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CAOBISCO POSITION STATEMENT ON CAP REFORM POST 2013

Through its **2000+** companies, CAOBISCO, the Association of the Chocolate, Biscuits and Confectionery Industries of Europe, represents more than **245,000** direct employees and generates more than **51** billion Euros annual turnover. CAOBISCO industries show a production of **10,4** million tons of products; **4,4** billion Euros of exports, i.e. **10%** of the total value of food exports from the European Union; and an import value of € **1,2** billion. In terms of raw materials usage we represent over **50%** of world cocoa consumption, **30%** of EU sugar consumption and are the major users of dairy and cereals

Please find attached the views of CAOBISCO on the future reform of the EU's Common Agricultural Policy.

On November 18th, the Commission released its Communication "The CAP towards 2020: meeting food, natural resources and territorial challenges of the future".

CAOBISCO welcomes the Commission Communication preceding an impact assessment and legislative proposals to be presented in the first half of 2011.

CAOBISCO supports that the accent of the Communication is placed on food security. Indeed, CAOBISCO shares the point of view that European agriculture is vital for our industry to be competitive in the EU and on world markets. **The competitiveness of our industry depends primarily on the sustainable supply of European agricultural raw materials.**

The Commission places market-orientation of the CAP as a key driver and CAOBISCO would like to stress the importance of the **future CAP as a demand-driven policy**. This has to be dealt by reforming market instruments which should intervene rapidly and act in accordance to the reality of the market. Therefore, **data transparency in commodity markets is key. Production quotas should be eliminated as soon as possible.**

CAOBISCO also supports the Commission in its aim **to promote a sustainable European agriculture**. The application of environmentally sustainable and resource-efficient agricultural practices should be a core element of any future agricultural policy.

For more details as regards CAOBISCO's views on the reform of the existing CAP, please see the position statement attached. As regards, reforms of the Common Market Organisations of Milk Products and Sugar, please see separate position statements.

For your information, CAOBISCO intends to respond to the Consultation process launched by the Commission recently.