

Dear Members,

Please be informed about the following.

Seminar on the European deforestation legislation EUDR - Tuesday, January 16, 2024

The European deforestation legislation EUDR: status of implementation

On June 29, the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) came into effect, requiring traders to actively prove that their products are not linked to deforestation. Precise geographical information about the agricultural land used for, among other things, soy and palm oil must be provided. It must also be demonstrable that production was carried out in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations of the country of origin. The risk of non-compliance with the law is that significant sanctions may follow.

Since the adoption of the EUDR, traders have started preparing for the requirements of the Regulation. Questions such as: 'what to do if an inaccuracy has crept into geolocation data and what are the consequences?' or 'what documentation do you use to demonstrate that the rights of the indigenous population have been respected?' play a role in this. Cooperation and information provision between governments and traders is crucial to ensure that companies can meet the required requirements on time.

The Royal Dutch Grain and Feed Trade Association, MVO - the Netherlands Oils and Fats Industry, and Nevedi are organising a seminar to gain more clarity on certain aspects that are necessary for timely implementation.

Practical information

- Tuesday January 16, 2024
- Start at 13:30 PM
- Drinks afterwards
- [Villa Jongerius](#), Utrecht

Program

The program will consist of a presentation by the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality on the state of affairs regarding implementation and information from the European Commission, a contribution by NVWA that will discuss the supervision of the law and the discussion of a 2 -numerous cases (palm oil and soy). In addition, there will be plenty of room for the necessary questions.

Please note the seminar is in Dutch.

[Register \(before 2 January 2024\)](#)



NOFOTA AGM and Dinner 18 April 2024

The Annual Dinner will take place on Thursday 18 April 2024 in the Laurenskerk in Rotterdam. Prior to the dinner the AGM as well as the AGM for arbitrators will be held in the afternoon in the Citizen M Hotel. Invitations will be sent to the members in January 2024.



Workshop for arbitrators 6 February 2024

The workshop for arbitrators will be held on 6 February 2024 in the VNAB Building in Rotterdam. The arbitrators will receive an invitation soon, however people who are interested in arbitration or think about becoming an arbitrator themselves are also invited. They are asked to contact the secretariat. The workshop is free of charge.

This year's theme is the legalisation of arbitrations: The role of the arbitrator, jurisdiction and non-appearance.

Petition (poll) on the CIF Rotterdam market



Last week an online petition (poll) was sent to all members regarding the consequences of the increasing legislation that affects the CIF Rotterdam market. If you believe that NOFOTA should take action to investigate possibilities to resolve this issue, please fill in the petition (poll).

NOFOTA works together on this topic with FOSFA and MVO.

[Go to the petition](#)

News from the technical Committee

As from 2024 the recognised companies will be audited via a virtual Teams meeting instead of an administrative audit.

Companies that request for a recognition for the first time will be visited. The Technical Committee is also authorised to do physical audits, when signals received, for instance when the location is moved. In other cases, a virtual Teams audit is done every 3 years.

In the criteria for recognised companies is stipulated that the company shall cover its liability Insurance with first class underwriters as appropriate to the services performed. The auditors of the Technical Committee have experienced that the liability insurance of some recognised companies is covered by their mother company, and this is not always clear.

The Council agrees with the Committees advise to amend the criteria in such a way that in case the recognised company falls under a consolidated policy it should be clear from the insurance policy that the recognised company is covered, and that mutual intercompany liability is not ruled out.

Reminder and tip

At the end of the year, we would like to remind our members of the importance to inform their counterparts, particularly those counterparts who are not a NOFOTA-member, with the [NOFOTA Trading Rules and the Rules for Arbitration](#). You can do that by referring to the website link where the Trading Rules can be found.



Non-business days 2024

The non-business days for 2024 are as follows:

1 January	New Years Day (Monday)
29 March	Good Friday (Friday)
1 April	Easter Monday
9 May	Ascension Day
20 May	Whit-Monday
24 December	Christmas Eve* (Tuesday)
25 December	Christmas Day (Wednesday)
26 December	Boxing Day (Thursday)
31 December	New Year's Eve* (Tuesday)

Dates with an * indicate a half non-business day starting 12.00 hrs. noon.

The dates are also available on the website under About us/non-business days.



Events in 2024

February 6	Arbitration Workshop	VNAB, Rotterdam
March 26	MVO Annual Assembly and Networking event	VNO-NCW, Den Haag
April 18	NOFOTA AGM and Dinner	Laurenskerk, Rotterdam
May/June (tba)	NOFOTA/MVO/Comité Golf Tournament	Location t.b.n.
June 12-14	EFPRA Annual Congress	Amsterdam
June 12-13	FEDIOL General Assembly	Budapest
June 20	NOFOTA/Comité Midsummer Trade Reception	Rotterdam
September 1-6	FOSFA Basic Introductory and Advanced Courses	London
September 10-11	OFI International 2024 and the 3 rd Sustainable Vegetable Oils Conference from CPOPC	Ahoy, Rotterdam
September (tba)	NOFOTA Seminar on Trading Rules	VNAB, Rotterdam

November 7	FOSFA Annual Dinner and AGM	London
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If you would like us to send this Circular Letter to your colleagues, please inform us with their name and e-mail address. They will then receive our future correspondence. Please note that NOFOTA's communication goes through a mailing service. It is possible that mails end up in your SPAM mailbox. We therefore advise you to check this mailbox regularly.

On behalf of the Council and the NOFOTA secretariat we wish you all a merry Christmas and a prosperous but above all, healthy 2024!



Best regards,

Ron van Noord	Jan Aalberts
Secretary General	President



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