



Responsible Soy / RT7 conference FEFAC welcomes RTRS progress towards delivering mainstream market solution

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FEFAC, representing the EU compound feed and premix industry, welcomes the open spirit of cooperation among all soy value chain partners at the Seventh International Conference of the Roundtable for Responsible Soy, RT7, held in London on 23/24 May 2012.

FEFAC President Patrick Vanden Avenne congratulated RTRS for the working progress achieved, noting that FEFAC will continue supporting the objectives of the global Roundtable for responsible soy, as a credible multi-stakeholder platform. He highlighted the need for a practical roadmap for a stepwise implementation of the RTRS standard, including a comparison project on existing programmes for responsible soy:

“ We consider at FEFAC that the roadmap to success for RTRS will involve tackling the current bottlenecks to make it work better in order to overcome the “chicken & egg” situation in the market place. RT7 has provided an important impulse in this direction”.

Mr Jaap OSKAM, RTRS President, highlighted in his concluding remarks that RT7 provided further momentum to the ongoing process of providing mainstream market solutions for the production of responsible soy and its delivery via supply chain partners and retailers to the final consumer. He noted the strong engagement from all soy value chain partners, including producers and retailers and stated that RTRS would maintain its focus on meeting growing market demand for responsible soy.

FEFAC will support, in particular, the new RTRS working group on pesticides, which is seeking to strengthen professional recommendations on good agricultural practices for the use of agrochemicals. FEFAC's own Task Force on Sustainability will develop a follow-up roadmap to assist RTRS efforts to gain further market awareness and acceptance in the EU through its RTRS outreach programme.

For more information on RTRS and the RT7 outcomes, see www.responsiblesoy.org

Notes to the editor:

1. FEFAC, the European Compound Feed Manufacturers' Federation, represents 21 national Associations in 20 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. 4,500 production sites often in rural areas, which offer few employment opportunities.
2. Farm animals in the EU-27 consume an estimated 465 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 2010 is estimated at €45 billion.
3. For more information see our web site (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.