Sardines – Morocco

ANICP complained that the Portuguese customs started charging duties on imports of sardine from Morocco as from 1 August. According to them, there is an inconsistent application of the Court of Justice ruling as in other MS (ES, FR) such imports are not subject to duties. COM explained that customs authorities must apply the Court ruling as regards products from Western Sahara. ANICP will send the Commission copies of customs documents as examples.

COM explained the legislative procedure for the amendment of the EU-Morocco Association Agreement, which now needs the consent of the European Parliament. The same procedure is taking place for the SFPA.

As regards sardine captures in Portugal and Spain, COM alerted again about the poor state of the stocks and the need for tighter measures from both national authorities.