DRAFT AGENDA w. FoodDrinkEurope preparatory comments

Ref. Ares(2017)984623 - 23/02/2017



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Directorate I. Legal, institutional and procedural matters

**I.4. Adoption procedures, committees, expert groups and civil dialogue groups**

Brussels,

Ares (2017) 1134056



***Message à l’attention du Secrétaire Général du***

***For the attention of the Secretary General of***

*AmCham EU, ACT Alliance EU, BEUC, CEJA, CELCAA, CEPM, COGECA, COPA, ECPA, ECVC, EEB, EFA, EFFAT, EFNCP, EFOW, ELO, EMB, EPHA, Euro Coop, EuropaBio, FOEE, FoodDrinkEurope, FTAO, IFAH Europe, IFOAM, Origin, SACAR, Slowfood, WWF*

According to the Decision 2013/767/EU of 16 December 2013, I wish to inform you of the next meeting of the Civil Dialogue Group on

**« CDG INTERNATIONAL ASPECTS OF AGRICULTURE » March 10th 2017, from 9:30 to 18:00 hours**

in 1049 Brussels, Albert Borschette, Rue Froissart 36 – room AB-1A

with the following agenda:

**MORNING SESSION**

1. Administrative and governance matters
	1. Adoption of the minutes of the last CDG of 15 09 2016
	2. Adoption of the agenda of the present meeting of 10/03/2017
	3. Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons

|  |
| --- |
| Details were sent to participants of FoodDrinkEurope. |

1. Agri-food trade developments2016

|  |
| --- |
| Background docs: * “Agri-food exports from the European Union reach record high in 2016, according to annual 2016 figures”, DG Agri press release, 23 February 2017 <https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/newsroom/330_en> + the [full report](https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/sites/agriculture/files/trade-analysis/monitoring-agri-food-trade/2016-12_en.pdf)
* Includes focus on EU agri-food trade with Canada

---Comments, if considered relevant:* On EU-Canada CETA:
* Could you confirm the date of provisional application of the CETA agreement (1st April 2017)?
* Could you please also explain the administrative procedures EU exporters already exporting and those interested to export to Canada will have to go through? (“registered / authorised exporter” status); Does the COM and / or MS intend to inform operators about the procedural aspects?
 |

1. Agri Trade Negotiations – prospects for 2017, including a focus on EU-Japan FTA

|  |
| --- |
| General * Obtain clarity on the EU calendar and agri-food trade related negotiations for 2017, such as EU-Mexico, EU-Mercosur, EU-Philippines, EU-Indonesia, EU-Vietnam (pending ratification).

Background docs: * *COMP/TRADE/035/17* – Overview of EU – third country bilateral relations

EU-Japan* Enquire about state of play and express support for an ambitious EU-Japan FTA.
* From the start, FoodDrinkEurope has supported an FTA that will both (1) substantially improve market access for European food and drink products in Japan and (2) tackle regulatory barriers.

Background docs:* Summary report of meeting with Mr Mauro Petriccione (DG Trade and Chief Negotiations for EU-Japan) – COMP/TRADE/009/17
* FoodDrinkEurope priorities – COMP/TRADE/289/15
 |

1. Trade promotion / Business diplomacy, in particular business delegation visit to Iran and Canada

|  |
| --- |
| High-level mission to Canada (1-3 May 2017)* Express support for the EU promotion and information campaigns incl. EU high-

 level missions to third countries – to help EU exporters access new markets. * FoodDrinkEurope Director General, Ms Mella Frewen, has registered for the next mission to Canada and looks forward to participate for the first time. The mission is particularly timely in view of the provisional application of the EU-Canada CETA agreement – and the benefits this agreement will bring for the EU food and drink sector.

Background docs:* COMP/TRADE/017/17
* ‘Phil Hogan to visit Canada in European business offensive’, DG Agri <https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/events/commissioner-phil-hogan-official-visit-canada-1-452017_en>
 |

1. COP 21
	1. What strategy for the Commission to implement commitments per Member States and per sector – what commitments for agriculture,
	2. Agriculture's role in meeting the EU's Paris Agreement commitments: the need for sustainable agriculture mitigation' presented by John LINCHBERRY

|  |
| --- |
| Background docs:* COMP/AGPO/089/15 FINAL FoodDrinkEurope's key messages on emissions from agriculture and LULUCF
* COMP/AGPO/097/16 FOR INFO Commission proposals for a revision of the non-ETS sectors: Effort Sharing Regulation and LULUCF
* COMP/AGPO/072/15 INFO NOTE - Agriculture and LULUCF in the 2030 climate and energy framework
 |

2

**LUNCH BREAK WITH INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS (OPTIONAL):**

1. **Investment protection**
2. **Trade defense instrument – the case of fertilizers**
3. **Cooperation with Africa – events in 2016**

**AFTERNOON SESSION**

1. Impact of trade agreements on EU agriculture and future orientations
	1. Presentation by representative of EESC: report on trade policy presented by Volker PETERSEN

|  |
| --- |
| * Volker Petersen, EESC: <http://memberspage.eesc.europa.eu/Search/Details/Person/2021229>

Background docs: * ‘Proactive Trade Agenda’, EESC Employers’ Group <http://www.eesc.europa.eu/resources/docs/qe-02-17-158-en-n.pdf>
* [‘The importance of agricultural trade for the future development of agriculture and farming in the EU in the context of global food security’](http://www.eesc.europa.eu/?i=portal.en.nat-opinions.35264), EESC, Sept. 2015
 |

* 1. Presentation by Copenhagen Economics study "Impact of EU trade agreements on the agricultural sector" (South Korea, Switzerland, Mexico) presented by Eva RYTTER SUNESEN

|  |
| --- |
| General* Learn about the key outcomes, lessons learnt and potential recommendations which emerge from the study – i.e. for the future EU approach to agri-food trade related negotiations. (e.g. increasing the scope and depth of existing agreements to improve market access – further addressing tariffs, quotas and non-tariff measures and technical barriers).
* The executive summary of the study mentions:

“EU exporters (mainly SMEs) are not always fully aware of the trade potentials in new EU trade agreements and the threat of losing market share when their trading partners sign trade agreements with third countries. Companies and organisations thus need to be better informed about new trade agreements, and there could be a scope for carrying out common information campaigns when new EU trade agreements enter into force. Likewise, information about new trade initiatives in main EU partner countries will allow EU exporters to anticipate changing business conditions and implement the right commercial strategies.”* + What is the COM’s view on this, the role of MS – and how could associations / stakeholders support this process?
	+ For instance, take the recently concluded EU-Canada CETA agreement – we as association receive requests if, when and on which type of products tariffs may change in future – but operators are not necessarily familiar with the actual text of the agreement (which is 1,600 pages long) and reading the attached tariff schedules - nor does the Market Access Database inform about an upcoming change in tariffs (at least not to our knowledge).

For information: the Canadian Government on its website on CETA has a section ‘[Find your EU tariff rate’](http://www.international.gc.ca/gac-amc/campaign-campagne/ceta-aecg/find_your_tariff_rate-trouvez_votre_taux_tarifaire.aspx?lang=eng) – which explain how to read the CETA tariff schedules. Such practical information could also be beneficial for EU operators. Background docs: * ‘Study on the impact of EU trade agreements on the EU agricultural sector’, DG Agri News, 27 February 2017 <https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/newsroom/331_en>

[>> Read the study](https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/external-studies/2016-bilateral-trade-agreements_en)[>> Press realease](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-339_en.htm)[>> Memo](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-17-340_en.htm)  |

* 1. Presentation by DG AGRI "Cumulative economic impact of future trade agreements on EU agriculture"

|  |
| --- |
| Not clear if this refers to the Joint Research Centre (JRC) study on ‘the Cumulative economic impact of future trade agreements on EU agriculture’ that was published in November 2016. “On 15 November, the European Commission presented to EU agriculture ministers the conclusions of a study on the cumulative effects of 12 future trade agreements (USA, Canada, Mercosur, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Vietnam, Thailand, Turkey, Mexico, Philippines and Indonesia) on the agri-food sector, including specific results for producer prices and production volumes for a range of products accounting for 30% of the value of the EU exports in the sector.”One of the key outcomes of the study:“A successful conclusion of trade agreements will have to strike a balance between the achieved market access for offensive agricultural products and the protection of sensitive products. The overall result of trade negotiations should remain acceptable, both economically and socially for EU agriculture.” Comments* The study does not investigate and reflect the potential gains from some of the typical EU flagship processed agricultural products (e.g. sugar confectionery, cocoa preparations, preparations of cereals, bakers' wares and preparations of fruit and vegetables) and EU key offensive interests in bilateral negotiations. This limitation leads to an underestimation of the potential trade gains.

Background docs:* COMP/TRADE/284/16 + Annexes

 Key takeaways and Preliminary analysis of the JRC Report 'Cumulative economic  impact of future trade agreements on EU agriculture'  |

* 1. Exchange with participants
1. AOB

Péter BOKOR

Chef d'Unité/Head of Unit

Copies: Mmes, Gerstgrasser, MM. John Clarke, Willi Schulz-Greve, Péter

Bokor, Stephan Juergen Koehler, Mauro Poinelli, Mmes. Lene

Naesager, Annette Hurrelmann, Nikiel-Lambert,, Scic-Agenda.

3

L'accès à la salle de réunion est STRICTEMENT limité aux EXPERTS du GDC désignés et annoncés par les organisations constituées à l’échelon de l'Union Européenne. Prière d’enregistrer leur nom au moins 3 jours ouvrables avant la réunion via le système électronique d’enregistrement de la DG AGRI – (portail AWAI : [https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/agriportal/awaiportal)](https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/agriportal/awaiportal). Les frais de voyage et une indemnité de séjour forfaitaire ne sont remboursés que pour les EXPERTS du groupe annoncés selon le nouveau règlement entré en vigueur le 1er janvier 2008 (disponible sur CIRCABC).

*Les experts doivent impérativement présenter lors de la réunion le(les) titre(s) de transport utilisé(s) indiquant clairement le(s) prix, un billet électronique ne mentionnant pas le prix, devra expressément être accompagné d'une facture.*

*Les transports aériens ne sont autorisés que si la distance entre le point de départ indiqué dans l'invitation et le lieu de réunion est supérieure à 400 km ou si le voyage comporte une traversée maritime.*

***Les billets d'avion devraient être réservés en classe «Economy», sur base du prix le plus avantageux à la réception de l'invitation et qui permette de participer à la réunion et de voyager durant la semaine de travail.***

*Si, pour des raisons exceptionnelles et indépendantes des experts, les billets doivent être réservés en classe «business» et/ou à un prix plus élevé, l'expert fournira avec son billet les pièces justificatives émanant de l'agence de voyage. En l’absence de ces pièces justificatives, les billets en classe «business» ne seront partiellement remboursés que sur base du prix applicable à la classe «Economy».*

***Il est recommandé aux participants de réserver leurs billets dès réception de la convocation.***

Conformément au règlement n° 45/2001, les traitements de données personnelles relatifs aux groupes ont été notifiés par le Secrétariat Général au Délégué à la protection des données de la Commission (notification DPO-2194), ainsi que CIRCABC (DPO-1008) et AWAI (DPO-1932).

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Access to the meeting room is STRICTLY limited to the EXPERTS of the CDG designated and notified by the EU organisations. Please register them via the electronic registration system of DG AGRI (Portal AWAI <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/agriportal/awaiportal>), at least 3 working days before the meeting. The travelling expenses and a daily allowance are refunded only for the EXPERTS of the group designated by their organisation following the new rules in force since 1st January 2008 (available on CIRCABC).

*The experts are requested to present during the meeting a transportation ticket clearly mentioning the price; for electronic tickets without a quoted price, an invoice or a voucher (with an explicit price) is to be furnished.*

*Air travel is only authorized only if the distance between the departure point stated in the invitation and the meeting place is longer than 400 kms or if the journey involves a sea crossing.*

***Air tickets should be booked in economy class, on the basis of the most economical fare available at the moment of the invitation and allowing participation to the meeting and travel during the workweek.***

*If, exceptionally, for reasons beyond the control of experts, seats have to be booked in business class and/or higher rate, the expert must produce with the ticket supporting evidence from the travel agency. Business class tickets will be only partially reimbursed, up to the level of the applicable economy class rate, in case there is no appropriate justification available.*

***Participants are recommended to book their air tickets as soon as possible after the reception of the convocation, so as to achieve lower rates.***

*In compliance with regulation n. 45/2001, the processing of personal data concerning the groups has been notified by the Secretary-General to the data protection officer of the Commission (DPO-2194), as well as CIRCABC (DPO-1008) and AWAI (DPO-1932).*

4

Electronically signed on 23/02/2017 13:07 (UTC+01) in accordance with article 4.2 (Validity of electronic documents) of Commission Decision 2004/563

