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Press Release

Regulation on low ILUC-risk feedstocks will significantly increase potential palm oil imports

Today, the Commission published its [Delegated Regulation](#) supplementing RED II on the determination of high indirect land-use change-risk feedstock. Due to enter into force on 10th June, Copa and Cogeca consider this regulation to make no environmental, economic or political sense, especially with just a few days to go until the European elections.

When drawing up derogations for the certification of low ILUC-risk feedstocks, the European Commission did not carry out an impact assessment nor did it provide quantifiable data on the potential impact of deforestation linked to the small holder scheme.

Under the current provisions, it is obvious to Copa and Cogeca that there is a major risk that the use of palm oil for energy will increase, while European farmers, who respect high environmental standards, will face a cap on EU crop-based biofuels. This defies logic given that the European elections are just a few days away and given that European farmers have shown their [willingness](#) to fight climate change. In the long run, this will only undermine the ambition of RED II within the European farming community and beyond.

Pekka Pesonen, Copa-Cogeca's Secretary General, said, *"Throughout the preparatory process of the delegated act, European farmers and agri-cooperatives constantly claimed that the proposed regulation did not provide sufficient guarantees that palm oil certified as "low ILUC-risk" would only have a limited impact on deforestation in third countries. The technical adjustments proposed by the Commission did not include any additional guarantees."*

Commenting on the next steps, Mr Pesonen said, *"In the event that exports increase compared to 2019 levels and that deforestation continues, the delegated act should be amended to integrate stricter criteria for the certification of low ILUC-risk feedstock and adequate safeguards to curb their expansion into high carbon stock land."*

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Translations (in French, Italian, Spanish, German and Polish) will be available soon.

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