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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Delegations  
Subject: Market developments  
- Note from Spain, France, Italy and Portugal

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With a view to the "Market developments" item at the Council ("Agriculture and Fisheries") on 7 September 2015, delegations will find in Annex a note from Spain, France, Italy, and Portugal.

**CONCLUSIONS TO THE MEETING OF THE MINISTERS FOR AGRICULTURE OF  
FRANCE, ITALY, PORTUGAL AND SPAIN**

**Madrid, 28 August 2015**

**“Dairy sector and other livestock markets”**

At today's meeting of the Ministers for Agriculture of France, Italy, Portugal and Spain the following has been agreed:

1. We are facing a **European livestock crisis that requires European urgent actions**. Accordingly, the Commission must avail of all of those legal instruments that we dispose of in the Common Organisation of Agricultural Markets (COAM) to reduce the negative impact on the most sensitive livestock sectors being affected.
2. At the Extraordinary Meeting of EU Ministers for Agriculture scheduled for 7 September we shall request:

*2.1. Dairy sector*

- a) Reinforce the public intervention for a limited period of time, also through the increase of the intervention price for skimmed milk powder.

Ministers recall the possibility to devote the products purchased under public intervention to the most deprived people in the EU.

- b) Triggering private storage of cheese.
- c) Establish a labelling scheme to clearly identify the origin of milk and dairy products.

- d)** Implement special promotion measures for the Internal European and third countries markets that will enable European dairy producers access world markets, including in particular Products with Denomination of Origin (DO) and Protected Geographical Indications.
- e)** A search for further access to new markets in third countries by means of speeding up the corresponding trade and sanitary agreements.
- f)** Set up of a High Level Group to reflect on better functioning of the milk sector and for working further in structural measures.
- g)** Linked to the previous point, the Milk Market Observatory (MMO) must be endowed with more instruments to make it possible to better define and characterise crisis situations and the measures that apply to each case.

## *2.2. Beef and pork sectors*

- a)** Re-opening of private storage scheme in the pig meat sector.
- b)** Promotion measures for the Internal European and third countries markets, which will enable European meat producers access markets worldwide also.
- c)** A search for new markets in third countries by means of speeding up the corresponding trade and sanitary agreements, and also sustain and re-open existing ones.
- d)** Creation of a High Level Group to monitor the meat market and study the situation of the sector as a whole, in particular relations between the dairy and meat sectors.

2.3. *For all the products*

- a) To increase the “50 %”, percentage of advance of direct payments, established in article 75.3 of Regulation (UE) 1306/2013.
- b) To improve the functioning of the food chain, particularly the sharing of the value of the agricultural product among the stakeholders and specifically the primary sector.
- c) It could be necessary to find appropriate solutions in particular involving the European Investment Bank (EIB) also, to establish at EU level of proper Logistic Platform, export network and export intelligence instruments, for facilitating and increasing the exports of EU products to third countries markets.

3. Ministers agreed as well to have a follow up meeting 24th October 2015 at Bergamo (Italy).

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