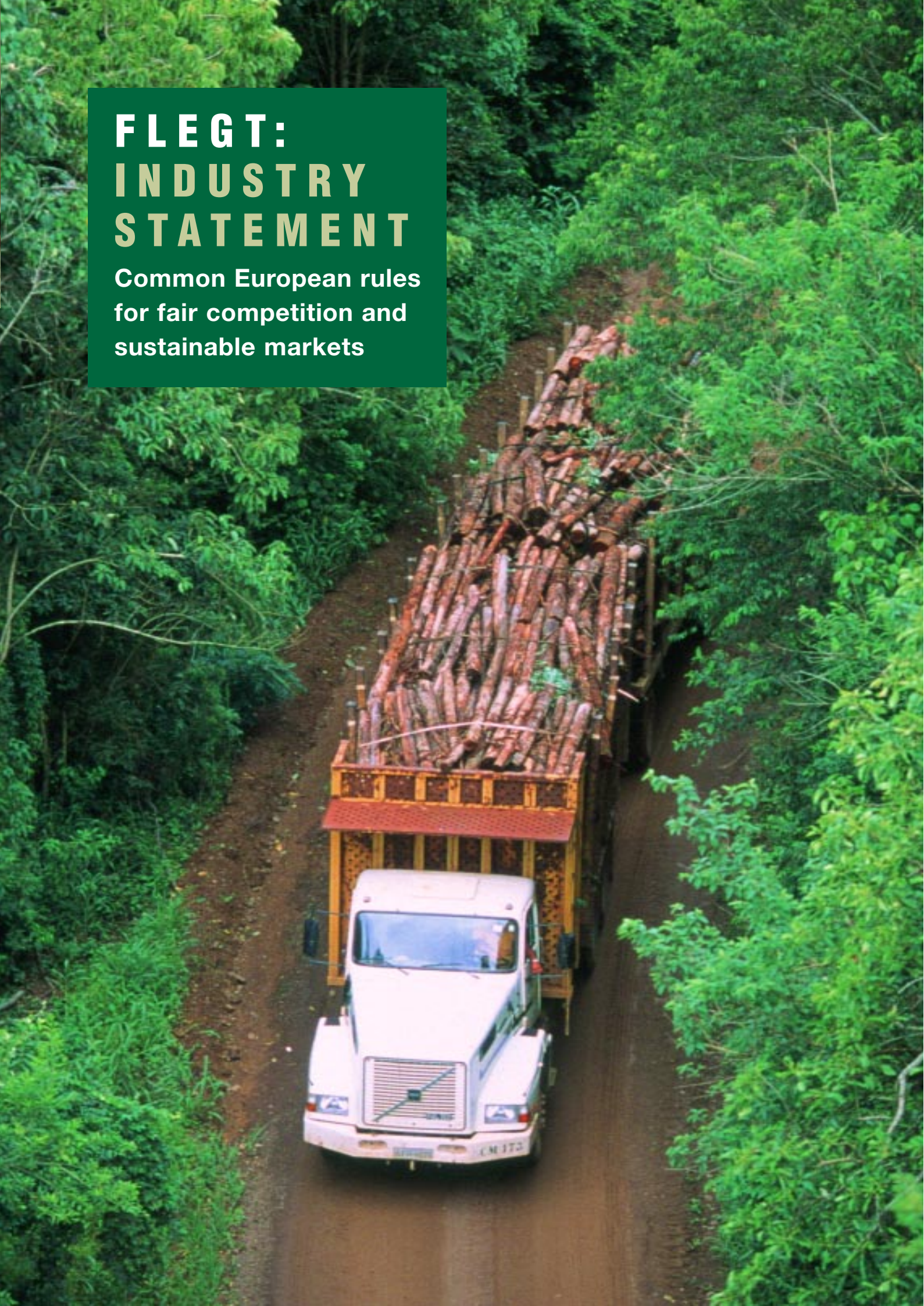




FLEGT: INDUSTRY STATEMENT

Common European rules
for fair competition and
sustainable markets



- 1 AIEM, Spain
- 2 Albert Schild AG, Switzerland
- 3 B&Q, UK
- 4 BIOFUSTA S.L., Spain
- 5 BIOTECTURA S.L., Spain
- 6 Bovis Lend Lease, UK
- 7 Castorama France, France
- 8 Chartered Institute of Builders, UK
- 9 Chindwell Co. Ltd, UK
- 10 Clarks Wood Company Ltd, UK
- 11 Coop Italy, Italy
- 12 Coop Nordic, Denmark
- 13 Coop Switzerland, Switzerland
- 14 Co-operative Retail, UK
- 15 Countryside Properties, Plc, UK
- 16 David Craig, UK
- 17 De Noordboom cvba, Belgium
- 18 Ecobouw cvba, Belgium
- 19 Ecostructuur bvba, Belgium
- 20 Ecotimber, UK
- 21 Ebanisteria Marelli SpA, Italy
- 22 ENCE Group, Spain
- 23 Espen AG, Germany
- 24 Eurabo nv, Belgium
- 25 Finforest UK
- 26 Focus Wickes, UK
- 27 Friul Intagli SpA, Italy
- 28 Graham & Brown, UK
- 29 Habitat, UK
- 30 Harbo Fritid AB, Sweden
- 31 Hillerstorps Trä AB, Sweden
- 32 Holz.ConZert GmbH, Germany
- 33 Homebase, UK
- 34 ICA Sverige AB, Sweden
- 35 IKEA Group, Sweden
- 36 John Dickinson Stationery, UK
- 37 JYSK Nordic, Denmark
- 38 Kinnarps AB, Sweden
- 39 KoppWood, Denmark
- 40 La San Giuseppe SpA, Italy
- 41 Lend Lease, UK
- 42 Lueb + Wolters GmbH & Co. KG, Germany
- 43 Luyten Woonontwerp, Belgium
- 44 Marks & Spencer, UK
- 45 Medialogik GmbH, Germany
- 46 Migros-Genossenschafts-Bund, Switzerland
- 47 Multiplex, UK
- 48 Nunez y Canadas S.L., Spain
- 49 OBI, Merchandise Center GmbH, Germany
- 50 Palm SpA, Italy
- 51 Palm W+P onlus, Italy
- 52 P.E.R. Belle Arti, Italy
- 53 PUERTAS LUVIPOL, Spain
- 54 Quintelier Gebr. Nv, Belgium
- 55 Richard Burbidge, UK
- 56 Romea Legnami SpA, Italy
- 57 RWD Schlatter AG, Switzerland
- 58 Sainsbury's Supermarket Ltd, UK
- 59 Shadbolt International, UK
- 60 Skanska International, Sweden
- 61 Sommer Holzwerkstatt GmbH, Switzerland
- 62 TABU SpA, Italy
- 63 TAMALSA S.A., Spain
- 64 Tecnoform SpA, Italy
- 65 The Polestar Group Ltd, UK
- 66 Timber Trade Federation, UK
- 67 Timbmet, UK
- 68 Travis Perkins, UK
- 69 Verband Schweizer Türenbranche, Switzerland
- 70 VVNH, Vereniging van Nederlandse Houtondernemingen, Netherlands
- 71 Westeifel Werke GmbH, Germany
- 72 UNITAL (Union of Italian Industries of Wood Furniture)
- 73 ZIF sas, Italy



We, the undersigned companies, in our capacity of producers, purchasers or retailers of timber and wood products, are deeply concerned by the problem of illegal logging and the continuing import of illegally sourced wood products into the European Union.

Illegal logging contributes to deforestation, causes loss of biodiversity and erodes the rule of law. It undermines responsible forest management, encourages corruption and tax evasion and reduces the income of producer countries. It also has serious economic and social implications for the poor and disadvantaged.

Cheap imports of illegal timber and forest products, as well as the non-compliance of some players with basic social and environmental standards, destabilise international markets, and threaten jobs. This unfair competition based on widespread illegal practice harms those European companies, particularly small and medium sized businesses, who do behave responsibly and attempt to play by the rules.

As responsible companies dealing in timber products, we believe that concerted political and trade action is needed to tackle this problem in order to create a level playing field for timber that has been legally acquired.

We therefore broadly support the European Union's FLEGT (Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade) initiative and the efforts of a number of timber trade federations to eliminate illegal timber from their sector.

However, we acknowledge that self-regulation and voluntary measures alone are not sufficient to tackle this problem.

Without a clear European legal framework, companies that want to answer consumer-driven demand and benefit from investment in sustainable practices will always be disadvantaged.

We urge the European Commission and governments to take immediate action, and as recommended in the Action Plan, we call upon them to:

Adopt new EU legislation which makes it illegal to import all illegally-sourced timber and wood products into the European market.