

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

Non-exhaustive list of issues and questions to facilitate preparations for bilateral meetings

1. Standards (for fresh fruit and vegetables)

1.1. Implementation of standards¹

1.1.1. Current situation: which standards are applied at which marketing stage?

1.1.2. Plans for legislative and institutional development

1.1.3. Short assessment of real implementation of standards in the market

1.2 Checks on conformity²

Administrative organisation³

1.2.1. Distribution of competences between various inspection bodies

1.2.2. Administrative capacity of the different bodies involved: staff, training, procedures in place (documented or not?), equipment (inspectors' portable equipment, inspection posts, laboratories...)

1.2.3. Co-ordination of activities between the different inspection bodies involved

1.2.4. Plans for legislative and institutional development

¹ Based on R. 2200/96 (Art. 2, 3, Annex I) and the various Commission Regulations laying down standards for fresh fruit and vegetables

² Based on R. 2200/96 (Art. 7,8,9) and R. 1148/2001

³ R. 1148/2001 (Art. 2)

Registration of traders⁴

- 1.2.5. Is there a database of traders of fresh fruit and vegetables? If yes, how is the updating organised? If not, what plans are there for the future?**

Organisation of checks

- 1.2.6. Domestic market**⁵: average frequency of checks, risk analysis procedures in place on domestic market (if any), quality assurance systems...

- 1.2.7. Export stage**⁶: links with customs (is the export conditioned by a check or a certification?), frequency of checks...

- 1.2.8. Import stage**⁷ : links with customs (is the export conditioned by a check or a certification?), frequency of checks...

- 1.2.9. Possibility of approving third country inspection bodies (including EC) before accession)**⁸

Other issues

- 1.2.10. Fees for checks**

- 1.2.11. Sanctions**

- 1.2.11. Monitoring of checks**⁹: central database, exchange of information, periodic reports

- 1.2.12. Future plans for improving organisation and efficiency**

⁴ R. 1148/2001 (Art. 3)

⁵ R. 1148/2001 (Art. 4)

⁶ R. 1148/2001 (Art. 5)

⁷ R. 1148/2001 (Art. 6)

⁸ R. 1148/2001 (Art. 7)

⁹ R. 1148/2001 (Art. 10)

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- 2. Producer Organisations and Producer Groups (POs, PGs)**
 - 2.1 Organisation of the market (supply side) through POs/PGs**
 - 2.1.1. Description of the current situation¹⁰**
 - 2.1.2. Estimated outlook (for the next 3 years)**
 - 2.2. Implementation of Community rules**
 - 2.2.1. National legislation already existing in this field; plans for legislative and institutional development**
 - 2.2.2. Recognition criteria checklists¹¹**
 - 2.2.3. Specific national provisions¹²**
 - 2.3 Administration**
 - 2.3.1. Distribution of competences between the various bodies involved (e.g. recognition, approval of operational programmes, aid payment)**
 - 2.3.2. Co-ordination of activities between the different bodies involved**
 - 2.3.3. Provisions for cross-checks/controls (check impartiality)**
 - 2.3.4. Sanctions/penalties**

¹⁰ Number of producer organisations/producer groups, members, turnover (absolute values and % of national production where available); types of products

¹¹ Based on R 2200/96 (Art. 11, 12) and R. 1432/2003 and R. 1943/2003: parameters include: size of PO/PG (value of marketed production, number of members), democracy (abuse of dominance), categories, PO/PG functions (incl. environment, quality), structure and activities, relationship with trade, marketing (centralised invoicing etc), 1st and 2nd level POs, obligation to supply all of the members' produce, associations of POs, trans-national POs, pre-recognition; procedures for granting, maintaining and withdrawing recognition.

¹² Regulations 1432/2003, 1433/2003 and 1943/2003 mention at several places that Member States shall/may adopt specific national provisions, procedures etc. (e.g. 1432/2003 Art. 3(2), 4(2), 5(1)).

2.4. Reporting requirements of POs/PGs (including collection of statistics)

3. Interbranch organisations¹³

3.1. National legislation already existing in this field (and its implementation); plans for legislative and institutional development¹⁴

3.2. Do organisations exercising similar activities already operate in the country¹⁵?

4. Withdrawals¹⁶

4.1. National legislation already existing in this field; plans for legislative and institutional development

4.2. Distribution of competences between the various bodies involved (e.g. control of withdrawals, aid payment)

4.3. Co-ordination of activities between the different bodies involved

4.4. Quantity of products withdrawn per year; annual amount spent on financing the withdrawals

4.5. Use of the products withdrawn

¹³ R. 2200/96 (Art. 19 to 22)

¹⁴ As regards implementation, please provide us the names of the implementing authorities, and a general description of the system. **This remark is valid for the other chapters of the questionnaire as well.**

¹⁵ Organisations with such activities may already exist e.g. under the national ‘Law on Associations’, ‘Law on Non-profit Organisations’ or similar laws.

¹⁶ R. 2200/96 (Art. 23 to 30), R. 103/2004

5. Trade with third countries (only rules specific for the fresh and processed fruit and vegetables sectors, if any, should be mentioned)

5.1. National legislation already existing in this field (special import procedures, export refunds – product range, refund level; how is it implemented)

5.2. Wholesale market price collection¹⁷

5.3. Plans for legislative and institutional development

6. Aid to products processed from fruit and vegetables, including citrus fruit¹⁸

6.1. National legislation already existing in this field (products covered, level of the aid, system of the aid (paid for the raw material, finished product, buying-in, storage etc.), maximum eligible quantity, to whom is the aid paid, involvement of POs, quality requirements for raw materials and finished products, similarities/differences vs. Community acquis etc.) **and how it is implemented**

6.2. Distribution of competences between the various bodies involved (e.g. raw material controls during delivery, controls on finished products, aid payment)

6.3. Co-ordination of activities between the different bodies involved

6.4. Plans for legislative and institutional development

7. Council Directives 2001/112/EEC, 2001/113/EEC

7.1. National legislation already existing in this field (and its implementation); plans for legislative and institutional development

8. Other national measures related to the fresh and processed fruit and vegetables sector

¹⁷ R. 3223/94 (Art. 2)

¹⁸ R. 2201/96, R. 2202/96