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High Level Expert Group on Milk Prepares Future EU Dairy Policy.

Report Categories:

Dairy and Products

Approved By:

Kelly Stange

Prepared By:

Yvan Polet

Report Highlights:

After three closed meetings, the EC High Level Expert Group (HLEG) on Milk is seeking input from EU stakeholders and third parties. On January 12, 2010, representatives from Switzerland, Australia, New Zealand and the United States gave presentations on their dairy regimes. In February 2010, an EU stakeholder seminar is planned, while a state of play of the HLEG work will be presented in an EU dairy conference in March 2010. On January 19, 2010, the European Commission also presented a three year € 35.8 million EU internal dairy promotion program.

General Information:

High Level Expert Group on Milk seeks input for Future EU Dairy Policy

A High Level Expert Group (HLEG) on Milk, as announced by Commissioner for Agriculture

Fischer-Boel in a [Press release](#) [1] on October 5, 2009 and under the chairmanship of DGAgri Director-General Demarty, was created to develop proposals for the future of the EU dairy regime. The HLEG was formed in reply to the so-called Franco-German initiative, which garnered support from 22 Member States, calling for again strengthening the EU dairy regime after the Health Check reform (see GAIN [Extra-ordinary Agricultural Council stays the course in dairy policy Brussels USEU EU-27 10-6-2009](#)). The HLEG is composed of dairy experts from all 27 Member State governments and meets on a monthly basis. After three closed meetings (see [Press release](#) [2] after October 2009 meeting), the HLEG has started seeking third party and stakeholder input in 2010.

On January 12, 2010, representatives from Switzerland, Australia, New Zealand and the United States made presentations about their countries dairy market programs. Switzerland is in the last stage of the reform of its dairy regime that started in 2006 and is abolishing dairy production quota. Australia and New Zealand already greatly deregulated their dairy regimes in the 1990s and 1980s respectively. USDA Chief Economist Joe Glauber made a presentation on the current state of the U.S. dairy market.

On February 3, 2010, the European Dairy Association (EDA) is organizing a seminar "The Dairy Supply Chain Revisited" on the perspectives of market mechanisms in the dairy sector. This seminar will bring together representatives from the EU institutions and ministries of Member States, members of the HLEG, relevant European associations and other stakeholders. A [Conference "What future for Milk?"](#) [3] is being organized in Brussels on March 26, 2010 to present the status of progress of the HLEG and provide further suggestions for the HLEG's work. The HLEG is expected to issue its final report by the end of June 2010.

EU approves €35.8 million dairy publicity scheme

As foreseen in [Commission Regulation \(EC\) No 698/2009](#) [4] of July 31, 2009 in response to the 2009 dairy crisis, the European Commission (EC), on January 19, 2010, announced a budget of €35.8 million to be spent on 13 programs to promote milk and milk products among 11 member states over three years. The programs, for which €17.9 million comes from EU coffers, are part of a series of measures proposed by the Commission in last July to address the difficult market situation faced by the dairy sector. Details on these programs and the benefitting member states are provided in a [Press release](#) [5] .

Recent reports on the EU dairy market situation:

[EU halts all export subsidies for dairy; expands dairy fund Brussels USEU EU-27 11-30-2009](#)
[European Commission halts export subsidies except for butter Brussels USEU EU-27 11-17-2009](#)
[Extra-ordinary Agricultural Council stays the course in dairy policy Brussels USEU EU-27 10-6-2009](#)

[EU-27 DAIRY AND PRODUCTS ANNUAL Warsaw Poland EU-27 10-30-2009](#)

[Update on EU dairy market situation Brussels USEU EU-27 7-28-2009](#)

[Fisher-Boel refuses to reconsider agreement on soft landing of dairy quota Brussels USEU EU-27 3-27-2009](#)

[Dairy semi-annual](#) 02-27-2009

[1]

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/09/1420&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLangu>

age=en

[2]

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/09/1521&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLangu>

age=en

[3]

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/events/milk-conference-2010/index_en.htm

[4]

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:201:0008:0008:EN:PDF>

[5]

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/10/34&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage>

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