



PRESS RELEASE

AREFLH reacts to the European Parliament vote on packaging

AREFLH welcomes with great enthusiasm the European Parliament's approval of the draft regulation on packaging without the restrictions initially planned for the fruit and vegetable sector.

This decision comes after months of work to make the European institutions aware of what this draft legislation could entail for the fruit and vegetable sector if certain critical issues were not adequately addressed.

Thanks to its contacts with DG ENV, the parliamentary committees most involved in the debate and analysis of this legislative proposal, and the MEPs identified as key contacts for this dossier, AREFLH has demonstrated its ability to communicate the experiences and concerns of its members on several key issues, and to engage in constructive dialogue in order to propose realistic and positive solutions to our common challenges.

President Simona Caselli and Vice-President Jean-Louis Moulon are delighted:

"This is a great victory and we are really pleased with this vote. We now have a clear, non-binding European regulation that will make it possible to achieve concrete and significant results in terms of reducing packaging and packaging waste, without undesirable side-effects on food waste and product safety. Our exporters will be able to work with clear rules, which is very important. The fruit and vegetable sector obviously remains committed to reducing packaging and innovating with materials to reduce impact and improve sustainability".

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The mission of AREFLH, the Assembly of European Fruit, Vegetable and Horticultural Regions, is to :

- Representing its 17 regions and 41 POs/PDOs and associate members from 11 European countries,
- Defend the economic and social interests of the fruit, vegetable and horticultural sectors in dealings with European bodies,
- Encourage exchanges of experience, partnerships and joint projects between regions and professional organisations,
- To be a driving force behind proposals on the main issues affecting the future of fruit and vegetable production in Europe.

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