



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The Director-General

Brussels, 11.07.2013  
By e-mail only  
Agri K1 EM/lm D(2013)2746232

**Subject: Invitation to the conference on the future of the milk sector, Brussels, Charlemagne building, 24 September 2013.**

Dear Sir

It gives me great pleasure to invite COPA-COGECA to participate at the Conference "**The EU dairy sector: developing beyond 2015**" which will take place in Brussels on Tuesday 24 September 2013, at the Charlemagne building, rue de la Loi 170 ( from 9h00 until 18h00).

The abolition of the milk quota system in 2015 will create a new context for economic operators, who have been dealing with milk quotas for some 30 years. To prepare the sector for this new operating environment, a series of new instruments has been developed in the context of the 'Milk Package'. Moreover, the milk sector has been the subject of intense discussions during the CAP reform process and the agreement reached on 26 June reinforces instruments to tackle difficulties in the milk sector; amendments have been introduced to the single Common Market Organisation (CMO) rules to improve the market orientation of EU agriculture in the light of increased competition on world markets, while providing an effective safety net for farmers in the context of external uncertainties (together with direct payments and options for risk management under rural development).

The outcome of the conference will serve as a basis to assess whether additional actions are necessary in the context of the Commission report regarding the development of the market situation in the milk sector together with any appropriate proposals foreseen by 30 June 2014 by the "Milk Package" regulation.

I wish to invite you to nominate in total 60 representatives of **COPA-COGECA** to attend this event. Please arrange to register all your nominees online by 20 August at:

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fmi/scic/SCICMILK2013/start.php>

Following registration, a confirmation letter will be sent via e-mail to your representatives.

Mr Pekka Pesonen  
Secretary-General COPA-COGECA  
Rue de Trèves 61  
B-1000 Bruxelles

**Kindly note also that the Commission is in a position to meet the travel and accommodation expenses for 40 of the 60 COPA-COGECA representatives. Kindly send us by 26 July to the conference mailbox: [AGRI-CONF-MILK-2013@ec.europa.eu](mailto:AGRI-CONF-MILK-2013@ec.europa.eu) the list of the 40 persons to be reimbursed and their contact details in one complete Excel table (full name and address, telephone number and e-mail). Kindly advise these persons not to make any hotel or flight reservations on their own. Our travel agency will be in contact with them directly to arrange their travel and accommodation.**

Please note that interpretation in all EU working languages will be available during the plenary session.

For any other organisational questions, kindly contact us also via the conference mailbox: [AGRI-CONF-MILK-2013@ec.europa.eu](mailto:AGRI-CONF-MILK-2013@ec.europa.eu)

More information on the conference may be found on the website:  
[http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/events/dairy-conference-2013\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/events/dairy-conference-2013_en.htm)

We look forward to welcoming you at the conference.

Yours faithfully



Jerzy PLEWA

Annex: draft conference programme

**Draft agenda of the conference "The EU dairy sector: developing beyond 2015"**

<p><b>09:00 – 09:30 Opening of the conference</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Commissioner Dacian Cioloş</i></li> <li>• <i>President of the Agriculture and Fisheries Council (Minister for Agriculture of Lithuania).</i></li> <li>• <i>Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development of the European Parliament.</i></li> </ul>	
<p><b>09:30 – 9:45 Market situation and perspectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	
<p><b>9:45 – 10:45 Conclusions of the analysis on future developments in the dairy sector</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Ernst &amp; Young + 6 Experts panel</i></li> </ul>	
<p><b>10:45 – 11:00 Coffee break</b></p>	
<p><b>11:00 – 13:00 Alternative studies on the future of the milk sector</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>European Milk Board (EMB)</i></li> <li>• <i>Mouvement pour une Organisation Mondiale de l'Agriculture (MOMAGRI)</i></li> <li>• <i>COPA-COGECA</i></li> </ul>	
<p><b>13:00 – 14:30 Lunch break</b></p>	
<p><b>14:30 – 15:30 Workshop on market balance and competitiveness</b></p> <p><i>Chairman:</i></p> <p><i>Moderator: Hannes Weindlmaier</i></p>	<p><b>14:30 – 15:30 Workshop on sustainable milk production including its territorial dimension</b></p> <p><i>Chairman:</i></p> <p><i>Moderator: Aurelie Trouve</i></p>
<p><b>15:30 – 17:15 Conclusions of the workshops and exchange of views with the stakeholders</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Chairman:</i></li> <li>• <i>Moderators: Hannes Weindlmaier and Aurelie Trouve</i></li> </ul>	
<p><b>17:15 – 17:45 Conclusions and closure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Commissioner Dacian Cioloş</i></li> </ul>	