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Press Release

Copa and Cogeca call on MEPs for positive outcome for EU agriculture and forestry sectors when vote on Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) report

Copa and Cogeca urge MEPs to ensure a positive outcome for the EU agriculture and forestry sectors when they vote this week on the draft report by MEP Norbert Lins on the Regulation on Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF).

Speaking in Brussels, Copa and Cogeca Secretary-General Pekka Pesonen said “EU forests absorb the equivalent of nearly 10% of total EU greenhouse gas emissions each year so it is important to ensure that they remain viable if we are to fight climate change. The way to do this and to keep forests growing healthily is to manage them sustainably without unnecessary and arbitrary restrictions vis a vis the intensity.”

“We have seen indications of a positive compromise text on the report which has been agreed by various political groups. It should help to ensure present and future investments in the forest sector, as well as move towards the Paris Agreement goals. It is crucial since all Member States face serious challenges with their forests as we have seen this Summer with forest fires and the extreme weather events. We need to be able to manage forests for the future and not for the past if we want to address the present and future challenges”.

“We consequently urge MEPs to vote positively September 13 and support the amendment that deletes the unnecessary restriction vis a vis forest harvest ‘intensity’ from Article 8.3 in order to make sure that we can continue to have a flourishing sector as agriculture and forestry are together part of the solution in fighting climate change. They are the only sectors that remove emissions from the atmosphere”, he stressed.

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