



## Meeting w/ EUCOFEL on negotiations with Mercosur

<b>Meeting date and place</b>	
Meeting held on 22/01/2018 in Charlemagne	
<b>Participating organisation(s) &amp; representative(s)</b>	
[Art.4.1(b)]	- ASSOCIATION EUROPÉENNE DU COMMERCE DE FRUITS ET LEGUMES DE L'UE - European Fruit and Vegetables Trade Association
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<b>Main issues discussed</b>	
<p>EUCOFEL (European Fruit and Vegetables Trade Association) requested a meeting to present their position with respect to the negotiations with Mercosur.</p> <p>EUCOFEL highlighted that <b>garlic, onions, citrus fruits - both fresh and juices</b> are major products of their interest in the negotiations with Mercosur. They are at the same time offensive and defensive depending on a concrete product and a partner country (garlic: Brazil is the EU major export market, while Argentina is an exporter, orange juice: Brazil is a major exporter of frozen orange juice concentrate, lemon: key offensive product for Argentina, onions: EU is offensive while Mercosur defensive). Therefore, reciprocity in concessions is the best solution for these products according to EUCOFEL.</p> <p>DG TRADE provided a brief overview of the process of the negotiations, including on tariffs.</p> <p>[Art.4.1(a) 3rd indent]</p> <p>DG TRADE highlighted that the EU SPS legislation is never changed through the FTA negotiations. The EU legislation with respect to the black spot pest will continue to apply to the imports from Mercosur even when the FTA is implemented. Regarding the bilateral protocols for exported fruits, it is not specific to Mercosur, as it is applied by other trade partners too.</p>	
<b>Directorate or unit</b>	
TRADE D/3	
<b>Internal participants</b>	
[Art.4.1(b)]	D/3 [Art.4.1(b)] Requested for Notetaker
	C/3 Requested for
	D/3 Requested for
<b>Author(s) of minutes</b>	
[Art.4.1(b)]	
<b>Validator and validation date</b>	
[Art.4.1(b)] validated the minutes on 01/02/2018	