



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Directorate G. Markets and Observatories  
**Director**

Brussels, 25.10.2017  
Ares (2017) 5760588

*For the attention of the Secretary General of:*

***CEJA, CELCAA/EUCOLAIT, COGECA, COPA, ECVC, EEB, EFA, EFFAT, EMB,  
EuroCommerce, FACE Network, FoodDrinkEurope/EDA,  
IFOAM EU Group***

**INVITATION TO A JOINT MEETING OF THE  
ECONOMIC BOARD OF THE MILK MARKET OBSERVATORY and OF THE  
«CDG MILK»**

I am pleased to invite the representatives of the stakeholders to participate in the above mentioned meeting that will take place

**in Brussels, rue de la Loi 130  
11th floor  
Meeting room: A  
on Tuesday 28 November 2017, from **09:30 to 13:00****

**Interpretation** foreseen from **FR - DE - EN - IT – ES, PL**  
to **FR - DE - EN - IT – ES**

(please note that interpretation of a language will be cancelled if no participants for that language have registered in time for the meeting)

**Registration for CDG Members:** Please designate and register the experts via the electronic system via a WEB application specific to DG AGRI (<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/agriportal/awaiportal>)

**Deadline for registration: Wednesday 22 November 2017**

**Registration for Milk Market Observatory Members:** Please note that registration is obligatory. Participants are kindly invited to register via the on-line registration form using the link below. It is mandatory to encode the date of birth and passport or ID card number of every visitor. After registration, your name will be added to the security list which is sent to COM Security services 48 h in advance of the meeting. Then you will receive an email containing a security "e-pass" which **must be shown** at the entrance of the building, along with the meeting invitation.

**Registration link:** <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/Joint-Meeting-CDG-Milk-and-Milk-Market-Observatory-28-11-17>

**Deadline for registration: Wednesday 22 November 2017**

**Reimbursement:** The experts identified by their Organizations and appointed by DG AGRI will be paid their **travel costs** and a **daily allowance** (see reimbursement details in Annex).

You are kindly requested to consult the rules concerning the reimbursement of experts available on the dedicated CIRCABC Interest Group: [AGRI meetings – reimbursement information](https://circabc.europa.eu) (<https://circabc.europa.eu>) and print out/prepare all the required documentation for the meeting.

We kindly ask you to **prepare your reimbursement files** duly filled in as incomplete files will not be accepted by the meetings coordinators.

**Security control:** Please note that you will be asked to pass through an obligatory control (x-ray machines and walk-through detectors) when entering the L130 building.

e-signed

p.o. Rudolf MOEGELE  
Deputy Director General

Jens SCHAPS  
Director

Annex1: Draft agenda

Annex 2: Reimbursement information

Specific privacy statement for processing of personal data related to Expert Groups is available on CircaBC <https://circabc.europa.eu>

**Contact:**

- **Content:** [AGRI-MARKET-CDG@ec.europa.eu](mailto:AGRI-MARKET-CDG@ec.europa.eu)
- **Meeting organisation:** [AGRI-CIVIL-DIALOGUE-GROUPS@ec.europa.eu](mailto:AGRI-CIVIL-DIALOGUE-GROUPS@ec.europa.eu)



## **DRAFT AGENDA**

### **JOINT MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC BOARD OF THE MILK MARKET OBSERVATORY and OF THE «CDG MILK»**

**in Brussels, rue de la Loi 130**

**11th floor**

**Meeting room: A**

**on Tuesday 28 November 2017, from **09:30 to 13:00****

The Commission report<sup>1</sup> to the European Parliament and to the Council on the operation of the Milk Package, adopted in November last year, confirms the usefulness of the instrument and recommends a number of actions of a pedagogical, financial and operational nature.

The report emphasises how Producer Organisations (POs), the cornerstone of the Milk Package, have not yet reached their full potential, notably due to insufficient knowledge of farmers on the goals, implications and advantages deriving from joining into POs. The report concludes on the need to embark on awareness raising actions at different levels to highlight the benefits of producer cooperation and to share experience and best practices.

Following these conclusions, Commissioner Hogan announced at the Council of Ministers of 9 October 2017 the launch of a communication campaign, to be deployed in the last quarter of 2017 and throughout 2018, to promote the creation of Producer Organisations in the milk sector and to improve the functioning of existing ones.

With this goal in mind, the Economic Board of the Milk Market Observatory and the Civil Dialogue Group on Milk will hold a joint meeting to thoroughly review and discuss the possibilities arising from the Milk Package provisions (in their practical and legal aspects) and the potential benefits of producer cooperation in the milk sector. Selected case studies / success stories will be likewise presented. A detailed agenda will follow.

The target audience are organisations representing producers and processors. The event is conceived to be of an educational nature, and persons attending it are deemed to pass the information onto those they represent.

Please send us your AOB questions in due time before the meeting (e-mail: [AGRI-MARKET-CDG@ec.europa.eu](mailto:AGRI-MARKET-CDG@ec.europa.eu)).

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<sup>1</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/sites/agriculture/files/milk/milk-package/com-2016-724\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/sites/agriculture/files/milk/milk-package/com-2016-724_en.pdf)

This information sheet is a summary of the Rule\* on the reimbursement of expenses incurred by people from outside the Commission invited to attend meetings in an expert capacity.

**WHO?**

**Who is entitled to a reimbursement of expert's expenses?**

- anyone from outside the Commission who is invited to give a specific professional opinion in a committee, an expert group or by personal invitation, wherever the location of the meeting;
- anyone responsible for accompanying a disabled person who has been invited by the Commission to attend a meeting in an expert capacity.

Experts may be private-sector experts (representing the civil society) or government experts (representing a public authority of a Member State).

**WHAT?**

**Unless stated otherwise in the letter of invitation and the request to organise the meeting, private-sector experts shall be entitled to a daily allowance for each day of the meeting and, where appropriate, an accommodation allowance, on condition that they declare on their honour that they are not receiving a similar allowance or similar allowances from the same institution or another Community institution for the same visit.**

**Government experts shall receive a daily allowance for each day of the meeting and, where appropriate, an accommodation allowance, provided that provision for this is made in the rules of procedure of the committee or expert group and on condition that they declare on their honour that they are not receiving a similar allowance or similar allowances from their own administration for the same visit.**

**Travel expenses**

All experts shall be entitled to the reimbursement of their travel expenses from the place specified in their invitation to the place of the meeting. This travel must be organised on the basis of the most appropriate means of transport and trying to benefit from the most economical travel rates.

The services in charge of reimbursements shall have the right to carry out any checks that might be needed and to request any proof from the expert required for this purpose. They shall also have the right, where it appears to be justified, to restrict reimbursement to the rates normally applied to the usual journey from the expert's place of work or residence to the meeting place. So please do be careful when organising your trip.

As a general rule, means of transport are:

- first-class rail travel for journeys less than 400 km (one way);
- economy class air travel for distances of more than 400 km. Business class is allowed for a flight of 4 hours or more without stopovers;
- private car. The travel shall be reimbursed at the same rate as the first-class rail ticket, or by default at the rate of 0.22 € per km.



Travel expenses shall be reimbursed on presentation of ORIGINAL supporting documents:

- tickets and invoices;
- in the case of online bookings, the printout of the electronic reservation.

The documents supplied must show the class of travel used, the time of travel and the amount paid.

**► Taxi fares shall not be reimbursed.**

The Commission shall not be liable for any material, non-material or physical damage suffered by invited experts or those responsible for accompanying a disabled expert in the course of their journey to or stay in the place where the meeting is held, unless such harm is directly attributable to the Commission. In particular, invited experts who use their own means of transport for travelling to such meetings shall be entirely liable for any accidents that they might cause.

**Daily allowance**

The daily allowance is a flat rate. It covers all meals and local transport (bus, tram, metro, taxi, parking, motorway tolls, etc.), as well as travel and accident insurance. It amounts to 92 € per day of meeting.

If the distance between the place of departure cited in the invitation (be it your private or professional address) is 100 km or less from the place where the meeting is held, the daily allowance shall be reduced by 50%. You shall then only receive 46 € per day of meeting.



**Accommodation allowance**



If you have to spend one or more nights at the place where the meeting is held because the times of meetings are incompatible with the times of flights or trains, you shall also be entitled to an accommodation allowance. This allowance shall be 100 € per night. The number of nights may not exceed the number of meeting days + 1.

An additional accommodation allowance and/or daily allowance may, exceptionally, be paid if prolonging the stay would enable you to obtain a reduction in the cost of transport worth more than the amount of these allowances.

**HOW?**

You must provide the secretaries of the meeting with the documents necessary for their reimbursement, as required by the financial rules applicable in the Commission, by letter, fax or e-mail postmarked or dated no later than 30 calendar days after the final day of the meeting.

**Beyond this deadline, the Commission is absolved from any obligation to reimburse travel expenses or pay any allowances.**

Reimbursements shall be made in euros, where appropriate at the rate of exchange applying on the day of the meeting. All reimbursements shall be made to one and the same bank account. For government experts, reimbursements shall be paid into an account in the name of the Member State, one of its ministries or a public body.



\* Commission decision of 5 December 2007

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