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E-001498/2024

Answer given by Executive Vice-President Šefčovič
on behalf of the European Commission
(7.10.2024)

The EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR)¹, adopted by the European Parliament and Council, is designed to apply in an even-handed and non-discriminatory manner, i.e. to all commodities and products produced inside as well as outside the EU. All commodities and products covered by the EUDR will be subject to the same requirements.

The Commission is aware that a majority of EU forest owners already live up to the highest global standards in terms of quality, safety and environmental sustainability of their produce – and hence are well-placed to meet the requirements of the EUDR. The Commission sees no indication that EUDR would create a competitive advantage for forest owners outside the EU vis à vis EU forest owner.

The Commission's legislative proposal for the EUDR was based on an Impact Assessment² which estimated that overall expected benefits of this Regulation outweigh the costs of compliance for companies.

The EU recognises the importance of accompanying tools to support implementation of the EUDR. The Commission has developed frequently asked questions which are regularly updated and is working on additional formal guidelines for specific aspects. The Commission is also actively engaging in dialogue with producer countries and provides support to those with the weaker capacity, e.g. via the global Team Europe Initiative on Deforestation Free Value Chains.

¹ Regulation (EU) 2023/1115 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 31 May 2023 on the making available on the Union market and the export from the Union of certain commodities and products associated with deforestation and forest degradation and repealing Regulation (EU) No 995/2010, OJ L 150, 9.6.2023, p. 206–247.

² https://environment.ec.europa.eu/publications/proposal-regulation-deforestation-free-products_en