

PRESS RELEASE

Airbus-Boeing: CEMA calls for fast settlement to end the dispute

Brussels, 18th November 2020 – CEMA deeply regrets that farmers and Agricultural machinery manufacturers are taken again hostage by authorities in imposing WTO authorized punitive tariffs for a transatlantic dispute over subsidies paid to Airbus and Boeing.

We fully support a robust multilateral dispute settlement system to enforce a level playing field for international trade. But we fail to see how making American customers pay more for European agricultural products or making European farmers pay more for American built agricultural tractors will help in the daily life of citizens on both sides of the Atlantic.

We therefore deeply regret that the WTO was not capable of synchronizing its respective decisions in the Airbus and Boeing cases.

We once again call on the EU and the US Government to find a fast settlement to finally end the dispute over subsidies for the two aircraft manufacturers and abolish the punitive tariffs in bilateral trade.

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CEMA aisbl (www.cema-agri.org) is the association representing the European agricultural machinery industry. With 11 national member associations, the CEMA network represents both large multinational companies and numerous SMEs active in this sector.

The industry comprises about 7,000 manufacturers, producing more than 450 different types of machines with an annual turnover of about €40 billion (EU28 – 2016) and 150,000 direct employees. CEMA companies produce a large range of machines that cover any activity in the field from seeding to harvesting, as well as equipment for livestock management.