

Brussels, 29/01/2026

## **ECTA calls co-legislators to protect the CO<sub>2</sub> standards for heavy-duty vehicles and strengthen enabling conditions**

The European Clean Trucking Alliance (ECTA) reiterates its support for the HDV CO<sub>2</sub> emission standards and expresses its concern regarding the amendment proposed in the Automotive Package presented on 12 December by the European Commission to modify the banking system for CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from heavy duty vehicles.

The CO<sub>2</sub> standards for heavy-duty vehicles remain a landmark policy instrument to drive the transition to zero-emission road freight transport and to ensure the long-term availability and affordability of ZETs.

Whilst pragmatism is needed to support the success of all actors within the HDV ecosystem during electrification, any amendment to the standards should not weaken the ambition of the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions standards. Lower ambition would undermine investment certainty across the value chain and could ultimately slow down the scale-up of production needed to bring down vehicle costs and accelerate market uptake.

ECTA underlines that a coherent and firm policy framework that addresses the enabling conditions for deployment, in particular the total cost of ownership, access to charging and refuelling infrastructure, and the availability of supportive financial incentives across all Member States, are essential too.

To effectively accelerate the transition to clean trucking, ECTA therefore calls on EU institutions to:

- Preserve the integrity and long-term ambition of the CO<sub>2</sub> standards for heavy-duty vehicles;
- Focus policy efforts on improving the total cost of ownership of zero-emission trucks, including purchase price, operational costs and charging infrastructure;
- Make targeted use of ETS2 revenues to incentivise zero-emission truck deployment across all Member States;
- Set clear expectations for Member States to ensure the timely deployment of sufficient private and public charging and refuelling infrastructure.



ECTA remains committed to working constructively with EU institutions and stakeholders to ensure that regulatory ambition, market realities and enabling conditions move forward together, delivering a credible and effective transition to zero-emission road freight transport.