



## **FoodDrinkEurope-EFFAT statement on CAP**

### **Why the CAP matters for the social partners in the food and drink industry: facilitate sustainable growth and employment**

As DG Agriculture and Rural Development prepares the Impact Assessment for modernising and simplifying the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), FoodDrinkEurope and EFFAT stress once more that the CAP is of crucial importance for ensuring the security of supply of agricultural raw materials for the production of food, in terms of quantity and quality.

In the EU, food and drink companies mostly source locally and are located in rural areas, close to the place of farming. They work with 27 million professionals up- and downstream the food supply chain, including 11 million farmers employing 7 million workers. All partners in the food chain must jointly address the common economic, social and environmental challenges facing them.

This is why FoodDrinkEurope and EFFAT are in favour of:

- a truly *common* agricultural policy, which underpins a strong and well-functioning Single Market,
- a market-oriented CAP, as the most efficient approach to improve the competitiveness of EU farmers and to deliver agricultural raw materials that are in line with the quality and quantity needs of the consumers; further, to grow sustainably, the food and drink industry needs to rely on well-functioning and balanced food supply chains. The CAP should facilitate dialogue and cooperation between farmers, the industry trickled down to the consumer,
- a more environmentally sustainable and resilient agriculture with respect to different types of risks; and,
- a CAP that secures a social dimension in terms of labour laws and practices, occupational health and safety measures and training and education programmes for all workers.

Moreover, investment in research and innovation, knowledge transfer and collaboration among all stakeholders in the food supply chain (including the industry), should form the cornerstone to achieve these objectives.

The CAP has to provide the enabling framework, financial support and incentives.

~ENDS~

*FoodDrinkEurope is the representative body for Europe's food and drink industry- the largest manufacturing sector in the EU in terms of turnover, employment and value added. It brings together 25 national food and drink federation, including 2 observers, 27 European sector associations and 21 major food and drink companies.*

*EFFAT is the European federation of Food, Agriculture and Tourism Trade Unions. As a European Trade Union Federation representing 120 national trade unions from 35 European countries, EFFAT defends the interests of more than 22 million workers towards the European institutions, European employers' associations and transnational companies. EFFAT is a member of the ETUC and the European regional organisation of the IUF.*