



Brussels, 12 March 2019

## AN IMPORTANT STEP CLOSER TO A FAIRER FOOD CHAIN FOR EVERYONE

Today, Members of the European Parliament strongly voted in favour of promoting a fair food supply chain, delivering on their promise to #CutTheUnfair. The signatories welcome this historic vote for banning unfair trading practices in the food value chain. This action will improve the trading conditions for the 11 million farmers and 293,000 producers in Europe, as well as for many more suppliers outside the EU, when selling their products on the European market.

The Directive brings more certainty and clarity to those buying and selling agri-food products across the chain. By providing a minimum harmonisation level across the EU, policy-makers achieved a significant step in the fight against unfair trading practices in the food supply chain.

Once the file is adopted by the Council, it will be time for member states to focus on the transposition and implementation of the legislation and the enforcement of the rules. The European Commission, Member States and Members of the European Parliament should now renew their efforts to ensure that the provisions of the Directive are transposed as soon as possible and in the spirit of the Directive.

**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.

As a joint initiative of Fairtrade International, the World Fair Trade Organization and the World Fair Trade Organization-Europe, the **Fair Trade Advocacy Office** leads the Fair Trade movement political advocacy at European Union level and contributes to the strengthening of the political advocacy capacities of the global Fair Trade movement.

**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.

**Oxfam** is an international confederation of 20 organizations networked together in more 90 than countries, as part of a global movement for change, to build a future free from the injustice of poverty. Oxfam International's European Union office works to ensure that EU policies affecting poor countries have a positive impact on the lives of those most in need.