

International Confederation of European Beet Growers

CONFEDERATION INTERNATIONALE
DES BETTERAVIERS EUROPEENS

CONFEDERAZIONE INTERNAZIONALE
DEI BIETICOLTORI EUROPEI



111/9 Boulevard Anspachlaan – B-1000 Brussels
Tel: +32 2 504 60 90 – Fax: +32 2 504 60 99
cibeoffice@cibe-europe.eu – www.cibe-europe.eu

INTERNATIONALE VEREINIGUNG
EUROPÄISCHER RÜBENANBAUER

MIĘDZYNARODOWA KONFEDERACJA
EUROPEJSKICH PLANTATORÓW BURAKA

PRESS RELEASE

20 March 2013

For more details see www.cibe-europe.eu

Contact: E. LACOSTE

elisabeth.lacoste@cibe-europe.eu

Tel.: + 32 2 504 60 90

European Beet Growers concerned and disappointed by Agri Council mandate on the future European sugar policy

Late last night, under the Irish Presidency, the Agriculture Council agreed on its mandate for negotiation on the future Common Agriculture Policy, in particular with regard to the future Single CMO and its provisions concerning sugar. This mandate suggests extending the current sugar provisions after 30 September 2015 and until 30 September 2017.

The European beet growers are concerned and very disappointed: they consider that prolonging the Single CMO up to 30 September 2017 is too short a deadline and totally inadequate. Following this result, CIBE President Jørn Dalby stated that “This mandate does not give a clear message to growers. The Council did not listen to the vote of European Parliament last week and did not listen to a majority of Member States which have requested during the deliberations the date of 2020. We need more time to improve our competitiveness and we ask for stability for five more years, i.e. until 30 September 2020. It is incomprehensible that the Council did not acknowledge the economic rationale of our arguments but has furthermore limited the prolongation to 30 September 2017 by engaging in political bargaining on the issue of reallocation of quotas, which was only supported by very few Member States.”

In addition, CIBE has taken note of some comments from some Member States to maintain a strong contractual framework between growers and sugar producers. “This is a key aspect for us today and in the future as it plays a determinant role in the good functioning of the beet supply chain: it must be reinforced and we will pay attention so that the next discussions will address this issue as well.” concluded Jørn Dalby.

Nevertheless, this mandate paves the way for a prolongation of the sugar provisions after 2015. European growers are now looking forward to the up-coming inter-institutional negotiations. The Commission now has to take into consideration both the mandate of the European Parliament voted on 13th March which requested a prolongation of the sugar provisions up to 30 September 2020 and this mandate of the Agri Council, so as to improve significantly its legislative proposal. CIBE will continue its work so that the final political agreement meets its position for a prolongation of the sugar provisions up to 30 September 2020.