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Joint Position Paper: COSMED, EFEO, IFEAT and CIHEF welcome political agreement on Omnibus VI

COSMED, the European Federation of Essential Oils (EFEO), the International Federation of Essential Oils and Aroma Trades (IFEAT) and the Interbranch Committee for French Essential Oils (CIHEF) welcome the interinstitutional agreement reached on the **Omnibus VI proposal**.

The agreement represents an important step towards a more coherent and workable regulatory framework for cosmetic products and ingredients in Europe that continues to ensure a high level of consumer and environmental protection while reaching **simplification and competitiveness objectives**.

Notably,:

- **On the Cosmetic Products Regulation (CPR)**, strongly welcome the provisional agreement reached on Article 15(6), which recognises the specificities of plant extracts and ensures that their safety is assessed by the Scientific Committee on Consumer Safety (SCCS) where a potential risk to human health may arise from the presence of one or more constituents classified as CMR.

Simultaneously, the transition periods under Article 15 continue to pose significant challenges for SMEs, which often face particular difficulties in anticipating and preparing for regulatory changes. Furthermore, the shortened timelines for undefended substances present substantial operational difficulties. Let's remind that undefended substances does not mean unsafe.

- **Regarding the assessment of alternatives**, we welcome the European Commission's commitment to providing guidance. We believe that this guidance should explicitly consider consumer expectations, reflecting the growing demand for natural substances and their increasing relevance for both consumers and SMEs throughout the sector.
- **On the CLP Regulation**, while recognising the need for compromise, consider that the transition period for relabelling following classification changes should have been



COSMED
THE FRENCH COSMETICS ASSOCIATION FOR SMEs



EFEO
European Federation of Essential Oils



extended to 18 months rather than 15 months, particularly to allow SMEs sufficient time to adapt. The signatories also regret the reintroduction of minimum font-size requirements for products intended for the general public, especially for small containers. A readability-based approach would have offered a more proportionate and practical solution while ensuring effective consumer information.

- **Express concern** that the labelling requirements for small containers (≤ 125 mL) remain a challenge for SMEs.

While not all industry priorities were fully reflected in the provisional agreement, the signatories support the overall compromise reached. The signatories remain committed to supporting the effective implementation of the new framework and to working constructively with policymakers to ensure that Europe remains a global leader in safe, innovative and sustainable essential oil-based products. We furthermore congratulate the negotiators for their efforts and the sense of compromise which resulted in a balanced outcome.

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About COSMED

COSMED is the French cosmetic association for SMEs, a non-profit seeking association with more than 1000 members, in France and Europe. COSMED is recognised by the French authorities as the representative body for the cosmetics industry in France. COSMED sit at the European Commission as the voice of cosmetic SMEs. COSMED is involved in the development of cosmetic regulations, as well as in national and international standardisation bodies to contributes to the development of a regulatory framework for the marketing of safe and effective cosmetic products.

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About EFEO

The European Federation of Essential Oils (EFEO) is committed to raising awareness among policymakers, regulators, and authorities regarding essential oils and their derivatives. EFEO advocates for a comprehensive understanding of their uses, cultural and economic importance, and the potential impact of legislative and regulatory measures on the sector.

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About IFEAT

The International Federation of Essential Oils and Aroma Trades – is a trade association founded in 1977. It represents the interests of companies involved in the production, processing, trading and manufacturing of the many thousands of ingredients used in flavours, fragrances and aromatherapy. Among our activities, we aim to raise awareness among political stakeholders on what essential oils and their derivatives are, how they are used, the cultural and economic significance of the sector.

Transparency Register Number: 806271050850-45

About CIHEF

The Interbranch Committee for French Essential Oils or Comité Interprofessionnel des Huiles Essentielles Françaises (CIHEF) is the only agricultural interbranch organisation recognized by the French Ministry of Agriculture for the national sector of Perfume, Aromatic and Medicinal Plants (PPAM) according to regulation N° 1308/2013 of 17 December 2013 establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products.

Created in 1997, it represents more than 2 000 perfume plant farms, around 100 distilleries, agricultural cooperatives and the French companies, which buy directly essential oils to a farm or a cooperative. To date, the recognition relates to the main essential oils produced in France: the essential oil of lavandin, of lavender and of clary sage. These essential oils come from perfume plants, which cover more than 50% of the cultivated areas of PPAM in France.

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