



CC(17)3919:1 – AP/mvs



Ms Sandra Gallina  
Director  
DG TRADE  
European Commission  
170, rue de la Loi  
BE-1049 Bruxelles

Brussels, 17<sup>th</sup> May 2017

**Re: Trade negotiations with Mercosur**

Dear EU chief Negotiator,

Copa and Cogeca are the united voice of farmers and agri-cooperatives in the EU. Copa represents over 23 million farmers and their family members, whilst Cogeca represents the interests of 22,000 agricultural cooperatives. Celcaa is the EU umbrella association representing EU organisations covering the trade in cereals, grains, oils and fats, sugar, fruit and vegetables, olive oil, agro-supply, animal feed, wine, meat and meat products, dairy and dairy products, egg and egg products, poultry and game, tobacco, spices, cut flowers and plants and general produces.

The European agricultural sector is committed to supporting the European Commission objective of reviving economic growth and creating jobs for the European economy. Today, the European agricultural and agri-food sector employs over 43 million people and registers a positive trade balance of more than 20 billion euros in 2016.

A new round of negotiations has been scheduled on EU-Mercosur by beginning of July 2017 in which Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary chapter would be addressed. Copa and Cogeca and Celcaa consider that the resolution of the list of 28 pending dossiers on sanitary or phyto-sanitary certificates is not sufficient to unlock the trade negotiations toward a political level.

Copa-Cogeca and Celcaa expect further progress from Mercosur countries to tackle SPS and TBT barriers impeding EU exports before any market access concessions can be further negotiated. You will find enclosed presentation by sector outlining these SPS points to be cleared prior to engage further in the negotiations.

In parallel, several sectors are also calling on the European Commission to apply the sensitive products approach, including TRQ without duty free and maintaining its management by import licence scheme.

Please be aware that a copy of this letter has also been sent to the members of TPC.

Yours faithfully,



Pascale Rouhier  
Secretary General



Pekka Pesonen  
Secretary General

Enc.: All the presentations from the workshop on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2017

**Copa - Cogeca** | European Farmers European Agri-Cooperatives

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EU Transparency Register Number | Copa 44856881231-49 | Cogeca 09586631237-74

- [BILAT\(17\)3912 \(rev.1\)](#)
- [BILAT\(17\)3913 \(rev.1\)](#)
- [BILAT\(17\)3914 \(rev.1\)](#)
- [BILAT\(17\)3915 \(rev.1\)](#)
- [BILAT\(17\)3921 \(rev.1\)](#)
- [BILAT\(17\)3922 \(rev.1\)](#)