

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COPA-COGECA WORKING PARTY ON OILSEEDS AND PROTEIN CROPS HELD ON 14TH MARCH 2013

PRESENT: Watts, Gagen, Hambly, Gallardo, Fuentes, Läänemets, Conway, Delany, Sutka, Strindberg, Bowie, Seedler, Rewerts, Arens, Majauskas, Montaigu, Mlodecki, Jirovec, Matousek, Dusser, Fernández, Christiansen, Schulman, Leidwein

SECRETARIAT: Bignami, Dejonckheere, Petit

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS:

Item 1: Adoption of the agenda

- The Working Party, chaired by Mr Schulman, adopted the agenda [CER\(13\)1370 \(rev.1\)](#).

Item 2: Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting held on 13th December 2012

- The minutes of the meeting held on 13th December 2012 [GOL\(13\)2235 \(rev.1\)](#) would be sent to members to be approved by written procedure.

Item 3: Estimates for the 2012-2013 marketing year

- The round table discussion revealed that some countries were facing difficult climatic conditions (Baltic States, PL) and it was impossible to provide precise estimates for the Nordic countries. Crop conditions at the end of winter were relatively poor (UK, IE, FR) and the level of re-sowing could be high. There was also expected to be a lack of certified seeds.
- The Chairman, Mr Schulman, concluded by underscoring that oilseed production was predicted to increase (+4.5%), although this had to be put in perspective, taking into account spring sowing with less productive varieties.

Item 4: Market situation and forecasts for 2012/2013

- Tension on the oilseeds markets was set to fall, with the arrival of Australian production. The European Union had become the 1st global importer of rapeseed and crushers' margins were low. The price of oils was decreasing, given the level of demand for energy. The meal market was extremely tense in Europe. Sunflower production was also poor.
- The Chairman, Mr Schulman, concluded the round table discussion and stressed that this sector needed to increase its production to meet livestock producers' needs and that the sector needed to further develop across the entire EU.

Item 5: Update on neonicotinoids

- ➔ The Secretariat informed members about Mr Tubéry's contribution to the European Parliament's seminar on this topic, the Commission's draft and the anticipated results of the SCoFAH meeting on 15th March. The Spanish, German and UK delegations underpinned the importance of this issue.
- ➔ The Chairman, Mr Schulman, proposed strengthening dialogue with beekeepers in the future.

Item 6: Draft position on plant proteins

- ➔ The Secretariat informed members that the draft recommendation had been approved by Copa and Cogeca and would be sent to DG AGRI. Furthermore, a specific group for research into plant proteins would be set up under the technology platform "Plants for the Future".
- ➔ The Chairman, Mr Schulman, invited those members who wished to contribute to this working group, to make themselves known to the Secretariat.

Item 7: ILUC – state of play

- ➔ The Secretariat informed members of the action it had undertaken and the draft position currently being written.
- ➔ The Chairman, Mr Schulman, encouraged members to continue lobbying at national level.

Item 8: AOB

- ➔ The Chairman, Mr Schulman, closed the meeting and informed members that the next meeting would take place on 20th June 2013.