



## 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**

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### **Report Meeting TRADE CAB - Cooperativa Agro-alimentarias - 24 February 2016**

Cooperativas Agro-Alimentarias is the organisation representing Spanish cooperatives in the agricultural sector. They stressed the importance of fruit and vegetables, wine, olive oil, animal feed and swine meat for the Spanish agriculture and the role of agriculture in the Spanish economy.

Cooperativas Agro-Alimentarias expressed support for the EU international trade policy and noted that exports have an increasing role in agriculture. For example, 80% of the olive oil produced in Spain is exported.

With specific reference to TTIP, they expressed support for the negotiation and noted that increased attention shall be given to Mediterranean products. They insisted on increased market access for fruit and vegetables, and added that existing SPS barriers are preventing exports.

With reference to Black Spot, they expressed concerns about the possibility that the disease would enter the EU. Considering the high number of notifications of Black Spot in imported citrus fruits from different sources, Cooperativas Agro-Alimentarias consider that urgent measures shall be taken.

The Commission took note of this position and offered examples of exports opportunities for EU agricultural sector related to the conclusion of international trade agreement including Korea and Canada.

Finally, Cooperativas Agro-Alimentarias requested clarification on the ECJ ruling dated 10 December 2015 concerning the trade agreement with Morocco. The Commission clarified that the trade agreement is still in place. The Council has filed an appeal with the ECJ.

#### Participants

Cooperativas Agro-Alimentarias : [redacted]

TRADE CAB Miguel CEBALLOS BARON

TRADE D3 [redacted]