

For info.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 May 2013 09:14
To: 'B NEWTON'
Subject: RE: TR: Letter to Minister Coveney

Barry

As we have previously discussed, the UK has consistently supported the removal of CAP market management measures at the earliest possible opportunity. The aim is to remove distortions so that EU production reflects market demand irrespective of whether that means decreases, as it did when we successfully argued for the decoupling of direct payments from production, or increases. In the case of sugar beet quotas, the potential impact on ACP/LDC was reflected in the Secretary of State agreeing to a two year delay in the end date as part of the Council mandate. I think all sides in the trilogue now accept that there needs to be a firm end date as part of this reform and in practice this can't mean 2020 as that would, in effect, mean that the future of quotas will end up being part of the next negotiation. However, final agreement will probably only come at the June Council.

[REDACTED]

From: B NEWTON [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 May 2013 11:27
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: TR: Letter to Minister Coveney

[REDACTED]

I think we all accept that quotas will go but for ACP/LDC the timing is crucial especially in the context of the appalling record of releasing the Accompanying Measures funds allocated to improve efficiency. We need the extra few years of predictable markets to consolidate our investment plans .It is difficult to equate the continued honeyed words about

supporting devt with the rush to abolish limitations on beet sugar coming into the food market . At the same time the continuing high tariff plus the SFP provides enormous protection to the EU beet industry and is encouraging production in preparation for quota abolition . It is effectively a no risk strategy for the EU beet sector . If more sugar is needed to balance supply and demand and to dampen prices to assist users of sugar the Commission has all the tools to release beet sugar and to import more cane. They can and should also give more equitable treatment to the refiners in this and help to preserve the market links for many ACP traditional suppliers which will be under considerable threat if quotas disappear and thereby disadvantage us further

I note that after the meeting Minister Coveney is quoted as saying that the UK is one of a few countries favouring faster liberalisation to permit increased production. Is this an accurate statement of the position ?

Kind Regards

Barry

From: [REDACTED]
To: B NEWTON [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 29 May 2013, 14:38
Subject: RE: TR: Letter to Minister Coveney

Barry

I have only heard second hand reports, but a common theme is that all parties pretty much stuck to pre-existing positions at the Informal Council. In terms of internal CAP policy coherence there appears to be acceptance by nearly all Member States that quotas must go and the issue is when rather than if. In that context there does seem to be a general wish to mitigate impacts on ACP/LDCs and ensure coherence with other EU policies. As we have discussed before, the problem is how to do so once the decision to end quotas is taken. That quest will doubtless continue over the coming weeks in the run up to the June Agriculture Council.

[REDACTED]

From: B NEWTON [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 May 2013 10:52
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fw: TR: Letter to Minister Coveney

Dear [REDACTED]

A disappointing message although the words "balance of opinion" allow some flexibility. Is anyone really listening to us about the damage which will be caused to ACP/LDC by the release of the current surplus of beet sugar onto the market ? Policy coherence with Trade and Devt commitments does not seem to be considered at all !

Regards

Barry

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, 29 May 2013, 10:01
Subject: TR: Letter to Minister Coveney

De : [REDACTED]
Envoyé : mercredi 29 mai 2013 10:47
À : [REDACTED]
Cc : [REDACTED]
Objet : RE: Letter to Minister Coveney

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you for forwarding this e-mail.

The issue of sugar quotas was discussed by ministers at their informal meeting in Dublin yesterday and the balance of opinion continues to support the decision taken in March that quotas should be ended in 2017.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Agriculture Counsellor and SCA Spokesperson
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Rue Froissart 50
1040 Brussels

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

e-mail [REDACTED]

Follow us on twitter @IrelandRepBru



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 May 2013 02:00
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Letter to Minister Coveney

Dera [REDACTED],

I felt I should send you a copy of this letter which was sent o Minister Coveney today.

Considering the vital importance of the issue to us i'm also making this letter available o your other SCA colleagues.

Best regards

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Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)

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