EU agri-food stakeholders welcome conclusion of an EU-UK SPS agreement

Brussels, 20 November 2026

Copa-Cogeca – representing farmers and agri-cooperatives, CELCAA – representing traders, and FoodDrinkEurope – representing food and drink manufacturers, welcome the announcement by EU and UK leaders that negotiations on a Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Agreement have concluded.

This is an important step towards a closer and more effective trading relationship. Once implemented, it should mean fewer border checks, simpler import and export procedures, less administrative work and lower costs for agri-food businesses on both sides of the Channel. It should also improve the reliability of cross-border supply chains, particularly for perishable products.

Our organisations have consistently called for an ambitious SPS agreement that reduces unnecessary trade friction while upholding high safety standards. We therefore congratulate the EU and UK negotiators on reaching this important milestone.

We look forward to examining the final text and working constructively with the relevant authorities to support its timely and effective implementation. Agri-food sector economic operators will need clear guidance and sufficient notice to prepare for the new arrangements.

Jointly issued by Copa-Cogeca, CELCAA and FoodDrinkEurope.

***Copa and Cogeca** are the united voice of farmers and agri-cooperatives in the EU. Together, we ensure that EU agriculture is sustainable, innovative and competitive, while guaranteeing food security for 500 million people throughout Europe. More information www.copa-cogeca.eu*

***CELCAA** is the European umbrella organisation for the agri-food trade associations. Founded in 1979, our focus is on open, rules-based and predictable trade to 'keep it all moving'.*

***FoodDrinkEurope** is the organisation of Europe's food and drink industry, the largest manufacturing sector in Europe, a leading employer and a key contributor to the economy (310,000+ companies, 99% SMEs, 4.8 million employees).*