

MINUTES OF THE COPA-COGECA ON PIGMEAT WORKING PARTY MEETING HELD ON 29.04.2013

PRESENT: Tavares (Chair), Higuera (Vice-Chair), Aberg (Vice-Chair), Schlederer, Kam, Stibal, Matousek, Börger, Jakobi, Baravykas, Veide, Kicinski, Skrzymowska, Endrodi, Vrtacnik, Corbolan, Higuera, L. Fernández, C. Fernández, Fuentes, Corrales, Bernis, Groot, Pignatti, Pollastri, Brendov, Johansson, Pecastaing, Tailleur, Serres, Houston, Davies, Rantala, O’Flaherty, Schütz, Fechler, Basto, Mira, Martin.

SECRETARIAT: Petit, Di Rubbo, Azevedo.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS:

Item 1 & 2: Approval of the agenda and the minutes of the previous meeting

→ The two documents were approved.

Items 3: Elections Chairman and Vice-Chairman [VP\(13\)3478 \(rev.1\)](#)

→ Mr. Petit debrief the Working Party (WP) on the rules of the elections. Ms. Granados and Mr. Serres were nominated scrutineers. Mr. Tavares was elected Chair of the WP (72 votes). Mr. Houston received 69 votes. Moreover, Mr. Higuera and Ms. Aberg were elected by unanimity Vice-Chairmen of the WP.

Item 4: Latest information on the market situation for pigmeat and feed market update

→ Mr. Azevedo from the Secretariat presented the summary of the market situation provided at the previous forecast working meeting.

→ The WP agreed that the most urgent dossier in the last two years has been the volatility and high price of feed. Despite the high price of pigmeat, it is not enough to cover the cost of production, reducing considerably the margins of producers. Moreover the export trend is not very positive.

Item 5: State of Play of Trade Negotiations and the Russian ban

→ The Secretariat provided a state of play of the negotiations of the main ongoing Free Trade Agreements (FTA): Canada ([BILAT\(13\)891 \(rev.1\)](#) and [BILAT\(13\)3136 \(rev.1\)](#)), Mercosur, Japan ([BILAT\(13\)4124 \(rev.1\)](#)).

→ Russia: roundtable on the several bans in place:

a) Import ban on live animals: Russia bans, from the whole EU (since 20 March 2012), the import of non-breeding pigs and ruminants.

b) barriers related to the listing of EU establishments.

c) import restrictions against Germany, the Netherlands and Spain.

Item 6: Report Copa-Cogeca: Impact assessment FTA EU-USA

→ The Secretariat presented the preliminary results of the impact assessment on the EU pigmeat market and the preliminary position on the opening of EU-USA bilateral negotiations [BILAT\(13\)2637 \(rev.3\)](#). The WP agreed that EU should not allow US imports of pigmeat with ractopamine. The Chairman concluded this point by suggesting to present the preliminary results at the advisory group meeting.

Item 7: Directive protection of pigs

→ The Chairman informed on the recent meetings on animal welfare. Note available in AI and distributed to the WP - [VP\(13\)3519 \(rev.1\)](#). The Chair continued his intervention by informing that a consultant (Food Chain Evaluation Consortium (FCEC)), commissioned by DG SANCO, is undertaking a survey on the costs and benefits of ending surgical castration of male pigs by 1 January 2018, in the EU. The WP was invited to complete the online questionnaire available by

no later than May 10th, 2013. Ms. Granados and Mr. Higuera debriefed on the type and content of the interview carried out by this Consultant.

→ debrief by Mr. Higuera on the Commission intention to draft EU guidelines on pig welfare (Council directive 2008/120). The WP agreed to participate on this process. [VP\(13\)3148 \(rev.1\)](#) and [VP\(13\)3140 \(rev.1\)](#)

→ Slatted floors. The delegate from NL informed on a proposal of the Dutch government to replace the limit of 18mm by 20 mm.

→ The European Commission, via a letter of formal notice, called on Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Poland and Portugal to take action to address deficiencies in the implementation of EU legislation concerning the welfare of animals, and specifically to implement Directive 2008/120/EC which requires that sows are kept in groups during part of their pregnancy. The concerned Member States have two months to respond to the letter of formal notice. If they fail to react in a satisfactory manner, the Commission will send a "Reasoned Opinion" requesting that they take the necessary measures to comply with the Directive within two months.

Item 8: The new Animal Welfare framework law – what can we expect?

→ Mr Di Rubbo provided information on the recent developments on Animal Health Law and Official Controls - Copa-Cogeca is preparing a preliminary views on the proposal - [AHW\(13\)1457 \(rev.5\)](#) and [AHW\(13\)1635 \(rev.5\)](#)). The delegate from UK underlined the importance to undertake an impact assessment jointly with the Animal Health Law.

→ Moreover Mr. Di Rubbo continued his intervention by debriefing on the new Animal Welfare Framework Law ([AHW\(12\)6138 \(rev.5\)](#)) and the Recent development on antimicrobial resistance.

Item 9: Item 9: Guidelines Fitness pig on Transport

→ The Chair informed on the invitation to join a working group to draft and publish a EU guide for assessing fitness for transport of pigs. Its purpose is only to give simple, clear and concrete indicators to the operators of the pig sector to help them decide if an animal is transportable. The WP unanimously approved the terms of reference ([VP\(13\)2426 \(rev.1\)](#)) and the participation of the WP in the platform that will to draft the guidelines. Mr. Tavares and Mr. Higuera will attend the meeting on behalf of the WP and report to the WP. Mr. Azevedo was nominated the secretariat of the working group that would draft the guidelines. The terms of reference are to be approved in the following meeting of the POCC/CCC and Praesidium.

Item 10: Origin labelling state of play

→ The Secretariat informed on the last developments on origin of labelling (3 studies).

→ Mandatory origin labelling for unprocessed meat pig meat: No common contribution agreed. Thus, the WP agreed to provide an individual opinion on the matter during the advisory group meeting.

→ Mandatory origin labelling for meat used as an ingredient: The WP validated the contribution proposed by the Secretariat but underlining that the costs and benefits of such system have to be assessed before deciding which option to take. Additionally, the same rules would have to apply to meat coming from third countries.

Item 11: IED – report on the revision of Directive 2010/75 on industrial emissions

→ Ms. Huiguera informed on the recent developments to revise the IRPP BREF. The first draft is expected by the end of July 2013.

Item 12: Legislative proposals on the future of the CAP post 2013: State of Play

→ The secretariat informed the WP on the last developments of the negotiations.

Item 13: Reintroduction of non-ruminant processed animal proteins: State of Play

→ The Chair informed that the Commission intends to presented for vote (to the SCoFCAH) a legislative proposal aiming at reintroducing processed animal proteins (PAPs) derived from non-ruminants in pig feed, in Nov/Dec 2013, as requested by Copa-Cogeca.

Item 14: AOB

None.

