

EU CODE OF CONDUCT ON RESPONSIBLE FOOD BUSINESS AND MARKETING PRACTICES

*A common aspirational path
towards achieving sustainable food systems*

- Annual Report – Check list for EU associations -

When signing the code, one of the commitments of EU associations is to provide “*on an annual basis, a report of their activities in support of this Code, which will be published on an open dedicated website*”.

In order to help EU associations to provide their annual report of activities, this document aims at providing a check list to guide associations.

- **General information**

Name in full + acronym	CELCAA – The European Liaison Committee for Agricultural and Agri-Food Trade
Contact person with contact details	Nelli Hajdu
N° in the transparency register*	546282614966-51
Date of signature of the Code	2022
Step of the food chain represented (ex: primary production, production, processing, trade, retail, ...)	Trade, distribution,
Who do you represent? (e.g. number of members, companies, SMEs)	As umbrella association CELCAA represents at European level the most essential food sectors such as meat and livestock, dairy, cereals, grain, and oilseed trade, eggs, egg whites, and egg yolks, wine and aromatized wine products, hops, tea, and herbal infusions, tobacco, and the butch craft sector. We represent, in total, more than 25.000 agri-food producers and traders in Europe.

* if available

European Associations pledge to:

The Board of CELCAA pledged to promote the code within the CELCAA membership and to undertake other relevant actions as listed under paragraph I 1.4 a) of the Code.

- *endorse the aspirational objectives set out in this Code (where applicable)*
- ✓ Please confirm: **YES**
- *promote and disseminate this Code with(in) their constituency/ies;*
- ✓ Describe the dissemination and promotion activities taken. For ex.: Internal meetings (ex: working group, task force, board meeting, AGM), workshop, webinars, other events, communication, mailings, messages, documents, leaflets, website, newsletter, etc

CELCAA has been reviewing its internal strategy and renewed the priority areas of actions for the organization from October 2022 onwards for the future. This includes the adding of “Agri-Food Trade and Sustainability” as a new, established pillar to the strategy. With this CELCAA has been actively promoting and advancing the internal discourse on what “sustainable agri-food trade” must include. The objective of the activity is to identify concrete policy recommendations for the necessary transition towards a sustainable food system with focus on “agri-food trade” and as well as to identify further areas of own commitments including to promote the CoC. The work has been advanced in the CELCAA Sustainability Working Group. Actions taken so far, have been:

- 29.03.2022: CELCAA High Level Event “Reconciling sustainability and openness” – Online-event, discussed how trade and sustainability need to be connected, which has been open to public attendance and was attended by around 50 online participants.
- 22.12.2022: Launch of the CELCAA Sustainability Working Group to take stock on CELCAA members “Sustainability” actions and engagements and create a level-playing field of mutual understanding amongst all sectors represented by CELCAA; the meeting further served for the identification of common issues and to define concrete steps forward. A key recognition of this meeting has been that member organizations so far mainly focused on elements of production or affecting the consumer, while elements connected to the specifics of agri-food trade have not been covered too closely. As conclusion, further exploration will be needed.
- 17.03.2023 Exchange with the chair of the WTO Trade and Environment Committee Ambassador Simon Manley, to discuss the multilateral debate on current environmental measures and policies taken by the EU and its perception by the members of the committee.
- 20.03.2023 Sustainability Working Group Meeting on Green Claims, Deforestation Regulation, Corporate Due Diligence Directive
- 30.03.2023 Exchange with Deputy Head of Unit Marta Laso Sanz, Bilateral Unit DG Santé on the methodology of the chapter on “Sustainable Food Systems” in Free Trade Agreements and its opportunity to transition food value chains;
- Regular exchanges & progress calls with the “Making Agricultural Trade Sustainable” – Research project (27.01.2023, 13.04.2021); Attendance of the Project Workshop on “Making Agricultural Trade Sustainable” on 16th May 2023 in person,
- 26.05.2023 Exchange with FAO experts on definitions and trends with regard to “sustainable food systems” and in particular with emphasis on trade

- Regular reporting on social media, in particular “LinkedIn” and “Twitter”
- Regular progress report in the CELCAA newsletter “What’s up this week”
- Foreseen: CELCAA will hold its Annual General Meeting in Uddel/Netherlands on July 12th to visit Van Drie Group, to understand the practical aspects of implementing “sustainable agri-food trade” and will use the occasion to present the preliminary results of the Sustainability Working Group and first policy recommendations as well as commitments for the agri-food trade sector; the event will be open for public attendance;
- Foreseen: CELCAA High Level Public Event on “Agri-Food Trade Sustainability” in November 2023

- *encourage their members to align their sustainability actions and/or business practices to the aspirational objectives and targets of the Code and invite them, on a voluntary basis, to adhere to this Code, as appropriate;*

- ✓ Was it part of the messages delivered under the promotion activities?
- ✓ Any specific action? Ex: inclusion of the CoC in the vision/mission, roadmap/working programme, ...
- ✓ Any indication that the message has been considered by members? If relevant, please give examples.
- ✓ Information transferred to the members
 - CELCAA is in the process of developing a public communication with in depth policy recommendations as well as an evolution of commitments of the European agri-food sector, to which the CoC will be integrated; the document and publication is in progress
 - CELCAA’s “Sustainability Working Group” is providing proactive resources to support its member organizations shaping their commodity specific “transition” strategies
- *explore the possibility of developing sector-specific tools and resources in support of this Code;*
- ✓ Did your EU association explore the possibility of developing sector-specific tools and resources in support of this Code?
- ✓ How? Which type of tools? On which aspirational objective(s)? Any achievement?
- ✓ For example, did you collect best practices? did you allocate human resources? Budget? Etc.,
- CELCAA will discuss potential resource development in a next step
 - *continue to engage in dialogue with other food chain/systems actors and EU and international policy-makers to forge (new) relationships, exchange good practices and discuss challenges encountered, learn from each other (studies, projects) and create better mutual understanding, and identify opportunities for collaboration and potential partnership.*
- ✓ Did you engage with other partners of the food chain?

- ✓ Can you give examples of engagements, which partners, on which aspirational objective(s), ...
- CELCAA is in a continuous exchange with other partners in the food chain and has been e.g. a lead coordinator for the unifying the food chain's view on a statement regarding the upcoming Framework Legislation on Sustainable Food Systems addressing the European Commission, which required further alignment and the creation of mutual understanding for the different parts of the food chain; (May 2023)