

## PRESS STATEMENT

### WOOD INDUSTRIES CALL FOR SCALING UP TIMBER CONSTRUCTION TO ADDRESS EU HOUSING CRISIS

***BRUSSELS, 30 March 2026 – The European Confederation of Woodworking Industries (CEI-Bois) has submitted its contribution to the European Commission’s consultation on the forthcoming Affordable Housing Act. In its response, CEI-Bois underlines that increasing housing supply must remain the central pillar of EU action, while ensuring sustainability and industrial competitiveness.***

The consultation addresses the role of public authorities in tackling housing stress, including in situations where short-term rental markets contribute to supply constraints and seeks to identify both short-term safeguards and longer-term structural responses.

CEI-Bois considers that insufficient housing supply is the primary driver of the current housing crisis and calls for a structural response based on industrialised construction methods and increased use of timber. Timber-based construction can support the rapid expansion of affordable and quality housing while contributing to the EU’s climate objectives.

At the same time, CEI-Bois emphasises the importance of clear EU guidance and supportive regulatory frameworks to ensure that the remaining financial, regulatory and standardisation challenges are addressed. Among others, CEI-Bois therefore calls for:

- streamlined and more efficient permitting and regulatory procedures,
- the harmonisation and modernisation of building codes,
- updated construction product standards,
- the use of science-based sustainability assessment methodologies.

The industry also underlines that renewability should be recognised as equally important as recyclability within EU circular economy policies.

CEI-Bois, on behalf of the European wood industry, stands ready to contribute to the Commission’s initiative by providing practical and scalable solutions to increase the use of wood in the delivery of affordable housing across Europe.

➔ [Read the contribution](#)

#### **About CEI-Bois**

The European Confederation of Woodworking Industries (CEI-Bois) represents 22 European and National organisations from 16 countries and is the body backing the interests of the whole industrial European wood sector: more than 160.000 companies generating an annual turnover of 194 billion euros and employing 930,000 workers in the EU.