



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

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

Brussels, 12.03.2020
Ares agri.ddg3.g.3(2020)1704626

MINUTES

Meeting of the Meeting of the “WORKING GROUP ON BEEF AND VEAL” OF THE CIVIL DIALOGUE GROUP ON ANIMAL PRODUCTS

9 March 2020

Chair: Mr. K. Kroon, Market Officer AGRI.G3

1. Approval of the agenda

No AOB points raised by participants.

2. Nature of the meeting

The meeting was non-public.

3. List of points discussed

(1) EU beef and veal market situation

The Commission provided a presentation on the evolution of market prices, production and trade in the Union and third countries and on the general state of the beef and veal market situation in the Union.

(2) GIRA presentation on evolution of worldwide beef markets

The GIRA director, Mr R. Brown, gave a presentation on the evolution of worldwide beef markets with a particular emphasis on the impact of African Swine Fever (ASF) on Asian meat markets.

(3) 2020 beef and veal production and price forecast

The experts of the Working Group provided information on the market situation and forecasts for 2019 and 2020 for their respective Member States of origin.

4. Conclusions/recommendations/opinions

The experts concluded that, for the EU¹, beef production in volume would decline by -1.71% in 2020 followed by a subsequent additional drop of -1.76% in 2021 and

correlated declines in consumption of -0.8% in 2020 and -0.92% in 2021. The estimated decline in consumption in 2020 corresponds to the estimations mentioned in the Commission short-term outlook, whereas expert's forecast for beef production decline exceeds the Commission short-term estimation by 1% .

Prices are expected to increase by $+3.74\%$ in 2020 and $+0.79\%$ in 2021.

The figures reflect that despite a possible favourable evolution on the supply/demand balance from the supply side, economic developments around COVID-19, rumours about the possible content of the Farm to Fork Strategy, Brexit, a shrinking internal demand and a weaker demand on some important external markets do not allow for an optimistic market outlook.

5. Next steps

The conclusions of the Working Group will be reported to the Civil Dialog Group on beef and veal.

6. Next meeting

To be determined.

7. List of participants

The list of participants is annexed to these minutes.

Brigitte MISONNE
Head of Unit

List of participants– Minutes
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	MEMBER ORGANISATION	NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES
1	European farmers (COPA)	12
2	European Liaison Committee for Agriculture and agri-food trade (CELCAA)	1
3	FoodDrink	1
4	GIRA Food	1
	<i>TOTAL</i>	15

ⁱ UK excluded