



Associazione Esposizioni e Fiere Italiane
Italian Exhibition & Trade Fair Association

Press release

**AEFI: COUNCIL OF MINISTERS APPROVES ENTRY OF THIRD-COUNTRY TRADE VISITORS,
CRUCIAL FOR TRADE FAIRS
DANESE (PRES.): TIMELY AND VITAL INTERVENTION FOR TRADE FAIR BUSINESS**

(Rome, 3 February 2022). "Recognition of the vaccine status of the country of origin, supplemented by a swab in the event of non-compliance with the Italian one, allows trade fairs to return to being strategic hubs for the business of Made in Italy SMEs. The new COVID decree approved yesterday evening by the Government once again goes in the direction desired by the trade fair system and Italian companies. AEFI, the Italian Exhibition and Trade Fair Association, which represents 96% of Italy's events, can only express their approval for such a swiftly adopted measure". This is how Maurizio Danese, president of AEFI, commented on the decree approved yesterday evening by the Italian Council of Ministers.

"A breath of fresh air," continued Mr Danese, "which will make it possible to guarantee full international status for the dozens of events postponed in the first two months of the year, mainly due to major withdrawals by trade visitors from third countries. It is also a success for Made in Italy companies and for the business tourism generated by the trade fair industry, which, before COVID, accounted for more than 23 billion euros per year."

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