Group of reference
- III. The specific research topics you propose to discuss

You can find more information about this platform, the minutes of the launch meeting and examples of already established platforms on [www.aebiom.org](http://www.aebiom.org) (a dedicated website for the RHC-ETP is under development).

## Contact details

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<b>Issue Groups</b>	<b>Responsible of each group and members of the start up committee</b>
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