



European Association representing the trade in cereals, rice, feedstuffs, oilseeds, olive oil, oils and fats and agrosupply
Comité du commerce des céréales, aliments du bétail, oléagineux, huile d'olive, huiles et graisses et agrofournitures

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The Common Agricultural Policy towards 2030 COCERAL vision for the EU Agriculture

The agribulk commodities trade sector plays an important role in maintaining food security in the EU, by moving agricultural commodities from areas of surplus to areas of deficit in an efficient way. Thanks to its position in the EU supply chain, COCERAL and its members balance the different requests of the food, feed and non-food markets, from the farmers, processing industry and the consumers through the retailers' demands. Our businesses thrive on seamless supply chains, which need clarity, predictability and clear regulatory regimes in order to avoid disruption.

Through this short position paper, COCERAL would like to highlight important concepts for a successful EU Agricultural sector and Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).

COCERAL recognises the importance of transitioning towards a more EU sustainable food system as set out in the EU Green Deal and related policies such as the EU Farm to Fork and the Biodiversity Strategies. The new CAP envisioned by the EU policy makers needs to be fit to address both the challenges of the European agricultural production and the need to increase the competitiveness of the supply chains for the next decades.

A sound development and implementation of CAP National Strategic Plans, while maintaining market orientation based on consumer demands, will be key. It is essential to preserve the level-playing field in the EU Single Market while ensuring sufficient budget and incentives are available to support the climate and environmental transition. COCERAL believes that having a strong Single Market and a coherent EU agricultural policy is beneficial for all actors of the supply chain. Measures focusing on innovation, technology and education will be critical in helping the EU agricultural sector to adapt to the changes in climate and in consumer demands, notably as regards to sustainability.

Furthermore, when seeking to implement the EU Farm to Fork targets through the CAP National Strategic Plans, other elements need to be taken into account to mitigate impacts on farmers to avoid disruptions for the entirety of the food chain. These should include tools such as alternative and effective measures to the use of Plant Protection Products and better access to innovative technologies and flexibility for agriculture practices. Additional logistical solutions should be considered throughout the supply chain so that operators can adapt to the new EU vision for the agri-food sector.

An ambitious trade policy, supporting trade openness and diversification, is also a fundamental element in building a resilient feed and food chain and maintaining the EU's position as a major player in the global agri-food market.

As a key framework for the whole food and feed supply chain, the CAP towards 2030 should be a dynamic, sustainable, innovative and competitive policy factoring in its crucial priority of maintaining food security in the EU and globally.

COCERAL is the European association of trade in cereals, oilseeds, pulses, olive oil, oils and fats, animal feed and agrosupply. It represents the interests of the European collectors, traders, importers, exporters and port silo storekeepers of the above-mentioned agricultural products. COCERAL's direct members are located in 14 EU countries, with one European association, Unistock representing the professional portside storekeepers for agribulk commodities within the EU and one associated member in Switzerland. With about 3000 companies as part of COCERAL national members, the sector trades agricultural raw materials destined to the supply of the food and feed chains, as well as for technical and energy uses. Gafta is an extraordinary member of COCERAL.