

JOINT PRESS STATEMENT

15 APRIL 2026



European Parliament opts for effective cosmetics and fragrance regulatory framework

Brussels, 15 April 2026

- The ENVI/IMCO committees of the European Parliament have reached an agreement on the Omnibus VI proposal to streamline the regulatory framework for cosmetic products by tackling long-standing regulatory inconsistencies while maintaining the highest consumer safety standards.
- The cosmetics, fragrance and essential oils industries call for a swift adoption of the European Parliament's report, constructive discussions in the inter-institutional negotiations, and an end to misinformation campaigns.
- Consumer safety is the priority of both EU legislators and the cosmetics, fragrance and essential oils industry.

Brussels, 15 April 2026 - The Omnibus VI proposal updating the rules for cosmetic products has taken a key step, with Members of the European Parliament agreeing today on a way forward. The changes voted on by the European Parliament's committees uphold the highest safety standards for consumer cosmetic products whilst aiming to reduce administrative burdens and boost competitiveness.

The cosmetics, fragrance and essential oils industries welcomed the news. However, stakeholders active in the sector have expressed concern over misinformation campaigns that have accompanied the legislative process.

“The agreement in the Parliament is a positive step forward. This comes despite the rise, in recent months, of false and misleading claims suggesting that safety requirements for cosmetics would be weakened under the revised framework,” **said John Chave, Director-General of Cosmetics Europe.** “However, the paramount safety objective was never in doubt. Omnibus VI proposal does not relax any safeguards. But it does better align regulatory decision-making with robust scientific evidence, ensuring ingredients that need to be banned are banned while those that are safe can continue to be used“, Chave added.

Ensuring the safety of cosmetic ingredients is the foundation of our sector. This agreement provides a workable framework that allows European ingredient manufacturers to continue innovating and supplying safe, high-quality materials without facing disproportionate administrative hurdles,” **said Andrea Maltagliati, Secretary-General of the European Federation for Cosmetic Ingredients (EFfCI).**

“Consumers increasingly seek high quality cosmetics, relying on both strict safety regulations and transparent practices. Omnibus VI rightly upholds these high standards, ensuring that natural cosmetic formulations can thrive in a competitive, science-backed European market,” added **Mark Smith, Director General of the International Natural and Organic Cosmetics Association (NATRUE).**

The changes agreed to the Omnibus proposal are another important milestone to a regulatory framework that could become more feasible for European SMEs in practice” **said SMEunited.** “We are positive that such a result can improve the competitiveness of European SMEs without compromising our high safety standards.”

“The European Union has the most stringent regulatory framework for cosmetic products. Essential oils are complex, natural products with deep cultural and economic significance. We are encouraged to see a regulatory approach that respects this complexity and relies on objective data, rather than unfounded narratives, to secure both safety and sector viability,” stated **Andrey Mitov, President of the European Federation of Essential Oils (EFEO).**

“Essential oils are high-value, natural ingredients that are essential to many people’s everyday lives, and that support livelihoods in rural communities around the world. In Europe, a predictable and science-based regulatory framework is key to providing access to these materials, and security for these producers while enabling innovation and global competitiveness,” said **Catherine Crowley, previous Chair of the International Federation of Essential Oils and Aroma Trades (IFEAT).**

“Omnibus VI demonstrates how regulatory decisions on cosmetic safety can, and should, be grounded in robust scientific evidence and transparent processes” **Alexander Mohr, PhD, President of the International Fragrance Association (IFRA).** “As Europe often acts as a regulatory pioneer, sound policy making in Europe echoes in the rules producers and consumers will see around the world”.

As the Omnibus VI proposal moves forward, the cosmetics, fragrance and essential oils industries underline that the report so far reflects a balanced, science and evidence-based approach. They call for a swift adoption of the Parliament’s report and constructive discussions during the trilogue phase, when any unclarity in the EP report can be addressed.

Co-signatories (*alphabetical order*)

- Cosmetics Europe
- European Federation for Cosmetic Ingredients (EFfCI)
- European Federation of Essential Oils (EFEO)
- International Federation of Essential Oils and Aroma Trades (IFEAT)
- International Fragrance Association (IFRA)
- International Natural and Organic Cosmetics Association (NATRUE)
- SMEunited

About the signatory associations (*with contacts*)

About Cosmetics Europe

Cosmetics Europe is the European trade association for the cosmetics and personal care industry. Our members include cosmetics and personal care manufacturers, as well as associations representing our industry at national level across Europe.

-Gabriela Lopez Lopez, GLopez@cosmeticseurope.eu

About EFEO

The European Federation of Essential Oils (EFEO) is committed to raising awareness among policymakers, regulators, and authorities regarding essential oils and their derivatives. EFEO advocates for a comprehensive understanding of their uses, cultural and economic importance, and the potential impact of legislative and regulatory measures on the sector.

-Rebecca Lentini, rebecca.lentini@nove.eu

About EFfCI

EFfCI is the European Federation for Cosmetic Ingredients, a trade association that brings together European manufacturers of synthetic and natural ingredients for the cosmetics and personal care industry.

-Andrea Maltagliati, secretariat@effci.com

About IFEAT

The International Federation of Essential Oils and Aroma Trades (IFEAT) is a trade association founded in 1977. It represents the interests of companies involved in the production, processing, trading, and manufacturing of the many thousands of ingredients used in flavours and fragrances. Among its activities, IFEAT aims to raise awareness among political stakeholders regarding the nature, applications, and cultural and economic significance of essential oils and their derivatives.

-Rebecca Lentini, rebecca.lentini@nove.eu

About the signatory associations *(continued)*

About IFRA

The International Fragrance Association (IFRA) is the global voice of the fragrance industry. Since its creation in 1973, IFRA has brought together global fragrance houses companies, national associations, and regional fragrance ingredient manufacturers or compounders committed to ensuring the safe use of fragrance ingredients, grounded in science and responsibility. IFRA represents fragrance producers, works with regulators and international partners, and supports sustainability and innovation across the value chain.

-Charles de Lusignan, cdelusignan@ifrafragrance.org

About NATRUE

NATRUE is a Brussels-based international non-profit association committed to promoting and protecting Natural and Organic Cosmetics worldwide. Founded in 2007 by European pioneers from the sector, the association now represents companies producing natural and organic cosmetic products from around the world.

-Mark Smith, msmith@natrue.eu

About SMEunited

SMEunited, formerly known as UEAPME, is the association of crafts and SMEs in Europe with around 65 member organisations from over 30 European countries. SMEunited is a recognised employers' organisation and European Social Partner and acts on behalf of crafts and SMEs in the European Social Dialogue and in discussions with the EU institutions.

We represent national cross-sectoral Craft and SME federations, European SME branch organisations and associate members. We speak on behalf of the 25,8 million SMEs in Europe which employ almost 88,7 million people. We are a non-profit seeking and non-partisan organisation.

