

Statement by Denmark, Finland, Ireland, Luxemburg and the Netherlands

The rearing of pigs, poultry and cattle cause significant pollutant emissions to the air, water and soil. It is very clear that additional efforts are needed to reduce such emissions and greenhouse gases from these sources, thereby improving air, water, and soil quality across the EU and reducing the impact on climate.

The Industrial Emissions Directive (2010/75/EU) and its predecessor IPPC-Directive have regulated the pollutant emissions of large industrial and agro-industrial sources for more than two decades and in doing so, the Directive has demonstrated that the application of the Best Available Techniques at installation level is the most cost-efficient way to reduce emissions.

In our view all sectors, covered by this directive, should contribute to the efforts of reducing pollutant emissions. Already today, many Member States are regulating the agro-industrial installations below the thresholds that are currently set as the minimum scope of the installations under the Industrial Emissions Directive.

Therefore, we regret that the Council, in its General Approach for the revision of the Industrial Emissions Directive, has deviated considerably from the scope of the agro-industrial installations initially proposed by the Commission, and thereby reduced the environmental ambition and the potential pollutant emission reductions considerably. The environmental ambition of the council is too low does not support the eu level playing field for the agro-industrial sector and is insufficiently supportive of the Green Deal and the Zero Pollution Action Plan.