

CER(11)9154:1

Brussels, 21st November 2011

Original: French

Minutes from the meeting of the Copa-Cogeca Working Party on Cereals, Oilseeds and Protein Crops on 5th October 2011

Present: ALBINO, BACKHOUSE, CAPODIECI, CARTRYSSE, DAVIES, DE ANTONIO SENOVILLA, DELANY, DE MONTPELLIER, DUSSEY, EHLERS, FERENCZI, FERNÁNDEZ, GIPMANS, GALLARDO BARRENA, GAGEN, GIPMANS, GRABIŃSKI, HEIM, ISAMBERT, IVARSSON, JIROVEC, LÄÄNEMETS, LEGGOTT, LIPSKAS, LOPEZ HERNÁNDEZ, MARDA, MARTIN, NARDONE, NARRO, NEIMANIS, PICARRA, POEYDOMENGE, ROHRER, SCHULMAN, STRINDBERG, TAVARES, TOFTDAHL, REWERTS, WATTS, WUTZ

Secretariat: Francesca BIGNAMI, Lucia ZITTI, Arnaud PETIT

Summary and conclusions

- 1- The Working Party, chaired by Mr BACKHOUSE, adopted the agenda CER(11)6960.
- 2- No comments were made on the minutes from the meeting held on 30th June 2011 CER(11)7548 and GOL(11)6799, so they were adopted.

3- Forecasts for the 2011-2012 marketing year

A round table discussion confirmed that there was a slight fall in European cereal production and a more significant fall for oil seeds. Northern EU regions were facing a great deal of disparity both in quality and in the development of mycotoxins. Regarding sowing, the French delegation noted an increase in rapeseed surface area. The German delegation stressed the implications of the German sustainability certification system for trade. All delegations present stated that protein crop production was falling.

The Chairman, Mr BACKHOUSE, concluded the round table discussion by stating that the disparities in production were a challenge in the current marketing year and that the markets were increasingly detached from basic principles.

4- Market situation and prospects for 2010/2011

Mr WATTS, AHDB, presented the situation on global markets, highlighting falling stocks in Europe and significantly increased demand in South-East Asia. The FEFAC representative stressed the need to increase cereal production and European productivity. The UECBV representative emphasized the fact that red meat consumption was continuing its downward trend, a trend that had accelerated since the start of the economic crisis. The slowdown in consumption had primarily

affected poultrymeat and less so pigmeat, which benefitted from strong demand on the international market.

The debate with members focused mostly on the issue of extreme market volatility but also on price levels, protein production requirements and the GMO debate.

5- **Presentation by BASF on the "AgBalance" initiative**

Mr Martin GIPMANS presented an agricultural production model based on the three pillars of the sustainable development concept. He presented the model as a decision-making tool for farmers but also as a way to distinguish production within the food chain.

The Chairman, Mr BACKHOUSE, concluded the debate by stressing that this initiative was interesting and should lead to further reflection about the future development of the CAP.

6- **Exchange of opinions on documents concerning the CAP post 2013**

The Secretariat briefly presented the main proposals to be approved by the College of Commissioners. The Chairman, Ian BACKHOUSE, reminded delegates that the Working Party had adopted an initial position which could be adapted to the Commission's proposals and proposed dedicating the next meeting of the Working Party to this issue. The members approved this proposal.

7- **Information on "Research and Innovation"**

The Secretariat informed members of draft proposals to be made on mycotoxins and the development of new cereal varieties on experimental farms. Members stressed that duplication should be avoided and that barley and oats should be included as relevant species.

8- **Preparation for the Advisory Group meeting**

The Secretariat presented the state of play in negotiations with Ukraine.

9- **A.O.B.**

The Chairman, Mr BACKHOUSE, informed members that the next meeting would take place on 8th December 2011.