The European Aggregates Association

Ensuring sustainable access to resources within Europe

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European Economic and Social Committee – Mini Hearing
Brussels, 28 April 2011
Introduction to UEPG

- UEPG created in 1987
- General Secretariat in Brussels
- Now with 26 Member Countries
- Represents Industry with:
  - Sales of ~€20 billion
  - Over 3 billion tonnes of aggregates per year
  - 24,000 quarries & pits
  - 16,000 companies
  - 300,000 employed (including contractors)
Access to resources remains a political challenge

- Three pillars of the 2008 Raw Materials Initiative remain but are now headed by 10 pages addressing commodity markets.

- Necessary to strengthen campaign on fostering sustainable supply within the EU – Pillar 2

- Subsidiarity principle
Contribution to Biodiversity
Extraction in Natura 2000

• Final version published
• Extractive Industry can indeed co-exist with Natura 2000 areas
• Furthermore, Extractive Industry can positively contribute to Biodiversity
Promoting More Recycling

- **UEPG data:**
  - 90% natural
  - 6% recycled
  - 2% marine
  - 2% manufactured

- **UK, B, NL** recycle 90% of C&D materials, that’s only ~20% of total demand.

- **Overall** 40% of C&D materials are recycled – 70% is EU target!
Way forward

• Way forward described in the new Communication focuses on commodity prices and food security

• Commission will hold regular public discussion through an annual thematic event

• Possibility of a European Raw Materials Yearbook

• Support national initiatives, e.g. Finnish Raw Materials Strategy, German Raw Materials Agency
UEPG supports EESC recommendations

• 1.9: Domestic supply among pillars of all raw material policies
• 3.7: Strong and competitive industry operating in Europe
• 3.10/3.11: Consistency/coherence with other EU policies
• 3.12: Medium and long term effects of EU policies on accessibility for basic raw materials
• 4.3.10: Compatibility of extractive activities and environmental protection
UEPG is calling for

- Good future local/regional access to aggregate resources
- Prioritised access to resources in minerals planning
- Simplified planning and permitting processes
- Recognition of the compatibility of extractive activities and environmental protection
- Removal of inappropriate barriers to Recycling
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Thank you for your attention!

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