



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Directorate G. Markets and Observatories
G.3. Animal products

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MINUTES

Meeting of the « WORKING GROUP ON "POULTRY & EGGS" OF THE CIVIL DIALOGUE GROUP ON ANIMAL PRODUCTS

Date: 4 June 2019

Chair: Commission, Martin SZENTIVANY, Agneta NORGREN, DG AGRI Unit G.3

Present: experts from CZ, CY, DE, DK, ES, FR, HU, HR, IT, PL, Dora Pogacas (additional expert GIRA), Thomas Sanchez (observer COPA), Martha Scheja (observer CELCAA)

1. Points discussed

1.1. GIRA presentation

The consultant from GIRA delivered a presentation on the global poultry outlook. The key message is that ASF-driven protein shortage in China should boost global import demand of meats, including poultry meat, pushing poultry prices upwards.

1.2. Poultry production forecast and market situation

The Commission presented an update on the EU market situation, including poultry meat production forecast based on data provided beforehand by the participants.

Total EU poultry production is expected to increase by 2.5% between 2018 and 2019, driven by a strong growth in broiler meat output (+2.9%) across most Member States, a moderate growth in duck meat production (+1.2%), and a limited increase in turkey meat production (+0.2%).

In the first two months of 2019, EU poultry meat production continued on a strong expanding path (+4.0 % year-over-year). Broiler prices have been on an increasing trajectory since March, well above historic average prices, driven by sustained domestic and export demand. In the first quarter of 2019, EU poultry meat exports continued increasing at a notable pace (+12.3%), while imports increased as well (+13.0%). Imports from Brazil, which were dampened last year, are gradually recovering.

1.3. Egg production forecast and market situation

The Commission presented an update on the EU market situation, including egg production forecast, based on data submitted beforehand by the participants.

The forecast is that egg production will increase by 1.3% between 2018 and 2019.

Market prices follow the usual cycle with prices decreasing after Easter. Compared to last year, the EU increased its export and decreased its import of eggs and egg products, and trade balance remains positive for the egg sector.

The number of laying hens in the EU during 2018 were more or less equal to that of 2017. Although the number of hens kept in cages decreased, a slight majority of the laying hens, 50.3%, are kept in cages.

1.4. Exchange of views on 2019 production forecast and market trends

The tour de table started with the presentations made by German and Polish experts on the evolution of poultry and egg markets in those Member States.

During the tour de table, the following main points were highlighted:

- Experts expressed concerns over increasing imports of poultry meat from Ukraine, in particular those under the liberalised tariff line for 'other chicken cuts' (batman cut). The Commission informed about the results of the negotiations with Ukraine concluded in March and that both parties are now working towards a speedy ratification of the negotiated solution.
- Concerns over EU exports to South Africa, which are still subject to a number of AI-related country-wide bans and a safeguard duty (35.3% ad valorem). The Commission referred to the dispute settlement mechanism provided for under the free trade agreement with South Africa.
- Some delegates expressed concerns over decreased demand for eggs from caged hens and that some groups were actively encouraging customers to stop buying such eggs, or to completely stop buying animal products. It was suggested that a study on future demand for caged eggs could be performed.

2. Conclusions/recommendations/opinions

The Commission again reminded experts about the importance of respecting the given deadlines for submission of forecast data in order to be able to process and circulate complete and accurate EU production forecasts well in time before the meetings.

3. Next meeting

The next meeting is to be held in spring 2020. The exact date will be communicated at a later stage. While the Working Group does not meet in autumn 2019, experts will be invited to send updated forecast for 2019 and 2020, so that it can be presented at the CDG for Poultry & Eggs of 26 November 2019.

4. List of participants - Annex

Brigitte MISONNE
Acting Head of Unit

List of participants– Minutes
Meeting of the WORKING GROUP ON " POULTRY & EGGS
OF THE CIVIL DIALOGUE GROUP ON
ANIMAL PRODUCTS»

Date: 4 June 2019

	MEMBER ORGANISATION	NAME OF REPRESENTATIVES
1	COPA	MARGIT BECK
2	COPA	GYORGY ENDRODI
3	COPA	MARIA DEL MAR FERNANDEZ POZA
4	COPA	STEFANO GAGLIARDI
5	COPA	STIG MUNCK LARSEN
6	COPA	VLASTISLAV MACHANDER
7	COPA	ZLATKO ORSAG
8	COPA	PAVLOS PARADISIOTIS
9	COPA	YANN NEDELEC
10	COPA	THOMAS SANCHEZ
11	CELCAA	MARTHA SCHEJA
12	FoodDrinkEurope	LUKASZ DOMINIAK
13	GIRA	DORA POGACSAS
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	<i>TOTAL</i>	13