

## Raw Materials

*European Commission Raw Materials Initiative*

### The issue

The European Commission proposes a new strategy to address the EU's critical needs for raw materials. The strategy, released in a Communication on 5 November 2008 bases on 3 pillars<sup>(1)</sup>:

- Access to raw materials on world markets at undistorted conditions
- Sustainable supply of raw materials from European sources
- Increase of resource efficiency and promotion of recycling

### Impacts on the industry

The initiative aims at securing and improving access to raw materials for the European Industry to respond to different challenges, which European Industry is currently facing:

- Protectionist measures by many resource rich countries
- Emerging countries' activities to secure privileged access to raw materials
- High import dependency for certain materials

### CEPI's position

For the European Pulp and Paper Industry, this is a very important initiative and must be supported as

- The industry depends on sustainable mobilisation of wood from European and other sources
- The industry needs the right legislative framework to push recycling and efficient use of primary and secondary raw materials even further
- Some of the particular interests of the renewable raw materials using industries such as the competition between energy and material uses are addressed

### Additional information

- <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2008:0699:FIN:EN:PDF>
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(1) Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council: The raw materials initiative – meeting our critical needs for growth and jobs in Europe

