



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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Committee on Development

2010/2110(INI)

12.10.2010

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Development

for the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

on EU agriculture and international trade
(2010/2110(INI))

Rapporteur: Patrizia Toia

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Development calls on the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

1. Points out that Article 208 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union states that: ‘The Union shall take account of the objectives of development cooperation in the policies that it implements which are likely to affect developing countries’;
2. Underlines the fact that applying policy coherence for development (PCD) to agriculture and trade will also impact on the fulfilment of Millennium Development Goals 1 (eradication of extreme poverty and hunger) and 8 (global partnership for development), including through provisions for fairer trade rules and market access;
3. Welcomes the reduction of export subsidies and calls for further reforms of the Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) including the complete elimination of these subsidies, which were reintroduced in 2009 for dairy products. Points out that export subsidies have, in the past, allowed the dumping of cheap EU products in developing countries, distorting competition with local producers and undermined their productive capacity;
4. Reiterates concerns over the EU’s trade strategy (‘Global Europe: competing in the World’) which focuses on competition and market access for EU products and which fails to provide a pro-development approach;
5. Encourages a radical reduction of tariffs on agricultural imports from all developing countries and the limitation of non-tariff barriers in order to provide real market-access opportunities for developing countries;
6. Urges that a more global perspective be adopted in the discussions on the CAP post-2013, expanding market-access opportunities for developing countries and allowing them to perform competitively in their own national and regional markets.