



The 2016 Ceramic-Days were held from Tuesday 29 November until Thursday 1 December 2016. This year the objective of the Ceramic-Days was to understand how labour and energy intensive industries can continue to contribute and further develop sustainable European jobs. The 17th European Parliament Ceramics Forum on 29 November and the high-level event on 30 November were open to the public and were both a great success.

The European Parliament Ceramic Forum (EPCF) met for its 17th plenary meeting in Brussels. The event was hosted by EPCF Chair MEP Inmaculada Rodríguez-Piñero, and attracted over 100 participants from EU institutions, the ceramic industry and other stakeholders. The EPCF was divided into two panels titled “Promoting green and safe

jobs in a sustainable ceramic industry” and “For an ETS fostering low carbon innovation in European SME’s”.

During the closing conference of the 2016 Ceramic Days the panelists discussed how the ceramic industry composed mostly of SME’s is able to strengthen its leadership through investments and innovation. Our high level speakers discussed the policies which can contribute to growth, investment and industrial policy. (mvv)

## COP22: an Action and Implementation COP

COP22 took place from 7 to 18 November in Marrakech. It aimed to demonstrate that commitments made in Paris are being implemented, and to act as a catalyst for further action. A series of events and conferences were organized, with a strong focus on strengthening climate action before 2020. The majority of the Parties have yet to complete their domestic ratification procedures, therefore the agenda of the COP22 in Marrakech was mainly ceremonial, celebrating the entry into force of the Paris Agreement. For more information click [here](#). (cm)

## CPE Resource efficiency workshop

Construction Products Europe organised a resource efficiency workshop on 22 November in Brussels. The goal of the event was to know more about the European Commission initiatives on resource efficiency, more particularly looking at waste and recycling. Mr Paparella presented the EU pre-demolition audit & construction and demolition waste management protocol initiatives from DG GROW. Ms Lindblom and Mr Wolff presented the initiatives EU Resource Efficient Buildings and Resource Efficient use of mixed waste from DG ENVI. Furthermore, project leaders had the chance to present initiatives on resource efficient buildings, waste and industrial symbiosis. The presentations given at the workshop can be found [here](#). (np)



## Clean Energy for all Europeans



On **30 November 2016** the European Commission published the "Clean Energy package", a set of measures to keep the European Union competitive as the clean energy transition is changing the global energy markets. Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy Miguel Arias Cañete said: "our proposals provide a strong market pull for new technologies, set the right conditions for investors, empower consumers, make energy markets

work better and help us meet our climate targets." The package includes proposals such as: a revised electricity regulation, [a revised energy efficiency Directive \(EED\)](#), a revised energy performance of buildings Directive (EPBD), a revised renewable energy Directive, a regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union, and the [report on energy prices and costs in Europe](#). (cm)

An accompanying Staff Working document to the Report on energy prices and costs study contains case studies of few energy intensive industries, including **bricks and roof tiles and wall and floor tiles** and can be found [here](#) (Part 9/13, Annex 2, Pages: for tiles 323 – 330, for bricks 331 – 335).

Among others European Commission proposes to increase **the energy efficiency target from 27% to 30%** by 2030 and to change the nature of the target by making it **binding**. The proposal does not specify exclusion of the ETS-sectors from the directive. (mv)

The first annex of the Communication on 'Clean Energy for All Europeans' focuses on **buildings**: [Accelerating Clean energy in Buildings](#). The document highlights the importance of effective use of public funding, but also mentions a 'possible revision of the Construction Products Regulation' and the role of Ecodesign in construction. Moreover, the package includes a [proposal](#) for a revised Energy Performance of Building Directive (EPBD) and the [Ecodesign Working Plan 2016-2019](#). Read the Cerame-Unie [position paper on the revision of the EPBD](#). (np)

All, over 1200 pages, published by the Commission, which can be found [here](#), are a basis for the legislative processes in the next few year to shape the European Energy Union.

## Competitiveness of the Construction sector conference

Cerame-Unie took part in the fourth Thematic Group 5 "International Competitiveness" meeting of the Commission's "Construction 2020" Action Plan. This is part of the strategy for the sustainable competitiveness of the construction sector and its enterprises ([COM \(2012\) 433 final](#)).

The Thematic Group 5 addressed actions for international competitiveness, particularly regarding market access. CU commented on FTAs and on market access issue and trade barriers in SE, Mercosur, etc. For further information, please consult the [website](#) of the Commission.(sv)

## Short news and publications

- ⇒ The [INSYME Project](#) will come to its end during December. The sixteen partners have developed ten innovative systems for masonry infill walls. You will find further information in Annex 1.
- ⇒ [Life HEROTILE project \(LIFE14CCA/IT/000939\) ongoing activities](#): two mockups were been installed, buildings with test roofs, to compare performances of the new Marsellaise and Portuguese tiles with the standard ones. You will find further information in Annex 2.
- ⇒ On 28 October, the European Commission launched a [public consultation](#) in relation to the REACH REFIT evaluation. The consultation is open until 28 January 2017. Cerame-Unie will convey its views via BusinessEurope, who will reply in detail to the consultation.
- ⇒ EP rapporteur Ulvskog presented her draft report on the revision of the Carcinogens and Mutagens Directive on 8 December. Amongst other amendments, she proposes to reduce the exposure limit for respirable crystalline silica (RCS) down to 0,05 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (compared to 0,1 mg/m<sup>3</sup> as proposed by the European Commission). NEPSI signatories (representing employers and employees) have prepared a joint position paper regarding the proposed limit and requesting a better recognition of the NEPSI agreement, the first European multi-sectoral Social Dialogue Agreement. The deadline to table additional amendments is 9 January. The vote in the EP Employment Committee will take place end of February. Cerame-Unie is reaching out to the members of the European Parliament Employment Committee to inform them of our position.
- ⇒ AEGIS Europe (an alliance grouping nearly 30 European industry associations) is a finalist in the 'Best Lobbying Campaign' category of the [European Association Awards 2017!](#) The winner of the award will be announced on the 24<sup>th</sup> of February in Brussels.

### Meetings and events

- 22 Feb 2017, Brussels, TBE Sust. Constr. WG
- 27 Mar 2017, Brussels, TBE Pro-Masonry TF
- 28 Mar 2017, Brussels, TBE Roofing Tiles PG



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