

**Joint statement of aluminium associations following the publication of the OECD report:
“Measuring distortions in international markets: the aluminium value chain.”**

In January 2019, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) released a landmark report, [“Measuring distortions in international markets: The aluminium value chain.”](#) It highlights how non-market forces are responsible for some of the recent increases in aluminium smelting capacities, with adverse impacts throughout the value chain. The report conservatively estimates the magnitude of government support received by 17 international companies, selected for their economic relevance and geographic distribution. In total, the report indicates that these companies have received up to USD 70 billion in different forms of support over the 2013-2017 period. Notably, 85 percent of the documented subsidies went to just five firms.

The report suggests improvements to the design of trade rules in WTO to address the distortions resulting from subsidies, as well as the need to assess the impact of government support throughout the whole value chain, and to better account for the influence of state actors given the dual role of some State Owned Enterprises (SOEs) as both recipients and providers of support.

As association leaders who have expressed grave concerns about this situation for several years, we are very appreciative of the work undertaken by the OECD that identifies fact-based evidence concerning the root causes of the significant distortions that have resulted in long-lasting difficulties faced by aluminium producers and lends persuasive support to calls for steps to address such distortions.

Given the extent and duration of the harm suffered by our sector, we are calling for swift, focused and decisive action with respect to both distortive governments support and the excess capacity in both the upstream and downstream aluminium sectors. On behalf of all our members, we stand ready to support Governments and international organisations with our knowledge, data and commitment to articulate improved trade rules and to restore normal market functions so that all producers, wherever they reside in the aluminium value chain, will be able to compete under conditions of fairness and transparency.

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Heidi Brock
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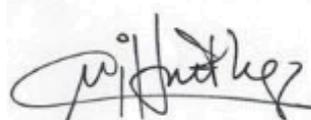
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