



Brussels, 10 July 2015

Press Release

COCERAL, COGECA AND UNISTOCK welcome adoption of EU Guide of Good Hygiene Practices

Together with COCERAL and UNISTOCK, COGECA welcomed today approval by the EU Commission and Member States of the European Guide of Good Hygiene Practices by COCERAL, COGECA, UNISTOCK for the collection, storage, trading and transport of cereals, oilseeds, protein crops, other plant products and derived products.

The new version of the Guide gives better guidance to operators on how to manage salmonella and monitor dioxins. It reinforces the guidelines on mycotoxin risk management and it extends its scope to co-products, strengthening guidance on traceability and reinforcing good practices on drying.

The novelty of the 2015 version is the development of a specific chapter for good hygiene practices for storing grain in silos located at the port. Developed with the contribution of UNISTOCK, it makes the guide more comprehensive from a supply chain perspective.

The document gives operators another toolbox to help them in their daily management of food and feed safety for the products they handle. The Guide will help operators to comply with good hygiene practices when they collect, store, trade and transport grain, helping them to identify important risks which might have an impact on consumer's safety and to build up procedures to control them.

Initially adopted in 2010, the Guide has been under revision for the last couple of years based on the developments on food and feed safety risk management and on the suggestions and contributions received from Member States.

COCERAL, COGECA and UNISTOCK are committed to keep updating the Guide so that it can evolve and be adapted to new food and feed safety requirements as well as to new risk management methods, in collaboration with the food and feed chain partners and Member States. Once published on the EU Official Journal, the new version of the guide will be available on the websites of the respective association:

www.coceral.com

www.copa-cogeca.eu

www.unistock.be

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Notes to the editor

COCERAL is the European association of cereals, rice, feedstuffs oilseeds, olive oil, oils and fats and agrosupply trade. It represents the interest of the European collectors, traders, importers, exporters and port silo storekeepers of the above mentioned agricultural products. **COCERAL's** full members are 26 national associations in 18 countries, and 1 European association [Unistock]. With about 2500 companies as part of **COCERAL** national members, the sector trades agricultural raw materials destined to the supply of the food and feed chains, as well as for technical and energy uses.

Cogeca is the European voice of agri-cooperatives. It represents the interests of 22,000 agricultural cooperatives. They have 35 member organisations from the EU member states.

Unistock Europe is the only European association of professional storekeepers for agribulk commodities in the European Union. Unistock Europe full members are present in 11 countries. With a total of approximately 79 port silos facilities Unistock Europe proactively represents the united voice for the agri-bulk storage sector towards the EU authorities. Unistock Europe is a full member of **COCERAL**.