

To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Minutes - Meeting Mr Sacchetto, Tobacco representative

FYI
[REDACTED]

Meeting L-130

Participants: Mr Carlo Sacchetto, secretary general of FETRATAB (European Federation of Tobacco Processors) and of the newly established EU interbranch of raw tobacco organisation.

AGRI G.2: [REDACTED]

Mr Carlo Sacchetto made the following points

1. Clear description of the sector, growers and processors work in the same area and need to cooperate to ensure the defence of their interest in front of the 5 big manufacturers (e.g. Philip Morris)
2. Italian Interbranch between growers and processors recognised and they have set minimum rules, in particular to prevent illicit market in raw tobacco. Those minimum rules are (i) registration of tobacco growers, (ii) of processors and (iii) registration of contracts between both; those rules are extended to all growers and processors in Italy
3. The EU interbranch is recognised by Italy BUT extension of rules cannot apply in EU
4. To prevent illegal market in raw tobacco, DG TAXUD is considering to introduce excises on raw tobacco itself (*rem: impact assessment is ongoing*), this will cost a lot for the sector and the growers in particular.
5. A less costly way to monitor the market would be to introduce minimum rules at EU level (similar to the existing rules for Italian growers and processors, see point 2)

AGRI G2 listened to those points and confirmed that no action is considered at this stage.