

**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, BiotechnologyBrussels,
TRADE.DGA1.D.3 [REDACTED]**SUMMARY REPORT****Subject: meeting with Cereals Canada, 2 June 2017**Participants

Cereals Canada: Mr Cam Dahl, President

Mission of Canada to the EU: [REDACTED]

DG TRADE: [REDACTED]

The meeting was organised at the request of Cereals Canada. Mr Dahl raised concerns on the following topics.

Italian country of origin labelling for pasta from durum wheat. Cereals Canada described the draft measure as a significant trade concern *per se* and also a bad signal for possible future fragmentation of the EU's internal market. The Mission of Canada also criticised a lack of transparency (no TBT notification, no clear process for industry consultations). Cereals Canada added that, should the measure be adopted, they would push for a WTO dispute and would also launch legal procedures in Italy.

Biotechnologies. Cereals Canada explained that seeds obtained from new gene editing techniques, notably for wheat, are expected to reach the commercial stage in the near future ('couple of years') and noted that, considering the high pace of development of those varieties, trade difficulties would have to be expected if the breeding techniques were to be considered as non-conventional in the EU. Cereals Canada also raised general concerns on low level presence rules and on GMO authorisation timelines. The Mission of Canada, while mentioning the delays currently experienced at the very last stage of approvals, also said that those delays were not a high concern for Canada yet, as none of their priority applications were concerned so far. COM replied that all applications are processed in line with EU procedures.

Pesticides. Cereals Canada stressed the importance of having glyphosate authorised by the end of the year. It raised concerns on a possible lack of authorisation for other active substances in the future and the impact that could have on MRLs. The Mission of Canada also referred to uncertainty regarding active substances with cut off criteria and the link between Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 concerning plant protection products (which is based on a hazard approach) and Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 concerning MRL setting (which is based on a risk assessment approach).

Endocrine disruptors. The Mission of Canada emphasized that the legislative proposal on technical amendment to derogation should be part of the endocrine disruptors' package.