

Working Group 2: EU Markets

Draft Agenda

Tuesday, 30 January 2024 (14:30 – 18:00 CET)

Copa Cogeca (Meeting Room A), Rue de Trèves 61, 1040 Brussels

Interpretation in EN, ES, FR

14:30 Welcome from the Chair, Pierre Commère

14:35 Adoption of the agenda and of the last meeting's minutes (29.11.23)

14:40 Action points

• State-of-play of the action points of the last meeting - information

14:45 Trade Agreements & Trade Policy Instruments

- Update on latest trade developments by Commission representatives (MARE B3), including:
 - ASEAN (Thailand)
 - European Economic Area (Norway, Iceland)
 - General Scheme of Preferences
 - Mercosur
 - Morocco
 - o 2023 Implementation and Enforcement Report
- Exchange of views
- Consideration of draft advice on the negotiation of the EU-Thailand Free Trade Agreement
- Way forward

15:45 Risks and Vulnerabilities in the EU Food Supply Chain

- Presentation of study on risks and vulnerabilities in the EU food supply chain by the Commission's contractor
- Exchange of views

16:30 Break

16:45 IUU Regulation (Catch Documentation Scheme)

- Exchange of views on modifications in the context of the agreement on the legislative revision of the fisheries control system with Commission representatives (MARE B4)
- Way forward

17:15 European Year of Skills

• Presentation of the EU Talent Pool and other new measures on skills and talent to help address labour shortages by Commission representative (TBC)















• Exchange of views

17:50 AOB

17:55 Summary of action items

18:00 End of meeting

















Annotated Version

Туре	Item		Background	Purpose	Documents
Information +	Trade		Under the Work Programme, trade developments are a	Presentation and exchange with	- <u>EU-Thailand Trade</u>
Consideration			priority. It is established practice for Commission	COM representatives. Decision	- EEA Press Release
			representatives to deliver updates on the latest trade	on way forward (e.g., drafting of	- General Scheme of
			policy developments affecting the market. ASEAN	advice, monitor developments,	Preferences Report
			(Thailand), European Economic Area (Norway, Iceland),	none). Consideration of draft	- EU-Mercosur Trade
			the General Scheme of Preferences, Mercosur,	advice on the EU-Thailand Free	- Draft Advice (Via Email
			Morocco, and the 2023 Implementation and	Trade Agreement.	/ Members Area)
			Enforcement Report, have been identified as		
			particularly relevant. At the 29 November 2023		
			meeting, it was agreed, as an action point, that the		
			Secretariat would circulate a questionnaire to the		
			members on the EU-Thailand Free Trade Agreement.		
			The questionnaire was circulated from 19 December		
			2023 to 10 January 2024.		
Information	Risks	and	On 21 November 2023, the European Commission	Presentation of the study and	- <u>Study</u>
	Vulnerabilities		published a study that investigates the risks and	exchange with the Commission's	- <u>MAC Advice</u>
			vulnerabilities affecting food supply and food security	contractor.	
			in the EU, including differences across Member States,		
			sectors, and stages of the EU food supply chain. At the		
			27 January 2023 Working Group 3 meeting, the external		
			consultants hired by the European Commission		
			delivered a presentation on the launch of the study and		
			members were encouraged to contact the consultant		
			directly for bilateral interviews. In 2021, the MAC		
			adopted advice on the Contingency Plan for Ensuring		
			Food Supply and Food Security.		



Information +	IUU Regulatio	on	In May 2023, provisional political agreement was	Exchange with COM	- Legislative Train
Decision			reached between the European Parliament and the		- MAC Advice
			Council on the revision of the fisheries control system		- MAC Advice
			proposed by the European Commission. In the context		- MAC Advice
			of the revision, modifications were made to the catch	forward (e.g., drafting of advice,	- Council Press Release
			documentation scheme under the IUU Regulation. In	monitor developments, none).	- EP Press Release
			the past, the MAC held several exchanges about the	1 / /	- Presentation
			revision and adopted advice on the topic. At the 29		- Regulation
			November 2023 meeting, Commission representatives		
			presented the new modifications. It was agreed, as an		
			action point, that discussions would continue at the		
			next meeting.		
Information	European Y	ear of	The Commission adopted a proposal to make 2023 the	Presentation and exchange with	- MAC Advice
	Skills		"European Year of Skills". On 30 March 2023, the MAC	COM representatives on the	- <u>Press Release</u>
			adopted advice about the initiative. On 15 November	new measures on skills and	
			2023, the Commission announced new measures on	talent.	
			skills and talent to help address critical labour		
			shortages, including an EU Talent Pool to facilitate the		
			recruitment of jobseekers from non-EU countries in EU-		
			wide shortage occupations.		