



*European Economic and Social Committee
Employers' Group*

Trade and Agriculture

Unfinished agenda

Trade and Agriculture

➤ EESC:

- Official EU Advisory Body – Treaty of Rome
- 350 Members; 28 Member States
- 3 Groups – Employers', unions, other interests
- 6 Sections (or Committees)
- A bridge to EU civil society

Trade and Agriculture

➤ Unfinished agenda:

- GATT Uruguay Round: ‘continue’ Ag negotiations in 1999
- Included in WTO Doha Round in 2001
- Near success in 2008
- « Single Undertaking »
- Partial agreements in Bali, 2013, Nairobi 2015
- Where next?

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- Agriculture – 3 « pillars » or main subject areas
- Doha Development Agenda (DDA) aims to
 - Market access: ‘substantial reductions to barriers’
 - Export subsidies: ‘reductions ... to phase out’
 - Domestic support: substantial reductions where these distort trade
 - Amber box, blue box, green box

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➤ The main players:

EU

US

Group of 10

Cairns Group/ « G20 »

Major developing economies

Net food importers

« G33 », « G90 »

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➤ Domestic Support

- EU « trade distorting support » - €60bn in 2001
- EU «trade distorting support » - €10bn in 2012-13
- EU « green box » 2012-13: €70bn

- US « Trade distorting support US\$14bn – 2013
- US « Green box » in 2013 : US\$132 (x2 from 2007)
- US launches WTO Panel against China – September

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- What can only/best be dealt with at WTO level?
- Domestic support
- SPS
- Certain market access issues
- Export support

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- Bilateral and Regional FTAs
 - Need to provide real added value
 - Scope for national and cultural differences
 - Market access, but not domestic support levels
 - Eliminate double standards
- Geographical Indications – 145 in CETA

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- EU Ongoing CAP reform
- - EU key role in Nairobi
- Impact assessment of Ag in EU following recent trade agreements
- Ensure farmers benefit fairly
 - Key role of farmers in feeding world population
 - Maintain viable rural communities
 - Climate change – food security

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- Sustainable Development Goals
- Agriculture and trade in ag. core to many of the SDGs

Goal 1: poverty and undernutrition

Goal 2: Hunger and Food Security

Goal 9: Infrastructure

Goal 13: Climate Change

Goal 3: Health and well-being;

Goal 5 Gender equality;

Goal 15: Life on land

Goal 7: Energy

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- Realisation of Sustainable Development Goals
- COP 21: Paris Agreement
 - Core role for trade and investment
 - UNCTAD: extra US\$2.5 **trillion needed annually**
 - Key role for the private sector

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- Sustainable Development Goals: EU contribution
 - Full support for the 2030 Agenda
 - Largest donor of development aid
 - The world's most open market
 - Co-operation and partnerships with the private sector

Trade and Agriculture

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Thank you for your attention...