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FEFAC Position on the further development of the Product Environmental Footprint

FEFAC had a leading role in the development of the PEFCR Feed for Food-Producing Animals¹, which was published in April 2018 at the end of the Product Environmental Footprint (PEF) pilot phase. FEFAC fully supports the European Commission's ambition to stimulate the development of a common, harmonised LCA methodology that allows for consistent, transparent and reliable measurement of a product's environmental performance. FEFAC welcomes the consistency of the PEFCR methodology at EU level with the FAO-LEAP LCA methodology for feed at global level.

During the PEF pilot phase, FEFAC submitted a successful EU tender proposal to deliver free, publicly accessible, secondary datasets with trustworthy environmental performance information on key feed materials (also available on the European Commission webpage). FEFAC considers that this form of mandating sector-representing associations is an efficient way forward to ensure regular updates of the EU PEF LCA databases.

FEFAC does consider that **any future EU policy (or market) initiative linked to measuring the environmental performance of feed production should use the PEFCR Feed for Food-Producing Animals as the key reference** to come to transparent and comparable results as regards product claims. Published PEFCRs should be the measurement tool of choice to provide robust and reliable information on the improvement of the environmental performance of the products of livestock farming. The proposals for "greening" initiatives under the Common Agricultural Policy, the 2050 Long-Term Strategy for a Climate Neutral Europe, the Bio-Economy Strategy and the Circular Economy Action Plan are key EU policy actions to which PEFCRs can provide a useful measurement tool. FEFAC notes that the PEFCRs have undergone an intensive scrutiny process involving the European Commission, Member States, external stakeholders and auditors, ensuring their quality and robustness.

FEFAC remains fully committed to contributing to the development of LCA tools that can assist companies in meeting expectations from the market and the regulatory environment. FEFAC will therefore continue to facilitate the development of LCA methodology and LCA databases at EU and global level (e.g. the GFLI database) that do reflect the environmental benefits of responsible production and sourcing in the measurement of the environmental performance of both EU and imported feed materials.

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eussd/smgp/PEFCR_OEFSR_en.htm