

FEDERATION EUROPEENNE DES FABRICANTS D'ALIMENTS COMPOSES  
EUROPÄISCHER VERBAND DER MISCHFUTTERINDUSTRIE  
EUROPEAN FEED MANUFACTURERS FEDERATION



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02.07.2009
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C:

Mrs Mariann Fischer Boel  
Member of the European  
Commission  
European Commission  
200 rue de la Loi

1040 - BRUXELLES

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29.06.2009  
(09) INST 24

### FEFAC position paper reflections on the future of the CAP beyond 2013

Dear Mrs Fischer Boel,

We have the pleasure to provide you with our preliminary reflections as a contribution to the ongoing discussions regarding the future of the CAP beyond 2013.

FEFAC is in particular supporting efficient livestock production systems aiming at minimising their environmental impact, what we call "ecologically intensive production systems". We intend to further develop this concept in future FEFAC position papers.

We hope this preliminary position paper can contribute positively to your reflections.

Yours sincerely,



FEFAC

Enc. FEFAC position paper on CAP beyond 2013

Cc: Messrs Jean-Luc Demarty, Director General, Lars Hoelgaard, Deputy Director General, John Bensted-Smith, Director, Hermanus Versteijlen, Director.

30.04.2009  
(09) PR 3

## FEFAC POSITION ON CAP BEYOND 2013

The EU livestock sector is the most important customer of food industry by-products, in particular from arable crop processing for food use. Feed is the most important production factor for livestock producers. For these reasons, animal feed must be regarded as an essential link between vegetable and animal production. FEFAC representing the EU compound feed industry is committed to get involved in the debate on the future evolution of the EU Common Agriculture Policy from a feed & food chain perspective. Below is the state of the primary reflections.

### The challenges for the EU agriculture in 2013 and beyond

The challenges that the EU agricultural sector will face in 2013 and beyond are likely to be similar to those identified in the framework of the Health Check of the CAP, i.e.:

- A growing global demand for agricultural products, driven by an increasing world population, a growing per capita consumption of animal products and the additional demand for biomass for energy production purpose; being amongst the most favoured global areas for agriculture production, EU Agriculture must contribute to meeting the increasing global demand and therefore produce more;
- A limitation of the possibility to mobilise additional natural resources for farming purpose, in particular land, and the necessity to preserve existing resources through sustainable agriculture production models; the EU agriculture must therefore be more efficient;
- A variability of the agronomic conditions amplified by climate change and triggering huge seasonal variations in agricultural output and therefore in the availability of raw materials for the feed and food industry; the EU agricultural policy must secure the supply of agricultural goods to the feed and food industry;
- A multifunctional role of the EU farmers going beyond the production of agricultural goods, e.g. preservation of landscape; agricultural activity must be developed everywhere in the EU;
- A dramatic volatility of market prices for agricultural products and also for products of intermediate consumption (fertilisers, feed, energy, etc.); the EU agriculture must be competitive and economically viable for EU farmers and related sectors.

In addition, the EU agriculture must continue its basic mission of producing safe agricultural goods, offering a large choice of different types of products with different qualities, meeting the demands of the EU and global consumers at affordable prices.

**In summary, the EU agriculture must produce more, better, everywhere and at an affordable price.**

## **What should the future evolution of the EU Common Agriculture Policy aim at?**

When reviewing the CAP, decision makers should address these challenges, while keeping in mind the key objectives of the Rome Treaty, i.e. stabilisation of prices, food security, co-responsibility and principle of cohesion. In FEFAC's opinion, any EU common Agriculture Policy should:

- Reaffirm that the role of the EU agriculture is first and foremost to **produce agricultural goods and to meet the demand of the food & feed chain** as a matter of priority to any other destination;
- **Promote efficient production systems:** this means
  - To rehabilitate ecologically intensive production systems: intensification in certain areas of agriculture is the most efficient and environmental friendly way to meet sustainability challenges;
  - To identify the bottlenecks hampering access to the most efficient technologies and the inconsistencies between the different EU policies affecting the agriculture sector.
- Encourage a **high added value feed & food chain**:
  - To promote a market oriented agriculture, meeting the specifications of the feed and food industry; this may suppose developing tools to favour contractual commitments across the chain;
  - To implement tools enabling to supply the feed and food industries in case the EU production would not be sufficient or to control extreme price fluctuations; this may suppose establishing security stocks of essential products and establishing mechanisms enabling to facilitate imports of raw materials when required;
  - To encourage the processing of agricultural products in the EU and therefore the export of high added value products, e.g. animal products rather than raw products.
- **Help the EU livestock sector remaining competitive vs. third country competitors:** this means:
  - To further rebalance the direct support in favour of livestock producers in order to avoid that the "EU livestock sector is exported";
  - To ensure that any production system, whether modern / intensive or traditional / extensive / organic, relies on its own market to develop and that any difference in public support is based on scientific criteria only;
  - To promote EU standards vis-à-vis the EU consumers and third country customers (logo);
  - To place the EU livestock sector in a competitive position to meet the market demand with EU produced animal products, i.e. removing / compensating EU legislation-related handicaps such as 0-tolerance for the import of feed materials from GM events not yet approved in the EU, feed ban on processed animal proteins, ban on antibiotic growth promoters, etc.
- **Ensure a decent revenue to farmers and related activities:** this means:
  - To guarantee support in the longer term;
  - To maintain certain management measures for markets of strategic importance for the EU to encourage farmers to produce for those markets.
- **Help the EU farming sector meeting the challenge of adaptation and mitigation of climate change:** this means:
  - To redirect public support to investments linked to adaptation to climate change;
  - To empower DG Agriculture to play a leading role in defining measures for mitigation of the impact of EU agriculture on climate change.

[REDACTED] (AGRI)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** mardi 30 juin 2009 11:07  
**To:** FISCHER BOEL Mariann (CAB-FISCHER BOEL)  
**Cc:** DEMARTY Jean-Luc (AGRI); hermanus.verteijlen@ec.europa.eu; HOELGAARD Lars (AGRI); BENSTED-SMITH John (AGRI)  
**Attachments:** 09\_INST\_24.pdf; 09\_PR\_3\_E.pdf

With kind regards from [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
**Receptionist**

☎ +32 (0)2 285.00.50

☎ +32 (0)2 230.57.22

✉ [fefac@fefac.eu](mailto:fefac@fefac.eu)

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FEFAC

rue de la Loi 223 bte 3

1040 Bruxelles

🌐 [www.fefac.eu](http://www.fefac.eu)

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