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Press Release

Copa and Cogeca deeply disappointed by European Parliament's rejection of the single safeguard mechanism introduced in the CBAM revision

Today in plenary the European Parliament rejected "Article 27a" in the revision of the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), closing the only door to a temporary safeguard that could have protected farmers from the impact of exceptionally high fertiliser prices in times of crisis. At a time when fertiliser prices remain high and geopolitical tensions are putting further pressure on energy and fertiliser markets, this decision is simply incomprehensible.

European farmers are already facing a highly difficult economic situation, with rising input costs, weather-related losses and growing uncertainty on international markets. They need answers from the EU institutions and a positive signal as we enter the next production season. Fertiliser prices in Europe remain well above their historical averages, while the tensions around the Strait of Hormuz continue to add uncertainty.

In this context, the deletion of Article 27a, originally introduced by the Commission as a corrective measure, leaves farmers fully exposed to the additional costs generated by CBAM, even in exceptional circumstances when fertiliser prices are already soaring. This is particularly alarming given that fertilisers are among the largest input costs for European agriculture and, for many arable farmers, represent their single biggest production expense. Without the possibility of suspending the mechanism during severe market disruptions, CBAM risks exacerbating crisis rather than cushioning its impact.

By backing an industry-led approach without providing a meaningful safeguard for farmers, this decision risks undermining Europe's productive capacity and leaving farmers increasingly exposed in a market that remains far from transparent. Ultimately, the consequences will not stop at the farm gate: higher production costs will feed through to food prices and consumers. At a time when the cost of living is already a major concern for EU citizens, today's vote clearly fails to take this reality into account.

What makes this decision even more disappointing is that a balanced solution was available. It would have been entirely possible to preserve the objectives of supporting the



decarbonisation and competitiveness of the European fertiliser industry while introducing a targeted and temporary crisis safeguard for farmers. Such an approach would have strengthened the resilience of the entire agri-food chain without undermining the long-term objectives of CBAM.

The proposal to allow the Commission to redirect CBAM revenues to support farmers in times of crisis would be little more than a sticking plaster. The same applies to the proposal to include cereals for export in the Temporary Decarbonisation Fund. This would benefit only export-oriented cereal producers, leaving most of the EU crop market without support to offset the impact of CBAM. Moreover, the fund is intended to last only two years, whereas CBAM is a permanent mechanism whose costs are expected to increase progressively until 2034.

With the position adopted by Parliament today, and a Council position that offers little more, farmers have very few reasons to expect a meaningful solution from the upcoming trilogue negotiations. Copa and Cogeca nevertheless call on MEPs and Member States to use the forthcoming negotiations, as well as the revision of the ETS framework, to address this structural problem. European farmers and agri-cooperatives cannot continue to be treated as the shock absorber of certain Europe's policies.

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Translations will be available in DE, ES, FR, IT, PL and RO on the Copa-Cogeca website soon.

About us - Copa and Cogeca are the united voice of farmers and agri-cooperatives in the EU. Together, we ensure that EU agriculture is sustainable, innovative and competitive, while guaranteeing food security for 500 million people throughout Europe. >>> More information www.copa-cogeca.eu

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