International Confederation of European Beet Growers

CONFEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES BETTERAVIERS EUROPEENS

CONFEDERAZIONE INTERNAZIONALE DEI BIETICOLTORI EUROPEI



INTERNATIONALE VEREINIGUNG EUROPÄISCHER RÜBENANBAUER

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EU Beet Growers welcome the work of the EP Rapporteur on Single CMO

On 23 June 2011, the European Parliament had approved by a large majority a resolution "on CAP towards 2020: meeting the food, natural resources and territorial challenges of the future", in which it was recommended that "the 2006 sugar regime market be extended at least to 2020 in its existing form".

Against this background, CIBE welcomes the work done by the *Rapporteur* of the European Parliament Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development, Michel Dantin, on the legislative proposal for a Single CMO regulation post-2013, presented today 18 June 2012 at the meeting of the Committee.

In particular, EU growers welcome the general orientation of the *Rapporteur*'s proposal to extend the current sugar regime until 2020, along with the reinforcement of the available market tools by introducing the possibility to release out-of-quota sugar on the EU market when necessary, in order to ensure a good market balance of the EU market for the period up to 2020. EU beet growers also welcome the *Rapporteur*'s emphasis on the maintenance of the bargaining position of growers to ensure that they obtain a fair return for their product.

The need to achieve a balanced EU sugar market and a competitive EU beet sector after the drastic reform in 2006 underlines how crucial it is to maintain up to 2020 national quotas, minimum beet price, interprofessional agreements and appropriate management tools. CIBE notes that the *Rapporteur* has acknowledged this necessity.

The *Rapporteur's* proposal that before 1st July 2018 the Commission should submit a report to Parliament and the Council on the future of the sector after 2020 also shows that the *Rapporteur* considers it essential to prepare the sector for after 2020. CIBE notes particularly that attention would be given to the need to maintain a fair contractual system and a sugar price declaration system. These would constitute the first step for ensuring a fair balance of rights and obligations between sugar undertakings and sugar beet growers, and to allow an equitable sharing of the added value in the supply chain.

EU beet growers will continue to contribute actively to the debate and call on the EP Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development, the European Parliament and the Council to follow the proposal of the EP *Rapporteur* to extend the sugar regime at least until 2020 with the appropriate tools and contractual framework.

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