



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Trade

Directorate D - Sustainable Development; Economic Partnership Agreements - African, Caribbean and Pacific; Agri-food and Fisheries

**Agriculture, Fisheries, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Market Access, Biotechnology**

Brussels, 14.4.2015

Trade.dga1.d3(2015)

**Meeting report:**

**D3 – COPA-COGECA beef WP, 09.04.2015, Brussels**

**Participants:**

**Mr Jean-Pierre Fleury, [4.1 b], [4.1 b]**

**(Copa-Cogeca)**

**[4.1 b], DG Trade-D3**

Copa-Cogeca secretariat requested the meeting on the occasion of Mr Jean-Pierre Fleury (JPF), the Chairman of Copa and Cogeca Working Party on Beef and Veal visit to Brussels.

JPF briefly explained the effects of the RU ban on the beef market (intra-EU trade patterns changed e.g. 33% increase of PL beef export to FR) and the expected impact of the milk quota abolition (more meat offer on the market). JPF considers the EU market as mature, absorption capacity of imports is limited (reference to 300.000 tons of WTO quantity). They would prefer to exclude beef from TTIP, suggested to prepare a new negotiation mandate that would allow this total exclusion. They follow with great interest the TPP discussion, particularly market access on beef to countries such as JAP. JPF highlighted the importance of high value (noble) cuts in market access as they consider that all trade will focus on them and it will destabilise the market.

They are deeply concerned by the US "feedlot" beef production. Animal welfare, equivalence of production/environment standards should be a precondition of market opening. They will use "media" to make their voice heard. The use of antibiotics, growth promoters, AMT (lactic acid) was also touched upon as concerns. They are aware that domestic support is not subject of TTIP, though one should find a solution to address some trade and competitiveness distorting Farm Bill subsidies.

We reassured them that the COM is well aware of all the issues they raised and they are duly taken into account in our handling of the sector in trade negotiations in general and in TTIP in particular.

[4.1 b]  
Head of Unit