



Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

Newsletter 9th legislature - Issue No 03/2019

Wednesday 25 September 09.00 – 12.30 14.30 – 18.30

> Brussels Room: PHS 1A002



Highlights

Exchange of views with Commission representatives (DG AGRI and DG TRADE) on the agricultural component of the Mercosur Free Trade Agreement and other relevant issues of trade policy



DG AGRI and DG TRADE representatives will present and discuss with Members the relevant provisions of the Mercosur Free Trade Agreement (FTA). An agreement was finally reached on 28 June 2019, bringing to an end 20 years of negotiations. The FTA will create the world's biggest market for goods and services by population size and will, gradually, remove duties on 91% of goods that EU companies export to Mercosur, while it will also eliminate import duties on 92% of Mercosur goods exported to the EU. However, the agricultural sector has expressed serious concerns about the concessions made in the field of agriculture. Therefore, Members decided to invite Commission representatives to provide further information of the FTA.

Exchange of views with a Commission representative (DG SANTE) on the draft Delegated Act concerning rules for establishments keeping terrestrial animals and hatcheries, and the traceability of certain kept terrestrial animals and hatching eggs



Members will hold an exchange of views with Commission representatives on the above mentioned draft delegated act. Members have expressed concerns regarding the introduction of the obligatory use of electronic ear tags for goat kids which could have a significant impact on the sector.

Presentation by a Commission representative (DG AGRI) of a recently published report by the High Level Group on Sugar and a state of play of the situation in the sugar market



The Commission representatives will inform Members about the conclusions of the High Level Group on Sugar established one year after the end of the quota regime (30 September 2017). The group is mandated to discuss the current market situation and to explore and evaluate possible solutions and policy measures as regards their effectiveness and suitability to tackle the problems identified.

Exchange of views with a Commission representative (DG SANTE) on the sanitary situation in Brazil - state of play



Members will hold an exchange of views with DG SANTE representatives on the follow-up actions in Brazil after the tainted meat scandal in Brazil, known as operation "Carne Fraca" in March 2017. The scandal concerned massive amounts of rotten beef from Brazil which were being fraudulently imported to the EU by several certified Brazilian establishments (slaughterhouses). During the audit conducted by the Commission in May 2017, Brazil provided the Commission with an action plan on how it intended to address the recommendations made in the audit report.

Exchange of views with a Commission representative (DG SANTE) on the pesticide chlorpyrifos following a recent EFSA statement

DG SANTE representatives will present a state of play on the situation concerning chlorpyrifos, a pesticide used on crops, animals and buildings, to kill a number of pests, including insects and worms. The presentation will come as a follow up to the EFSA statement confirming health risks connected to the use of the substance.

Next committee meetings

7 October 2019, 15.00 - 18.30 8 October 2019, 09.00 - 12.30 (Brussels)

Useful links

AGRI website

Webstreaming

Meeting documents

<u>Calendar of AGRI meetings</u> <u>EP Press releases on agriculture</u>

Minutes of previous meetings

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