



## 55<sup>th</sup> FEFAC Annual General Meeting

### **“EU feed industry calling for proactive market management and GM approvals to ensure competitive supply of feedstuffs to the EU livestock sector”**

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At the occasion of the 55<sup>th</sup> FEFAC Annual General Meeting, FEFAC President Patrick Vanden Avenne highlighted that "the European feed industry is fully committed to support the competitiveness and sustainability of livestock production in the EU and at global level, thus contributing to global food security, pointing to the need for more proactive, flexible market management measures to maintain viability of EU feed supply".

With a view to the current policy debate on the “CAP” reform proposals’ goal of improving “resource efficiency” and competitiveness in European food production, Patrick Vanden Avenne stressed that “safe and balanced compound feed from competitive and sustainable sources is an essential prerequisite for the long term viability of EU livestock production”.

Patrick Vanden Avenne stated that “In a situation of extremely volatile grain and protein markets, which negatively affects the EU’s livestock sector competitiveness, the compound feed industry plays a crucial role in fully exploiting the nutritional potential of co-products from the food and biofuel industry, including former foodstuffs, provided they are safe for both animals and humans”.

He called on the European Commission to rapidly prolong the TRQ import duty suspension for wheat, while doubling efforts to reduce the increasing backlog of GMO import approvals, in order to send a clear signal to the market that the supply of competitive feedstuffs remains a top priority for the European Commission in order to safeguard EU livestock production.

He welcomed in particular the planned vote at EU Standing Committee level on the reauthorisation of non-ruminant processed animal proteins for fish feed. He stated that a “positive vote would pave the way for our EU aquaculture producers to step up their efforts to increase EU aquaculture production by creating a level playing field with seafood imports”. “EFSA has provided clear scientific evidence that n.r. PAPs are safe. They can help reducing the EU’s dependency on fishmeal imports thus contributing to the Common Fisheries Policy reform goals of pairing sustainable wild fisheries with the sustainable development of aquaculture”.

#### Notes to the editor:

1. FEFAC, the European Compound Feed Manufacturers’ Federation, represents 22 national Associations in 21 EU Member States as well as Associations in Switzerland, Turkey, Norway, Croatia, Serbia and Russia with observer/associate member status. The European compound feed industry employs over 110,000 persons on app. 4,000 production sites often in rural areas, which offer few employment opportunities.
2. Farm animals in the EU-27 consume an estimated 467 million tonnes of feed a year, of which about 30% are produced by the compound feed manufacturers. Turnover of the European compound feed industry in 2011 is estimated at €50 billion.
3. For more information see our web site ([www.fefac.eu](http://www.fefac.eu)) or please contact Alexander Döring, Secretary General Tel. +32-2-285.00.50, Fax +32-2-230.57.22, e-mail: [fefac@fefac.eu](mailto:fefac@fefac.eu).