European Parliament

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Plenary sitting

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 133 of the Rules of Procedure on falling farm prices

Sophie Montel, Florian Philippot

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B8-0521/2016

Motion for a European Parliament resolution on falling farm prices

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 133 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas according to the French food price formation and margin observatory, farm prices fell by 2.4% in 2015, having already fallen by 5.3% in 2014;
- B. whereas the drop in world prices is becoming steeper in 2016, as can be seen from the fact that the FAO price index fell by 16% year on year in January 2016, reaching its lowest level since April 2009;
- C. whereas this price fall is due to a worldwide production glut on a largely liberalised agricultural market as demand growth continues to decline;
- D. whereas this overproduction is being made possible not least by the ending of production restrictions, for example the abolition of milk quotas, which led to very high winter milk production in the EU, according to the FAO;
- E. whereas the Commission is continuing to pursue its free trade strategy with Canada and the United States, even though that would increase the volume of agricultural products in the EU;
- 1. Calls on the Commission to allow Member States, in consultation with agricultural producers, to set an annual production target volume;
- 2. Calls for milk quotas to be reinstated on a country basis.

