

## Statement on the EUDR agreement between Parliament and Council

EuroCommerce – the association representing retailers and wholesalers in Europe – welcomes the <u>agreement reached yesterday by the co-legislators</u> on the EU regulation for deforestationfree products (EUDR). We thank the negotiating parties for their efforts to improve the regulation to ensure smooth implementation by agreeing on the much-needed additional transition period. This responds to our earlier call for more time to consolidate and build on the considerable efforts made by our sector in support of the important objective of halting deforestation. This additional time helps to address remaining uncertainties regarding the implementation of the rules and allows suppliers in our supply chain to prepare better. We also want to underline that a fully functioning information system and the application programming interface must be in place before the application can kick off. We will continue to work with the Commission to propose options for optimal implementation.

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## Note to editors

Last night, EU institutions reached an agreement to delay the EU regulation for deforestation-free products by one year. The new application date is 30 December 2025, but the amendment does not include further substantive changes.

The European Parliament and Council still need to endorse the agreement before the end of the year. The Parliament will vote on it during its next session on 16-19 December in Strasbourg.

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**EuroCommerce** is the principal European organisation representing the retail and wholesale sector. It embraces national associations in 28 countries and 5 million companies, including leading global players and many small businesses. Over a billion times a day, retailers and wholesalers distribute goods and provide an essential service to millions of business and individual customers. The sector generates 1 in 7 jobs, offering a varied career to 26 million Europeans, many of them young people. It also supports millions of further jobs throughout the supply chain, from small local suppliers to international businesses. EuroCommerce is the recognised European social partner for the retail and wholesale sector.