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## Press Release

### **Copa and Cogeca welcome steps to ensure transparency of EU risk assessment model but call for science based decisions and regulatory framework that promotes innovation**

Copa and Cogeca today welcomed, as a step forward, the EU Commission proposal to continue to build on the current framework for food and feed safety, underlining that decisions need to be science-based and promote innovation.

More than fifteen years after the adoption of the principles laid down in the General Food Law (GFL), EU farmers and their cooperatives continue to support these principles. This is a fundamental piece of legislation which sets the foundations for food and feed safety

Copa and Cogeca Secretary General Pekka Pesonen stressed “We welcome the role of the EU Food Safety Authority (EFSA) in ensuring that decisions are science-based and safeguard European food safety and consumer confidence”.

It is essential to continue to strengthen the role of EFSA by ensuring greater consistency and cooperation between the different EU risk assessment bodies, attracting relevant experts, providing predictability and guaranteeing support from the different public authorities.

When it comes to risk communication, it is vital to communicate science in a balanced, professional and pragmatic way. A reliable and coherent regulatory framework, especially at times when there are uncertain markets, is fundamental for farmers and agri-cooperatives to plan ahead ensuring an innovative, competitive and sustainable agricultural sector.

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