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EU PARLIAMENT MOVES TO BAN UNFAIR TRADING PRACTICES IN THE FOOD SUPPLY CHAIN

The EU Parliament Agriculture Committee voted with an overwhelming majority for a fair food supply chain benefiting all actors and consumers. This historic vote is welcomed by the entire European food supply chain as a key step towards ensuring fairness and certainty for all. The legislation guarantees that agreed contracts between farmers, producers and retailers are respected and that no party can apply Unfair Trading Practices (UTPs).

The IMCO, ENVI and DEVE Committees made important contributions to the report of MEP De Castro, highlighting the commitment of the EU Parliament not to tolerate Unfair Trading Practices in the food supply chain.

The 11 million farmers and 293.000 food producers of Europe call now for the support of the European Commission and Council to ensure that this legislative proposal is adopted by the end of 2018. The proposal would complement existing legislation against Unfair Trading Practices in 20 Member States protecting all actors from the direct or indirect effects of UTPs, and avoid legal fragmentation and forum shopping.

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AIM is the European Brands Association. It represents brand manufacturers in Europe on key issues which affect their ability to design, distribute and market their brands. AIM's membership groups some 1800 companies of all sizes through corporate members and national associations in 21 countries.

CEJA represents the political interests of around two million young farmers from across Europe. Its main objectives are to facilitate the installation of young farmers, to inform and to train them as well as act as a forum for communication and dialogue between them.

Copa and Cogeca are the united voice of farmers and agri-cooperatives in the EU. Together, they ensure that EU agriculture is sustainable, innovative and competitive, guaranteeing food security to half a billion people throughout Europe. Copa represents over 23 million farmers and their families whilst Cogeca represents the interests of 22,000 agricultural cooperatives. They have 66 member organisations from the EU member states. Together, they are one of the biggest and most active lobbying organisations in Brussels.

EFFAT is the European Federation of Food, Agriculture and Tourism Trade Unions. As a European Trade Union Federation representing 120 national trade unions from 35 European countries, EFFAT defends the interests of more than 22 million workers towards the European Institutions, European employers' associations and transnational companies. EFFAT is a member of the ETUC and the European regional organisation of the IUF.

FoodDrinkEurope is the organisation of Europe's food and drink industry, the largest manufacturing sector and leading employer in the EU and a key contributor to its economy (293 000 companies, 99% SMEs, 4.5 million employees).

IFOAM EU represents more than 190 member organisations in the EU-28, the EU accession countries and EFTA. Member organisations span the entire organic food chain and beyond: from farmers and processors organisations, retailers, certifiers, consultants, traders and researchers to environmental and consumer advocacy bodies.