

27 March 2019

## Fertilizers Europe Statement on the New Fertilizer Regulation

Brussels, 27 March 2019: Fertilizers Europe broadly welcomes today's vote of the European Parliament approving the New Fertilizer Regulation. The European fertilizer industry supports a circular economy approach and the promotion of a resource efficient economy in the new Regulation. We look forward to continue cooperating with the European Commission and the EU Member States to ensure smooth implementation.

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Jacob Hansen, Director General Fertilizers Europe said *"I broadly welcome today's vote of the Plenary and would like to congratulate the Rapporteurs MEP Mihai Țurcanu (EPP, Romania) and MEP Elisabetta Gardini (EPP Italy) on this occasion. Fertilizers Europe continuously stressed the importance of promoting quality mineral fertilizers, which can support farmers and growers in optimizing yields and quality. The fertilizing products' regulation is not perfect, but it allows our manufacturers to communicate better about the quality and added value of their products"*.

Fertilizers Europe is organizing an implementation conference in Brussels on 28 May 2019 ([event webpage](#)) in order to help its member companies and other relevant stakeholders to understand the new rules and to adapt their current internal procedures to the upcoming ones.

Already a leader in circular economy, the European fertilizer industry understands that even more can be achieved to further strengthen our role within it. The new Regulation will give fertilizers industry access to new resources of recycled materials, which will increasingly contribute in closing the nutrient loop. The new framework will also set a maximum limit of 60 mg/kg P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> for the cadmium content in phosphorus fertilizers. This limit creates a challenge for the European phosphate industry, however we do recognise the drive behind this decision to seek compromise and try to find the balance between environmental, health and economic aspects, as well as access to raw material.

The compromise deal is expected to be adopted by the Council of Ministers in the coming weeks. Jacob Hansen stressed that *"the transition between the current 2003/2003 Regulation and the future framework will require a lot of efforts from mineral fertilizer producers to adapt. Our industry looks forward to further cooperate with the European Commission and the EU Member States to facilitate the transition to ensure compliance with the new complex set of rules"*.

– ENDS –

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### **About Fertilizers Europe**

Fertilizers Europe represents the majority of fertilizer producers in Europe and is recognized as the dedicated industry source of information on mineral fertilizers. The Association communicates with a wide variety of institutions, legislators, stakeholders and members of the public who seek information on fertilizer technology and topics relating to today's agricultural, environmental and economic challenges.