

PRESS RELEASE

The Socfin Group reaffirms its support for the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) and calls on the European Commission to maintain its implementation timeline

October 8th, 2025

In light of recent developments suggesting a potential postponement of the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR), the Socfin Group joins a broad coalition of companies, NGOs, and trade associations in urging the European Commission to stay the course and implement the regulation without further delay.

According to recent reports, the Commission is considering extending the EUDR's application by up to one year due to technical issues with the EU information system. This follows months of preparation and substantial investment by companies across multiple sectors—including cocoa, rubber, dairy, wood, and other agri-food industries—to achieve full compliance by 31 December 2025.

"We have invested in traceability, due diligence, and supplier engagement in good faith that the EUDR's framework and timeline were stable," said Ludovic Saint-Pol Socfin Head of Communications. "Any further delay would not only jeopardize climate and forest protection goals but also penalize responsible businesses that acted early."

The EUDR is a landmark regulation ensuring that products placed on the EU market are deforestation-free, supporting both environmental integrity and fair competition. The coalition's updated joint letter—signed by more than 20 companies and organizations—calls on President Ursula von der Leyen, Commissioner Jessika Roswall, and Members of the European Parliament to preserve the regulation's ambition and schedule.

While recognizing current technical challenges, signatories urge the Commission to adopt a pragmatic solution—such as a short grace period and a coordinated approach to enforcement—without altering the regulation's substance or entry into force.

"Europe must send a clear signal: sustainability and competitiveness go hand in hand," added Ludovic Saint-Pol. "The EUDR represents a vital step toward responsible global supply chains and lasting climate action."

The Socfin Group stands ready to continue collaborating with policymakers, industry partners, and producers to ensure a fair and effective implementation of the EUDR.

Read <u>here</u> the letter in support of EUDR cosigned by Socfin, other international companies and National Alliances.

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