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european farmers european agri-cooperatives

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Members of the European Parliament
Committee on Environment, Climate and Food Safety

European Parliament,
Rue Wiertz 60
1047, Brussels
Belgium

Brussels, 10 September 2026

RE: EU farmers and agri-cooperatives call to adopt article 27a of the CBAM Regulation to suspend CBAM for fertilisers in time of crises

Honourable Member of the European Parliament,

Ahead of the vote in Plenary on 15th September, Copa and Cogeca would like to reiterate the strong concerns of EU farmers and agri-cooperatives regarding the ENVI Committee report on the Commission's proposal amending Regulation (EU) 2023/956 establishing the EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), and call upon you to adopt the Plenary amendment reintroducing article 27a.

In particular, we are deeply concerned by the deletion of Article 27a in the draft report, which provides for a safeguard mechanism allowing the temporary suspension of CBAM on specific goods in times of crisis. Without this safeguard, EU farmers will be left without any means to cope with unsustainable fertiliser prices in time of crisis.

Fertilisers typically account for between 15% and 30% of farmers' production costs. As such, any significant price increase severely impacts farmers' margins. Around 30% of the nitrogen fertilisers used in the EU are imported, meaning that the CBAM levy on these imports has a substantial effect. Since the beginning of 2026, fertiliser prices have risen sharply. In January and February alone, following the implementation of CBAM, prices increased on average by 15% compared to November 2025 levels, with urea rising from below €500 per tonne to €570–600 per tonne.The situation has since worsened significantly, notably due to the impact of the war in Iran, with urea prices now exceeding €630 per tonne.

While the most recent increases are linked to geopolitical developments, the CBAM levy alone represents an average price increase of around 15% for imported fertilisers in 2026. Moreover, EU-produced fertilisers have aligned their prices accordingly. The CBAM levy is also set to increase progressively until 2034 (2038 if the proposal on the ETS revision is adopted).

The cost of the CBAM levy itself is estimated at around €820 million in 2026, rising to €3.386 million in 2034. Over the next seven years, this amounts to approximately €12 billion, equivalent to more than 3% of the current CAP budget. However, if EU-produced fertilisers continue to align their prices with imported ones, the overall cost of CBAM over the next seven years could reach approximately €39 billion, equivalent to around 10% of the current CAP budget.

The reality is that EU farmers will bear these costs, which they cannot afford, especially in the context of additional price increases driven by external factors such as the current crisis. Furthermore, increase in fertilisers prices during these crises also represent a risk for food security and adds to inflationary pressure.

Consequently, the possibility to temporarily suspend CBAM for fertilisers in times of crisis is essential. We therefore call upon you to support the retention of Article 27a and support the Plenary amendment reintroducing it. We hope that you share our concerns and will ensure that Article 27a is maintained, so that EU farmers and agri-cooperatives can benefit from temporary relief in times of crisis. We remain at your disposal should you wish to discuss this matter further.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours faithfully,

Elli Tsiforou
Secretary General

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