EN
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Answer given by Mr Tzitzikostas
on behalf of the European Commission
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1. The last European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) report[1] shows that Aviation biofuels produced from used cooking oil were the primary type of sustainable aviation fuels (SAF) supplied in the EU in 2024. Since aviation biofuels produced from waste oils are a mature production technology, fuel suppliers will rely on them to meet the ReFuelEU[2] mandates in the short-term. However, due to their supply constraints, reaching future objectives ReFuelEU will require a diverse range of SAF technologies and feedstocks to ensure that SAF is widely available and affordable across the EU.

Driven by energy independence and resilience priorities of the EU, the Sustainable Transport Investment Plan (STIP)[3] and AccelerateEU[4] aim to enhance SAF production and supply chains within the EU, specifically of synthetic aviation fuels (eSAF) and advanced aviation biofuels.

2. ReFuelEU provides a flexibility mechanism for aviation fuel suppliers to have a weighted average approach for SAF supply across Union airports. To further support the SAF market development, the Commission, with support from EASA, is studying further flexibilities including a study on potentially establishing a book and claim system for SAF.

3. ReFuelEU flexibilities seek to limit the fuel cost burden on aircraft operators associated with the ramp-up of SAF mandates and fuel logistics. In addition, the support provided under the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS)[5] allows aircraft operators to reduce fuel costs, by compensating for the price difference between uplifted SAF and kerosene. While the former provision promotes a technology-neutral, cost-effective SAF rollout, the ETS SAF support scheme is designed to de-risk the uptake of less mature SAF technologies.

[1] https://www.easa.europa.eu/en/document-library/general-publications/refueleu-aviation-annual-technical-report-2025.
[2] https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/2405/oj.
[3] https://transport.ec.europa.eu/news-events/news/commission-unveils-sustainable-transport-investment-plan-strategic-approach-boost-renewable-and-low-2025-11-05_en.
[4] https://energy.ec.europa.eu/publications/accelerateeu-energy-union-affordable-and-secure-energy-through-accelerated-action_en.
[5] https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex%3A32023L0958.