



## Press Release

EUNIRPA worried about threat of margin squeezes

**Almelo (The Netherlands), November 14th 2017. – EUNIRPA is worried about the continuous tightness on the wire rod market in the EU. Although EU integrated producers are enjoying very healthy margins, the non-integrated wire rod processors remain under continued threat of margin squeezes. For the time being, this is mitigated, to a certain extent, by imports from third countries.**

EUNIRPA is concerned that in spite of growing wire rod consumption in the EU, the non-integrated wire rod processors are not able to benefit of the positive market environment to the same extent as integrated EU wire rod producers. A significant number of non-integrated processors are suffering from a continued margin squeeze pressure exercised on downstream production. This has in recent months led to further closures of non-integrated processors. Kris Van Ginderdeuren, President of EUNIRPA said: "EUNIRPA considers that this challenge will be mitigated only if access of imports from third countries at commercially viable quantities and reasonable prices is maintained."

EUNIRPA is also actively monitoring with concern the explosive increase in prices of electrodes and other raw materials which may severely impact on the own input costs of its members.

During the meeting, EUNIRPA's Technical Committee presented a detailed report on its latest achievements in the context of the harmonisation of standards at EU level. EUNIRPA's members plan to continue to work closely with the relevant authorities to promote a closer harmonisation of national standards.

The two day meeting was attended by a record number of members representing twelve companies operating in all EU Member States.