



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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**AGRI 287
DEVGEN 109
WTO 171**

NOTE

from: General Secretariat
to: Delegations
Subject: The impact of CAP policy changes on developing countries
- Request from the Netherlands delegation

Delegations will find in Annex a document submitted by the Netherlands delegation to be presented under A.O.B at Council ("Agriculture and Fisheries") at its session on 14 April 2011.

Note from the Netherlands delegation on the impact of CAP policy changes on developing countries

Food security is one of the challenges EU agriculture is facing. Food demand worldwide is rising. EU agriculture needs to operate within a world economy which is increasingly integrated. Globalisation is increasing and trading systems are more liberalised. The Netherlands agrees with the Commission that EU agriculture is an integral part of European economy and society, while the sector is faced by the essential need to improve production capacity.

The Commission stated in its Communication *‘The CAP towards 2020: Meeting the food, natural resources and territorial challenges of the future’* that improved production capacity needs to respect EU commitments in international trade and Policy Coherence for Development. The Netherlands recognizes the role of EU agriculture on the global markets and believes it is important to closely monitor the impact CAP policy changes may cause in third markets. The Netherlands therefore welcomes the Commission’s Impact Assessment on CAP policy changes. The Netherlands invites the Commission to include the impact of the CAP policy changes on farmers in third countries, especially developing countries, in its Impact Assessment.