

**Committee on Agriculture
Special Session****PENDING DATA ISSUES IN DOMESTIC SUPPORT AND EXPORT SUBSIDIES¹**G-20 Communication

The following communication, dated 30 June 2008, is being circulated at the request of the G-20.

The Chairman's draft modalities (TN/AG/W/4/Rev.2) establish obligations regarding the provision of data. This document confines itself to data requirements pertaining to the Domestic Support and Export Subsidies pillars.

Taking into account that there are still outstanding data, and that information should be submitted with sufficient anticipation, this contribution outlines the requirements in terms of data on the following issues:

1. Total value of agricultural production

- (a) Relevant paragraphs: 1, 2, 4, 30, 31, 38, 47, 48, 49, 50 and 51.
- (b) Objective: inclusion in the modalities text, as provided for in paragraph 12.
- (c) Members concerned: those which have provided incomplete or no information in TN/AG/S/21 (fundamentally, some G-10 Members, and EC-27).

2. Amber box, product-specific caps

- (a) Relevant paragraphs: 22 and 23.
- (b) Objective: inclusion in the modalities text, as provided for in paragraphs 22 and 23.
- (c) Members concerned: all Members with AMS commitments.

3. Amber and blue box, information at the level of individual products

- (a) Relevant paragraphs: 22, 23 and 40.
- (b) Objective: definition of the cap at individual product, instead of product or sectoral level, as provided for in paragraphs 22, 23 and 40.
- (c) Concerned Members: all Members having AMS commitments or that have notifications under Article 6.5. In particular, these considerations apply particularly to the EC, as its AMS and blue box notifications have not been made at product level. It is recalled that in its submission Job(07)/218, the G-20 suggested a technical approach to allocate applied sectoral subsidized levels to every individual product.

¹ Without prejudice to Member's positions and to data issues in market access.

4. Issues linked to the EU-27

Beyond the need to count with updated data on the EU-27 total value of agricultural production, it would be necessary to agree with the EC's final bound levels that would update the EC-15 Schedule CXL, pertaining to its AMS and export subsidies bound levels.

Moreover, the EC needs to inform the EU-27 bindings from which its reduction (domestic support; OTDS, amber box and blue box) and elimination (export subsidies) commitments will take place. This long overdue information must be provided as soon as possible so as to proceed to a multilateral discussion on the matter.

5. Domestic support and export subsidies notifications of developed-country Members

For an appropriate assessment of the proposed outcome in the modalities, including Green Box, to provide transparency to the negotiating process, and to facilitate the negotiation of modalities avoiding asymmetries of information, developed Members should provide notifications on the most recent period (e.g. 2007 or 2006/2007, as may be applicable). It should be taken into account that applied tariffs are generally known, while applied subsidies are not.
