



SENATE
OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC
13TH TERM

394th

RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE

Delivered on the 21st session held on 2nd March 2022

on the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council on the making available on the Union market as well as export from the Union of certain commodities and products associated with deforestation and forest degradation and repealing Regulation (EU) No 995/2010 /Senate Print no. N 104/13, COM(2021) 706 /

The Senate

I.

1. Puts great emphasis

on the need to address the issue of global deforestation and forest degradation as well as on the need to reduce the Union's contribution to both processes because deforestation and forest degradation contribute to the increase of greenhouse gases emissions, decrease carbon sink capacities and resilience of the affected area and substantially reducing its biodiversity;

2. However, has reservations

about the submitted proposal, particularly regarding the substantial increase in the administrative and financial burden for operators and traders as well as for the national control authorities in comparison with the current state;

3. Recommends

therefore to consider another alternative of the due diligence and control system which will be less administratively and financially burdensome for mentioned subjects;

4. Stresses

in this context, that if the due diligence system is introduced, the emphasis must be laid on the maximal digitalization of the whole process;

5. Points out

that the proposed country benchmarking system contains relatively general criteria that can be assessed in a very subjective manner;

6. Considers it essential

- a) that the proposal is thoroughly consulted with the partners in the framework of the World Trade Organisation which will prevent the situation that the proposal is foreseen as a protectionist tool;
- b) that, regarding the current high dependence of the EU on the import of some commodities, the proposal does not significantly disrupt current trade relations and supply chains;

7. Is of the opinion

that close cooperation between the EU and producer countries focused on addressing the root causes of deforestation and promoting sustainable forest management will be essential to tackle the problem of global deforestation and inadequate forest cover replacement;

8. Requests,

prior to the introduction of the proposed measures, to present the evaluation and the results of eleven years of experience in implementing Regulation (EU) No. 995/2010 of 20 October 2010 in terms of cost and benefits of the current system which is extended by this Proposal;

II.

1. Requests

the Government to inform the Senate by 30 June 2022 about the way this Resolution was taken into account, and about the further development of negotiations;

2. Authorises

the President of the Senate to forward this Resolution to the European Commission.

Miloš Vystrčil
sign manual
President of the Senate

Adéla Šípová
sign manual
Senate Verifier