

FoodDrinkEurope statement on the Multiannual Financial Framework

(Brussels, 10 December 2018) As European leaders debate this week on the multiannual financial framework during the European Council Summit (13-14/12), FoodDrinkEurope asks for an appropriate EU budget for 2021-2027 that keeps the food and drink sector centre stage across its policies, such as Research and Innovation, the Single Market and the Common Agricultural Policy.

The EU food and drink industry has remained resilient throughout challenging times and has committed to stepping up its contribution to jobs and growth, and to increasing value added by 2.5 to 3.5% per year up to 2025. For the time being, our industry is firmly on track to achieve this growth rate.

Many challenges that can affect Europe's food and drink industry still lie ahead, such as food security and climate change, but there are also opportunities provided by the Single Market and trade policies. The success of the industry's growth ambition will rely on an enabling EU policy framework that must be sustained by the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

As Europe enters a new and important period, FoodDrinkEurope calls for the right framework that will allow Europe's food and drink industry – the largest manufacturing sector and leading employer in the EU – to continue to provide growth and jobs for EU citizens, to ensure consumer satisfaction and well-being, and to secure environmental sustainability.

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Note to the editors:

FoodDrinkEurope is the organisation of Europe's food and drink industry, the largest manufacturing sector and leading employer in the EU and a key contributor to its economy (294,000 companies, 99% SMEs, 4.6 million employees)