



Joint press release

FEFAC and FEDIOL welcome the indefinite renewal of the Soy Moratorium

Brussels, 24 May 2016

The Amazon Soy Moratorium guarantees market access only to soy products that are free from deforestation, slave or threats to indigenous lands. Initially launched in 2006 for two years, and renewed annually since 2008, it has been renewed indefinitely on 9 May 2016, as announced by the Brazilian Soy Task Force (GTF). The GTF is a multi-stakeholder coalition bringing together the private sector, the civil society and the Brazilian government.

“The Soy Moratorium has proved to be effective in reducing deforestation in the Amazon as a consequence of soybean and we therefore welcome its indefinite renewal” says Henri Rieux, FEDIOL President.

From a broader perspective, FEFAC and FEDIOL consider that ending illegal deforestation through ensuring legal compliance with national regulation is the first step towards forest protection. This represents a valuable contribution of the FEFAC Soy Sourcing Guidelines which are also supported by FEDIOL.

“The Guidelines are in line with for example the current Brazilian Forest Code, which together with the federal monitoring of farms under rural environmental registration (CAR), can be considered a breakthrough in terms of environmental legislation enforcement and enabling responsible soy production” says FEFAC President Ruud Tijssens.

Moreover FEFAC and FEDIOL are convinced that zero net deforestation can only be achieved by regional actions, taking all agricultural activities (like livestock farming, cotton and corn production) in a certain region into account, and encourage such developments.

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FEDIOL, the EU vegetable oil and proteinmeal industry association, represents the interests of the European oilseed crushers, vegetable oil refiners and bottlers. FEDIOL members are 12 national associations and associated company members in 5 other EU countries. With about 150 facilities in Europe, the sector provides 20,000 direct employments. Its members process approximately 55 million tonnes of basic products a year, both of EU origin and imported from third country markets. The sector processes notably rapeseed, sunflower seed, soybeans and linseed into oils and meals for food, feed, technical and energy uses essentially on the European market.

FEFAC, the European Compound Feed Manufacturers' Federation, represents 25 national Associations in 24 EU Member States as well as Associations in Switzerland, Turkey, Serbia, Russia and Norway with observer/associate member status. The European compound feed industry employs over 110,000 persons on app. 4,000 production sites often in rural areas, which offer few employment opportunities. Farm animals in the EU-28 consume an estimated 475 million tonnes of feed a year, of which about 30% are produced by the compound feed manufacturers. Turnover of the European compound feed industry in 2013 is estimated at € 55 billion.