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EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT


Directorate B. International affairs II, in particular enlargement
B.1. Latin America; Asia other than OECD members

Brussels,
B.1/JZ/sm/D(2006)-37912

INFORMATION NOTE

**Subject: EU-China Dialogue on Agriculture and Rural Development –
Agreed minutes**

Please find attached the minutes of EU-China Dialogue on Agriculture and Rural Development that were agreed in Brussels on 16 November 2006.


Jesus ZORRILLA,
Head of Unit

C.c.: Messrs Demarty, Onofre, Plewa, Longo, Zorrilla, Dunkley, Serra, Rasmussen, Mittermayer, Van Boxem, Hyvonen, Berlottier, Ms Rueda (DG AGRI), Messrs Gemmeke, Mondero, Sayag, Ms Ippolito (DG TRADE), Mrs Kioussi, André, Messrs Briedis, Laddomada, Batho, Brouw (DG SANCO), Messrs Coomans, Bouthors (DG ENTR), Messrs Jessen, Blankert (DG RELEX)

EU-CHINA DIALOGUE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

AGREED MINUTES

Brussels, 16 November 2006

1. SUMMARY

The first meeting of the EU-China Dialogue on Agriculture and Rural Development was held in Brussels on 15-16 November 2006. The basis for the Dialogue is the Joint Declaration signed by EU Commissioner Fischer Boel and Minister [REDACTED] of the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) of the People's Republic of China (PRC) on 15 July 2005.

Opening speeches were given by Director General of DG Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI) Mr Demarty and Vice-Minister [REDACTED] of the MoA.

The Senior Level Working Group was chaired by Ms [REDACTED] Deputy Director General of the MoA and Mr Longo, Director of DG AGRI B.

Both sides agreed on the complementarity of each other's production and synergies in trading patterns as well as on the need for continued exchange of information with the aim of increasing understanding.

Both sides discussed the need to facilitate export conditions for EU and Chinese agriculture products. Concern was raised on non-tariff barriers and in particular sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) issues. Both sides agreed on the desirability to overcome such obstacles.

Both sides agreed that the EU and China share the same language on GIs and look forward to future developments.

Both the EU and the PRC stressed the benefit and value of exchanges of policy information, and the intention to continue on this path.

China and the EU presented overviews of respective regulatory frameworks in food technologies and agreed on steps towards concluding a concrete working plan.

Representatives of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Commission Directorate General for External Relations gave an overview of the overall EU – PRC relationship and cooperation. Mention was made that the Dialogue on Agriculture is an important element of the fruitful cooperation on sectoral issues and of the overall EU – PRC relationship. Both sides agreed to cooperate further on agriculture and rural development.

DG AGRI proposed to welcome a MoA intern and the MoA offered to host a visitor programme for DG AGRI officials.

A provisional date was set for the next meeting in June / July 2007.

2. TRADE IN AGRICULTURE PRODUCTS

Exchange of information was held on agriculture production and trade. China and the EU both presented data on bilateral trade, including the balance of trade and noting recent developments. Both sides noted differences in statistical data.

Analysis and discussion of the meat and dairy, and fruit and vegetable market sectors was made. Within these two sectors, opportunities and challenges for increased exports were discussed. The EU side clearly identified market opportunities in the dairy sector (in particular cheeses, lactose and whey) and the meat sector (in particular pigmeat) and fruit and vegetables. The Chinese side identified poultry and fruit and vegetables.

Both sides discussed the need to facilitate export conditions for EU and Chinese agriculture products. Concern was raised on non-tariff barriers and in particular sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) issues. Both sides agreed on the desirability to overcome such obstacles.

The EU side explained the regulatory framework for import of fruit and vegetables into the EU, the basic principle being that all imports are accepted unless forbidden, unlike the policies applied in some countries. The EU raised the difficulty for Member States to obtain export protocols for PRC, with particular reference to meat products and fruit and vegetables. In response AQSIQ proposed a possible solution of receiving collective requests from several Member States presenting similar conditions. The PRC expressed concern on the EU ban on imports of Chinese heat-treated poultry meat.

In conclusion both sides agreed on the complementarity of each other's production and synergies in trading patterns as well as on the need for continued exchange of information with the aim of increasing understanding.

3. QUALITY PRODUCTS

An exchange of views and information was held on quality policies for agricultural products, in particular organic production and geographical indications.

The MoA provided insight into China's quality policies including control, production and organic products.

The EU provided information on the EU regulatory framework for organic products. The EU informed that China's application for inclusion on the EU list of countries allowed to export organic product to the EU was progressing. PRC requested to facilitate exports of Chinese organic product when a certifying body recognised by an EU Member State is involved in the certification.

The EU provided an overview of the economic importance of Geographical Indications (GIs) as a fundamental tool of the EU's rural development policy, including the economic, environmental and social dimensions.

The PRC referred to the importance of GIs for agriculture in the PRC, and commented on the status of China's regulatory framework on GIs, indicating that there is still work in progress.

Both sides agreed that the EU and China share the same language on GIs and look forward to future developments.

4. POLICY INFORMATION

The EU gave an overview of developments in the EU wine reform, focussing on GIs.

The EU presented an overview of the OIE guidelines, emphasising the importance of the PRC's having a full membership. The PRC noted that it recognises the importance of the OIE in global animal health control and is willing to engage in closer cooperation with the OIE, but regretted that it has to maintain its position due to the overarching situation concerning Taiwan.

The issue was raised of an increased dialogue on veterinary issues between the EU and the PRC. The PRC requested concrete cooperation involving possible exchange of personnel.

The PRC provided an overview of China's 5-year plan on agriculture and rural development.

The EU raised the current problem of unauthorised GM contamination of imported rice from China. The PRC responded positively to the EU request for closer cooperation to resolve this issue.

Both the EU and the PRC stressed the benefit and value of such exchanges of policy information, and the intention to continue on this path.

5. FOOD TECHNOLOGIES

Exchange of information was made on experience in the food processing technologies used in the food production chain (packaging included) and on trade in processed agriculture products.

China and the EU presented overviews of respective regulatory frameworks, and a review of the state of play of the food industry. Data was presented on China exports to the EU and exports to China. Opportunities for further cooperation were discussed, in particular in the fields of research and development, technical development, innovation, process engineering and business organisation, training and exchange of information. The EU will send a precise list of topics to the PRC at the end of the first quarter 2007 for




comments. A meeting between both sides has been provisionally set for June / July 2007 in Beijing, before the next meeting of the Dialogue on Agriculture and Rural Development, to conclude a concrete working plan.

6. AOB

With the aim of increasing cooperation and understanding between the EU and the PRC in agriculture, DG AGRI agreed to the request for an MoA internship within DG AGRI; the formalities will be studied under the existing facilities. The MoA proposed to host a visitor programme on agriculture for officials of the EU. Both sides agreed to stay in close contact in order to implement these actions.

The date of the next meeting of the EU-China Dialogue on Agriculture and Rural Development was provisionally set for June / July 2007 in Beijing.

Signed in both English and Chinese languages; Brussels 16.11.06

Mr Demarty Director General of DG Agriculture and Rural Development	Vice-Minister  Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) of the People's Republic of China (PRC)
	

中国-欧盟农业与农村发展对话机制 第一次会议会议纪要

1、 概述

中国-欧盟农业与农村发展对话机制第一次会议于 2006 年 11 月 15-16 日在比利时布鲁塞尔举行。该对话机制是基于欧盟委员会委员米切尔·布尔先生与中国农业部 [REDACTED] 于 2005 年 7 月 15 日签署的联合声明。

欧盟农业和农村发展总司司长迪马提 (Demary) 先生和中国农业部 [REDACTED] 在会上致开幕辞。

高级工作组由中国农业部国际合作司 [REDACTED] 和欧盟农业总司司长朗高 (Longuo) 先生主持。

双方同意中欧农产品生产互补性强，贸易发展潜力大，同时为进一步增进了解，有必要继续交换信息。

双方讨论了中欧双方农产品出口的条件，对非关税壁垒，特别是 SPS 措施问题表示关注，双方有意愿解决该障碍。双方对地理标识观点一致，并期待未来进一步得到发展。

欧盟和中国强调了交换政策信息的价值和重要性，并愿意继续加强这一方面的工作。

中国和欧盟介绍了各自在食品技术方面的政策框架，并同意采取步骤制订具体行动计划。

中国外交部和欧盟对外关系总司代表介绍了中欧关系及双边合作情况，强调农业对话是中欧各领域富有成效合作的重要组成部分。双方同意进一步加强在农业和农村发展领域的合作。

欧盟农业总司计划接受一名中国农业部人员到欧盟实习，中国农业部同意为欧盟农业官员安排访问学者项目。

下一次会议时间初步定为 2007 年 6 月/7 月。

2、农产品贸易

中欧双方就农产品贸易交换了信息。双方发言介绍了双边贸易数据,包括贸易平衡及并对贸易近期发展表示关注。

双方就肉类、乳制品，以及果蔬市场进行了分析和讨论。在上述领域里，双方讨论了随着出口增长所面临的机遇和挑战。欧盟清楚地认定在乳制品（特别是奶酪、乳糖和乳清粉）以及肉类（特别是猪肉）和果蔬等产品的市场机会。中国意识到禽肉、水果和蔬菜的市场机会。

双方讨论了为中欧农产品出口提供便利条件的必要性。对非关税壁垒特别是动植物检疫措施（SPS）问题表示了关注。双方有意愿解决该障碍。

欧方解释了向欧盟出口水果蔬菜的政策框架，与一些国

家执行政策不同，除了被禁止的产品，欧盟遵循接受所有进口产品的基本原则。欧盟提出了欧盟成员国向中国出口产品的难度大。作为回应，中国质量检验检疫局提出了一个可能的解决办法，即情况相似的一些成员国可集体向该局提出申请和要求。

作为结论，双方同意，双方产品局互补性和发展潜力，以及为增进了解，必要进一步交流信息。

3、产品质量

双方就农产品质量政策，特别是有机产品、地理标志问题交换了信息。

中方介绍了中国产品质量控制、生产过程管理和有机农产品的相关政策。

欧方提供了欧盟有机产品的有关法规框架的信息。欧方通知中方，中国申请许可向欧盟出口有机产品国家名录的工作正在操作过程中。中方要求为由欧盟成员国认可的认证机构提供的证书的中国有机产品出口提供便利。

欧方介绍了地理标志作为欧盟农村发展政策包括经济、环保和社会方面的基础工具，所发挥的重要经济意义。

中方指出了地理标志对于中国农业的重要性，介绍了中国地理标志保护的法规框架，并表明不断改进此项工作。

双方在地理标识保护上观点一致，并期待未来进一步得

到发展。

4、政策信息

欧盟就其葡萄酒业改革的进展，着重就地理标识进行了全面介绍。

欧盟介绍了世界动物卫生组织（OIE）有关情况，强调中国成为该组织成员的重要性。中方表示认识到该组织在全球动物卫生疫病防控所发挥的重要作用，并愿意与OIE开展技术交流，但对因台湾问题造成目前的状况表示遗憾。

双方提出中欧应就动物疫病问题加强对话。中方希望加强人员交流具体合作。

中方就中国农业和农村发展五年规划做了介绍。

欧方提出目前存在的自中国进口的非授权转基因大米的问题。中方积极回应欧盟提出的加强合作以解决该问题。

中欧双方强调交流进行政策信息交换的重要性和价值，并愿意继续加强这方面的合作。

5. 食品技术

双方交流了在食品生产链条（包括包装）中采用的食品加工技术的经验，以及农产品加工贸易的信息。

中国和欧盟介绍了各自的法规框架，回顾了食品工业的现状，介绍了中国与欧盟农产品进出口贸易数据。讨论了今后

合作的机会，特别是食品研发、技术发展、创新、加工技术和商务机构，人员培训和信息交流。欧盟将于 2007 年第一季度向中国提供合作题目的详细清单。具体于 2007 年 6 月 17 月在北京召开会议，拿出具体的行动计划。

6、其他安排

为加强合作、增进了解，欧盟农业总司同意中国农业部人员到欧盟总司实习，在现有条件下学习欧盟农业总司的工作模式。中国农业部将接待欧盟农业官员访问中国。双方同意为实施上述活动保持密切联系。

中国-欧盟农业对话会下一次会议定于 2007 年 6 月 17 月在北京举行。

双方于 2006 年 11 月 16 日在比利时布鲁塞尔以中英文签署该会议纪要。

中国农业部副部长



欧盟农业与农村发展总司长

