

## Statement on the EU Deforestation Regulation Delay

APAG & CESIO, two sector groups of Cefic representing the European oleochemicals and surfactants industries, acknowledge the European Commission's intention to further postpone the date of application of the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR).

As committed stakeholders, we continue to support the objectives of the EUDR to tackle deforestation and forest degradation. Our members have already made significant investments and preparations to comply with the regulation.

We understand the need for a postponement due to the technical limitations the TRACES system poses but definitive clarity is paramount for business continuity for EU businesses. A second delay must not become a pause without progress. It must be used to:

- Develop and deliver a well-functioning Information System.
- Provide clear and harmonised guidance on implementation across Member States.
- Simplify requirements to ensure transparency, proportionality, workability and inclusion of smallholders.
- Finalise the Annex I scope revision, closing the loopholes that currently set an unlevelled playing field and puts the sectors' competitiveness at risk.
- Enhance engagement with producing countries regarding all outstanding matters (e.g. sharing of geolocation coordinates, proof of legality, required documentation to show compliance).

Without simplification and collaborative solutions, EUDR risks escalating business costs, disrupting supply chains and undermining the global competitiveness of European industry. The current uncertainty has already caused instability across global value chains, particularly in the palm and palm kernel oils supply chain, where stakeholders are left uncertain about future compliance expectations. This situation is unsustainable.

We therefore call on the European Commission to:

- Publish the proposal amending the date of application without delay and ensure co-legislators use the urgency procedure.
- Actively and consistently engage with affected stakeholders to co-create workable solutions.

We trust that the EU Commission, the EU Parliament and the Council of EU will engage in a constructive and coordinated dialogue to secure agreement on the delay within the next two months, as shipments of raw materials falling under Annex 1 are already scheduled for destination to the EU and will need to be registered under the TRACES system in the coming weeks. This will exacerbate the IT problems and compliance risks for operators.

APAG & CESIO remain fully committed to achieving the EUDR's objectives. The effectiveness of the regulation depends on ensuring that businesses are given the clarity, tools and stability needed to implement it successfully. We understand the need for a delay, but it must serve as an opportunity to work together on overcoming the outstanding hurdles and ensuring the regulation's effectiveness.



**Oleochemicals Europe**

APAG – Oleochemicals Europe represents a long-established sector of the European bioeconomy. Since the early 19th century, the oleochemical industry has been using rendered animal fats to manufacture bio-based products used for candles, paints, detergents, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals and many other applications.

Our industry continues to invest in sustainable technologies enabling the development of a circular bioeconomy: for instance, oleochemical products are used to de-ink used paper to enable recycling and to de-ice airplanes as an alternative to fossil-based materials.

For more information visit our website [www.apag.eu](http://www.apag.eu) or visit our [LinkedIn](#) page



**European Committee of Organic Surfactants and their intermediates**

CESIO (the European Committee of Organic Surfactants and their Intermediates) is an industry association that represents manufacturers and marketers in the European surfactants industry. CESIO contributes to better understanding of surfactants and the many ways in which they contribute to economic development and quality of life; and addresses specific issues relating to human health and the environment in order to sustain their beneficial contribution to society. Surfactants have a wide range of end-uses including in household detergents, personal care formulations, industrial and institutional washing and cleaning, as well as technical applications in textiles, leather and paper treatment, agrochemicals, the metal, mining and oil industries, and in plastics, lubricants, paints and coatings.

For more information visit our website [www.cesio.eu](http://www.cesio.eu)