

ANNEX II

EU-China Dialogue on Agriculture Working Arrangements

1. On 15 July 2005 a Joint Declaration was signed in Beijing by Commissioner FISCHER BOEL and [REDACTED] Minister [REDACTED] establishing a Dialogue on Agriculture between DG Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI) and the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) of the People's Republic of China.

2. The objectives of the Dialogue on Agriculture are to:

- Promote mutual understanding, trust and bilateral co-operation between both sides in the field of agriculture and rural development;
- Establish communication channels so as to strengthen the exchange of information ensure timely notification of any issues arising and facilitate their efficient resolution.

The Dialogue will enable discussion between DG AGRI and the MoA on:

- Agriculture production and trade;
- Quality policies including geographical indications and organic production;
- Agriculture and rural development policies, laws and regulations;
- Other topics, including new technologies relating to agriculture development.

3. This paper sets out the agreed practical arrangements for establishing and running the various meetings foreseen under the dialogue.

**EU-China Agriculture Dialogue
Functioning of the Senior Level Working Group
and Technical Working Groups**

a) Senior Level Working Group

This group is in charge of the overall coordination of the Dialogue.

The two parties will be represented at the level of Director in the Senior level Working Groups. The relevant Directors in each organisation will therefore co-chair the meetings. The co-chairs are:

For DG AGRI: Aldo LONGO, Director B

For the MoA: Mr. [REDACTED] Department of International cooperation

b) Technical working groups

Technical Working Groups (TWG) shall have one EU and one China co-chair. The TWG cover [4] topics:

b.1) Technical Working Group on Agriculture Trade

This group covers in particular point 3.2 of the Joint Declaration (exchange of information on agriculture production and trade (import-export), with particular focus on assessment of market opportunities and NTBs in order to facilitate export conditions for agriculture products). The TWG will cover all agriculture sectors; each meeting will focus on any of the following points as appropriate at the time to the EU / China.

- (a) **Trade data:** agriculture production, import / export statistics; sources of data, exchange of contacts;
- (b) **Trade policies:** exchange of views of specific EU and China agricultural trade policies (relevant to specific sectors);
- (c) **Non-tariff barriers (NTBs):** identify, assess economic impact and make recommendations for removal / easing of barriers;
- (d) **WTO:** exchange information on WTO issues;
- (e) **Trade promotion measures;**
- (f) **Regulatory convergence:** assess possibilities for possible alignment of EU and China legislation in agriculture;
- (g) **Bilateral issues:** follow-up of current issues;

The co-chairs are:

For DG AGRI: Jesus ZORRILLA, Head of Unit B1

For the MoA: [REDACTED] Division of European Affairs

b.2) Technical Working Group on Quality Products

This group covers in particular point 3.4 of the Joint Declaration (exchange of views and information on quality policies for agricultural products, including geographical indications and organic production).

The co-chairs are:

For DG AGRI: Jesus ZORRILLA, Head of Unit B1

For the MoA: [REDACTED] Division of European Affairs

b.3) Technical Working Group on Policy Information

This group covers in particular points 3.1 and 3.3 of the Joint Declaration (exchange of information on experience in setting up and implementing agriculture and rural development policies, food quality and safety (GIs, traceability), environment (sustainability, resource management), animal health and welfare, new technologies related to agricultural development, and areas for possible agriculture cooperation).

The co-chairs are:

For DG AGRI: Jesus ZORRILLA, Head of Unit B1

For the MoA: [REDACTED] Division of European Affairs

b.4) Technical working group on food technologies

This group covers in particular points 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 of the Joint Declaration (exchange of information on experience on the food processing technologies used in the food production chain (packing included), exchange of information on agriculture production and trade (import-export)).

The co-chairs are:

For DG AGRI/ENTR: Michel Coomans, DG Enterprise Head of Unit F4

For the MoA: [REDACTED] Division of European Affairs

3) Contact Points

A Single Contact Point is established on both sides for both dialogues. The main function of the contact points will be to liaise on the practical arrangements for organising the meetings, to be a focus for exchanging information related to the dialogues and for answering questions about them, and to support the Co-chairs in their work. The contact points are:

DG AGRI:

- Mr Jesus ZORRILLA (jesus.zorrilla@cec.eu.int)

[backup: Mr C.P. DUNKLEY (charles.dunkley@cec.eu.int)]

DG AGRI, B1, International Affairs II

Rue de la Loi 130, B 1049 Brussels, Belgium

Tel : ++32 3 295 00 47

MoA:

- Mr [REDACTED]

(backup: Ms [REDACTED])

European Affairs Division, International Cooperation Department, MoA

No 11, Nongzhanguan Nanli, Beijing 100026, China

Tel: ++86 10 6419 3328

4) Organisation and Frequency of Meetings

The SLG and the TWG meet at least once a year. Working Group co-chairs shall agree timetables for their meetings. The frequency of meetings shall depend on the nature and progress expected on the subjects under discussion.

The meetings shall be held in Brussels, Beijing, or in another mutually agreed location.

5) Agendas for meetings

Agendas should be agreed by both sides. The central standard item on the agenda of each SLG meeting should be to review the work of the TWG that have met during the previous year and consider the work plan for the following year.

6) Minutes of meetings

A record should be taken of each meeting. The party responsible for organising the meeting should draft the minutes (DG AGRI should draft minutes of the meetings held in the EU and the MoA should draft minutes of the meetings held in China). These draft minutes should then be sent to the other side and agreed by both sides via exchange of emails. The minutes do not need to be comprehensive, but should concentrate on recording the main actions agreed.

7) Specialists/Panels

Representatives and specialists from the relevant agricultural sector (China and EU production and industry), from relevant Ministries, organisations (in China and EU Member States) and Commission services could be invited to participate in some meetings, depending on the subjects to be discussed and the need to benefit from external expertise.

8) Thematic events

The parties attach importance to thematic events enhancing trade relations

9) Revision clause

These working arrangements may be revised in agreement with both Parties at any time.

10) Final Provisions

These working arrangements are signed in Beijing on 25 July 2006. They are written in English and Chinese. Both versions are official and have equivalent effect.