

**Executive Summary**  
**10<sup>th</sup> CEFTA Subcommittee Meeting on Agriculture and SPS**  
**October 18, 2016 Pristina**

The 10<sup>th</sup> CEFTA Subcommittee Meeting on Agriculture and SPS was held in Pristina, on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016. All Parties were present in the meeting except Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Moldova. Parties not present in the meeting, except Moldova, provided prior to the meeting written contributions.

Mr. Bekim Hoxha, Director of Institute and Department of Vine and Vineyards on Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development of Kosovo<sup>\*</sup>, welcomed all delegations as the Chair of CEFTA Subcommittee on Agriculture and SPS and invited all participants in his opening remarks to take the opportunity to review this year's activities of CEFTA and to monitor the progress achieved.

The Chair introduced the agenda of the meeting to the Subcommittee and highlighted the main points of discussion. As no comments were received on the draft proposal the agenda was adopted.

**Agenda Item 1: Presentation of Outputs of the Working Programme of the CEFTA SC on Agriculture and SPS**

The Chair presented the results of work programme of Kosovo\* Chairmanship of CEFTA Subcommittee on Agriculture and SPS. In his presentation, Mr. Hoxha underlined the mandate of SC on Agriculture and SPS, general objectives and main objectives identified by Kosovo\* Chairmanship and stated priorities and activities under these objectives of the Work Programme, as follow:

- Objective 1: Trade Promotion;
  - Priorities: Ensure assistance in analysing supply chains in CEFTA for the purpose of promoting trade.
  - Activities: 1. Follow-up the GIZ Project on Promotion of Trade in the Wine Sector
  
- Objective 2: Enhancing Transparency;
  - Priorities: Enhancing transparency of the existing SPS database and through developing a new statistical database in agricultural trade.
  - Activities: 1. Updating SPS Database
    - 2. The development of a statistical database for agricultural trade within CEFTA
    - 3. Establishment of a mechanism for exchange of information.

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\* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSC 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence

Further, the Chair informed in details about the activities undertaken under each priority, and he mentioned also results corresponding to the two objectives above mentioned, on Report on Promotion of Trade in the Wine Sector which has been delivered to all CEFTA Parties.

In reference to the CEFTA Transparency Pact the Chair noted that it is kept updated. The Chair advised the further work on the development of the statistical database for agricultural trade is in progress.

## **Agenda Item 2: Presentation and discussion of statistical database for agriculture trade within CEFTA**

Ms. Hana Bakija informed the CEFTA Parties on the proposal as part of the work program for Agriculture and SPS as one of the main activities under the objective of Enhancing Transparency. Ms Hana Bakija advised that the main objective of the database is to have the data collected on agricultural trade products among CEFTA Parties in order to have a clear picture of trade of agricultural products, as addition to other trade statistical data which Secretariat provides. As well the new database shall enable to realise exactly on which products to focus for further extension of trade in agricultural products. In addition the database shall provide to the CEFTA Parties more accurate and detailed picture on exported and imported agricultural products in the CEFTA region.

The proposal for the database envisages that the collection of data of traded agricultural products in CEFTA shall be made by:

- Tariff code by concrete products (8 digit codes)
- Quantity and
- Value, for most exported and imported agricultural products.

The purpose of the database is to be complementary to the FAO, WTO, UN, etc. and national statistical databases of CEFTA Parties (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia and Kosovo\*).

All CEFTA Parties present at the meeting welcomed the proposal and agreed to receive from the CEFTA Secretariat by 18 November a detailed questionnaire for the elements of the agricultural database.

## **Agenda Item 3: Enhancing Transparency – SPS Database, MADB Cases**

CEFTA Parties provided with updates on cases registered in the market access databases cases.

CEFTA Secretariat representative presented the SPS database which is in process of revitalising and demonstrated also the SPS part on Trade Portal and invited the responsible person from each Party to proceed with updates.

#### **Agenda Item 4: GIZ Presentation, follow up the GIZ Project on Promoting Trade in the Wine Sector**

The Chair Mr. Hoxha informed Parties about the initiative of GIZ Project to analyze the wine value chains in CEFTA, which is supported by the Open Regional Fund Foreign Trade Promotion in order to sustain the CEFTA Trade Facilitation Agenda. In this regard, the Chair invited Mr. Morten Kvistgaard, to present the feedbacks from the report "Trade Promotion in the Wine Sector".

In his presentation, Mr. Kvistgaard underlined that in the report are added data from Moldova and as the objective of the analysis is to single out areas of possible performance improvement in the wine sector in CEFTA and to provide CEFTA Parties with recommendations on policy tools and instruments to promote competitiveness and export performance of the CEFTA wine sector.

#### **Agenda Item 5: Trade Promotion- Identifying a new group of agricultural products for analysing supply chains in CEFTA**

The Chair Mr. Hoxha regarding this agenda item invited CEFTA Parties to give their contribution on proposing new group of agricultural products for analysing supply chains in CEFTA for implementing on next year programme.

All CEFTA Parties present at the meeting agreed to provide top five trade agricultural products for the analyses by 18 November.