



Background on the EU Meat Market Observatory

The Meat Market Observatory

The aim of the EU Meat Market Observatory is to provide more transparency for the beef & veal and pigmeat sectors by disseminating market data and short-term analysis in a timely manner.

In addition to the website, which is updated regularly, the Observatory has an Economic Board Expert Group which meets at least 3 times a year.

Creation of the Observatory

The establishment of a market observatory for the beef sector was a long-standing request from different stakeholders in the framework of the Civil Dialogue Groups or through other forums. In addition, different Member States raised the same request as regards the pigmeat sector, notably at the lunchtime debate among EU Agriculture Ministers at the February 2016 Council meeting.

At the March 216 Council meeting, Commissioner Hogan announced his intention to extend the current market monitoring tool for the dairy sector (Milk Market Observatory) to the beef & veal and pigmeat sectors and to implement a European Meat Market Observatory. The Observatory was launched by Commissioner Hogan on 15 July 2016 at the first meeting of the Economic Board.

The Economic Board of the Meat Market Observatory

The Economic Board of European Meat Market Observatory is formally a Commission Expert Group with the mission to foster transparency in the meat sector of the European Union and having as a task to take stock of market developments, and to highlight and assess the current market situation for the sake of economic operators and the Commission services.

Membership

The Members of the Economic Board of the Observatory are European-wide stakeholder organisations representing one of the following stages of the beef and veal or pigmeat supply chains: producers and producers' organisations; slaughter, processing and manufacturing industry, trade operators, distributors and retailers.

The Members were selected by the European Commission (DG AGRI) in accordance with and under the terms of a Call for Applications published on 11 April 2016.

List of member organisations selected:

- EuroCommerce; (*Retail*)
- European agri-cooperatives (COGECA); (*Producers*)
- European Coordination Via Campesina (ECVC); (*Producers*)
- European Council of Young farmers (CEJA); (*Producers*)
- European farmers (COPA); (*Producers*)
- European Livestock & Meat Trades Union (UECBV); (*Industry and trade*)
- The Liaison Centre for the Meat Processing Industry in the European Union (CLITRAVI); (*Industry*)

Structure and composition of the Economic Board

The Group is chaired by a representative of the Commission (Director AGRI C) and is divided in two sub-groups:

- Beef and veal
- Piguemeat

Each sub-group shall consist of a maximum of 16 participants nominated by the member organisations, up to a maximum of 2 representatives per organisation, with a proven high level of technical expertise in the beef and veal or pigmeat supply chains and their market dynamics, including in particular the supply and demand balance, production, prices, consumption and trade.

Member organisations will be responsible for ensuring that their representatives provide such a high level of expertise.

The group will meet three times per year. A summary report of each meeting will be published on the Meat Market Observatory website a few days after the meeting.