



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT



Draft Agenda: EU Seminar on Standards for Agri-food products

19-20 November 2018

Tehran, Iran

Objectives:

**To present EU standards for food safety and quality in more detail
Promoting understanding of each other's agri-food systems
Working towards transparency and removing unjustified barriers to trade**

Day 1 (Monday 19 November) VENUE: Espinas Hotel	
08:00 - 08:30	Registration and welcome coffee
08:30 – 09:00	Welcome and opening: His Excellency Stefan SCHOLZ, Ambassador of Austria (on behalf of the Austrian EU Presidency) Director-General Hooman FATHI, Ministry of Agriculture Jihad (tbc)
Panel Discussions Audience: Representatives from the respective Iranian authorities, EU MS representatives, EU and Iranian business representatives ***Simultaneous translation in Farsi will be provided***	
09:00 – 09:45	Introductory presentation: The EU at a Glance This presentation intends to include elements like: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The EU: political and economic Union• EU institutions and Member States: division of tasks and competences, including in the agri-food area Speaker: Q & A session
09:45 – 10.45	The EU's SPS System - wider concepts: This presentation intends to include elements like: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overview of EU Legislative Framework on Food Safety, Animal Health and Plant Health• The EU General Food Law• The EU Food Safety System and Global Trade Speaker: Q & A session
10:45 – 11:00	Coffee break

11:00 – 12:00	<p>Traceability of animal products within the EU:</p> <p>This presentation intends to include elements like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal identification and traceability in the EU: how the EU ensures that EU products are safe and can be traced back? identification • Labelling of meat on born/raised/slaughtered, Beef-in-bone, age at slaughter • Iran invited to present issues of interest related to exports of live horses to the EU <p><u>Speaker:</u> Q & A session:</p>
12:00 – 13:00	<p>Safe Trade of Animal Products:</p> <p>This presentation intends to include elements like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role of international veterinary standards and veterinary control system in supporting trade in animal products. • TRACES • Regionalisation for animal diseases: explanation of the principle (practical cases) • Pre-listing of food establishments (avoidance of double certification, and inspector on-the-spot) <p><u>Speaker:</u> Q & A session</p>
13:00 – 14:00	<p>Buffet lunch</p> <p><i>Venue: Espinas hotel</i></p>
14:00 – 15:00	<p>Food Information to Consumers in the EU:</p> <p>This presentation intends to include elements like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nutrition and Health Claims in the EU • Special Labelling Rules: GMO Labelling – Origin Labelling • Iran invited to present their Traffic light labelling system <p><u>Speaker:</u> Q & A session</p>
15:00 – 15:45	<p>EU Quality Policy on Geographical Indications (GIs)</p> <p>This presentation intends to include elements like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU-Iran bilateral relation on GIs: How can GI protection drive exports? • Consumer awareness of EU GIs. Problems to overcome? • How to use GI as marketing tool; success stories • Iran invited to present on their interests for GI certification (e.g. saffron) <p><u>Speaker:</u></p>

	Q & A session
15:45 – 16:00	Coffee break
16:00 – 16:45	<p>EU Policy on Organics</p> <p>This presentation intends to include elements like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU Policy on Organics: Regulatory framework, bilateral agreements, international trade • Marketing of organic products in Iran: a reality? Problems to overcome? <p>Speaker: Q & A session</p>
16:45 - 17:45	<p>Research and technology in the EU in agriculture (Fields for current cooperation in the agri-food sector)</p> <p>Speaker: Q & A session</p>
Day 2 (Tuesday 20 November) VENUE: Espinas Hotel	
08:00 - 08:30	Registration and welcome coffee
08:30 - 09:45	<p>The EU Phytosanitary legislation - general overview. The new EU Plant health legislation</p> <p>This presentation intends to include elements like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of EU system: general overview of EU regulatory system for plants and plant products • Regionalisation for Plant Diseases: EU System for Ensuring Safe Exports • EU Phytosanitary and Quality legislation on seed plants and fruits (Dates and raisins, apples, pomegranates, kiwis, etc.) <p>Speaker: Q & A Session</p>
09:45 – 11:00	<p>The EU Management System for Pesticides, Contaminants, Residues and Chemicals. How the EU Ensures Safety of Consumers?</p> <p>This presentation intends to include elements like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sampling, labelling and traceability • RASFF (Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed) • EU standards for Aflatoxins (Laboratory, production methods, certification)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iran invited to present on the situation in pistachio sector <p>Speaker: Q & A Session</p>
11:00 – 11.15	Coffee break
11.15 – 12:00	Enforcement of EU SPS Legislation: Controls, Audits and Inspections <p>Speaker: Q & A Session</p>
12:00 – 13:00	EU and WTO in relation to international trade of agri-food products <p>This presentation intends to include elements like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The WTO agreement on Agriculture (Tariffs, Domestic support, Export refunds, STEs) • The WTO agreement on TBT • The WTO agreement on SPS • The role of International Standard Setting Organizations (ICO, UPOV, etc.) benefits and challenges <p>Speaker: Q & A Session</p>
13:00 – 14:15	Buffet lunch <p><i>Venue: Espinas hotel</i></p>
Day 2 (Tuesday 20 November) – continued VENUE: Espinas Hotel	
15:00 - 16:00	<p style="text-align: center;">PARALELL PRODUCT-ORIENTED SESSIONS (in separate rooms) on EU sanitary, technical and quality standards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • milk and dairy products (cheeses and SMP) • cereals and animal feed • olive oils and vegetable fats • sugar • fruits and vegetables • meat (tbc) <p>In presence of EU and Iranian business organisations, opened to Iranian officials and EU economic counsellors representing their Member States</p> <p>Speakers: Representatives of EU producers associations’ and traders or EU MS trade/agriculture attachés, or Commission experts</p>

16:00 - 17:30	<p style="text-align: center;">ROUNDTABLE DEBATE:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Multilateralism, International Organisations and International Trade: How to enable mutually beneficial trade in agri-food products between EU and Iran?</p> <p><i>Open to all stakeholders (importers, exporters, competent authorities, chambers of commerce, researchers, academics, representatives of major retail chains in Iran, EU business representatives, EU Member States diplomats, etc.)</i></p> <p>Selected issues to be discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by Iran: <i>What to import, what to export? Opportunities, needs, challenges</i> (including trade barriers on SPS, TBT, s, etc.) • Benefits of joining WTO and international setting standard organisations (ICO, UPOV, etc..) • Administration and regulatory framework: SPS, TBT, customs duties, import licenses, WTO tariffs rates, STEs, customs, financial transactions problems, etc. • HACCP, Halal, Vegan, etc. regulation for private or religious matters • Etc... 	
	<p>Chairman/Mediator of the debate: His Excellency Stefan SCHOLZ, Ambassador of Austria</p>	
	<p>Participants</p>	
	<p>EU side: business and other stakeholder representatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sectoral EU organisations (dairy, meat, olive oil etc.) • Potentially: Major companies, exporters already operating on the Iranian market • EU Member States diplomats 	<p>Iran side: business and other stakeholder representatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competent authorities (MOAJ, IFDA, IFIF, IVO, IPPS, AREEO, Supreme Council for Health & Food Safety, Dept. of Water and natural resources, Committee of the Islamic Consultative Assembly) • Customs authorities • Major retailers, distributors, exporters • HoReCa actors • Consumers' representatives
17:30 - 19:00	<p>Concluding remarks: His Excellency Stefan SCHOLZ, Ambassador of Austria</p> <p>Reception/dinner</p>	