



Agriculture and  
Agri-Food Canada

Agriculture et  
Agroalimentaire Canada

Canada



# Committee on Agriculture Information Session Enhancing Transparency and the CoA Review Process

Canada's Experience in the Review Process

September 13, 2016

# The review process... why?

- Monitor implementation of commitments
- Information on domestic measures and/or policy changes



# March 1995 to September 2016

- Analytical tools: evolution over time
- Review and analysis through the lens of:
  - Policy considerations
  - Commercial export interests
  - Systemic interests
- Knowledge transfer/continuity

# Meet the team

- Trade Agreement and Negotiations  
Directorate: Core group
  - Notifications:
    - Distribution
    - Review and analysis
  - Drafting questions and review of responses



# In the beginning...



# Evolution of tools

- Internal tracking system for questions and answers
  - Binders, Secretariat report of meetings, meeting room document
  - Excel pivot tables
  - MS Access database
  - In-house experts
- AgIMS – one stop shopping!
- I-TIP Goods Integrated Trade Intelligence Portal- excellent search tool

# Overview of the review process

- Review all notifications: layers
  - “The numbers”: Compare amounts against commitment, previous notifications
  - New measures or changes to existing measures
  - Commercial export interests
  - Policy changes
  - Systemic interests

# Overview of the review process

- Tools:
  - WTO Handbook on Notification Requirements
  - Cairns Group “What to look for when reviewing notifications”
  - Analysis of previous notifications
  - Country or industry experts
  - Previous questions and answers (AG IMS)
  - OECD reports, Trade Policy Review reports, national sources, media services



**General comments**

\*All amounts are reported in \$USD

Although Brazil's Current Total AMS is 0 for the 2012/13 notification, there have been some significant changes in terms of programme support for many entries included in the notification. Green Box support has reached an all-time high of \$6.2 billion in 2012/13 which represents a 30% increase from the previous year. *De minimis* and S&D support have remained stable, but there have been some changes in terms of product coverage and notified programs which will be detailed in their respective sections below. It is worth noting that the provided total for VOP is indicated as being "Provisional" for 2012/13.

Table 1: A breakdown of support provided by Brazil since 1995 - (USD millions)

Year	Green Box	Current Total AMS	de minimis	S & D	Total Support	Commitment	Current TAMS/ Commitment
1995/96	2,600.0	0.0	363.0	269.0	3,232.0	1,025.0	0.0%
1996/97	3,458.0	0.0	307.0	280.0	4,045.0	1,010.0	0.0%
1997/98	2,420.0	83.0	409.0	373.0	3,285.0	997.0	8.3%
1998/99	1,568.0	0.0	1,247.0	156.0	2,971.0	983.0	0.0%
1999/00	1,487.0	0.0	1,053.0	310.0	2,850.0	969.0	0.0%
2000/01	1,462.0	0.0	976.0	332.0	2,770.0	954.0	0.0%
2001/02	892.0	0.0	1,015.0	393.0	2,300.0	940.0	0.0%
2002/03	820.0	0.0	1,319.0	495.0	2,634.0	926.0	0.0%
2003/04	896.0	0.0	1,129.0	394.3	2,419.3	912.1	0.0%
2004/05	1,929.4	117.0	1,262.5	626.3	3,935.2	912.1	12.8%
2005/06	2,421.9	0.0	1,650.5	764.7	4,837.1	912.1	0.0%
2006/07	2,346.0	342.0	2,918.0	643.0	6,249.0	912.0	37.5%
2007/08	3,297.0	520.0	3,285.0	900.0	8,002.0	912.0	57.0%
2008/09	3,580.0	293.0	2,516.0	871.0	7,260.0	912.0	32.1%
2009/10	4,907.0	269.0	3,211.0	1,651.0	10,038.0	912.0	29.5%
2010/11	4,500.0	214.0	3,429.0	1,739.0	9,882.0	912.0	23.5%
2011/12	4,772.0	8.0	2,601.0	1,039.0	8,420.0	912.0	0.9%
2012/13	6,199.4	0.0	2,460.1	1,070.0	9,729.5	912.0	0.0%

Table: Domestic Support of EEC (EU) (Ecu or € million)

Year	Green Box	Blue Box	Current Total AMS	<i>de minimis</i>	Current Total	Total support	Final Bound Total AMS	Current Total as % of Final Bound Total AMS	Current Total AMS/ Final Bound Total AMS
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5) = (2 + 3)	(1 + 2 + 3 + 4)	(7)	(5 ÷ 7)	(3 ÷ 7)
95/96	18,779	20,846	50,181	826	71,027	90,632	78,672	90%	64%
96/97	22,130	21,521	51,163	761	72,684	95,575	76,369	95%	67%
97/98	18,167	20,443	50,346	543	70,789	89,499	74,067	96%	68%
98/99	19,168	20,504	46,947	379	67,451	86,998	71,765	94%	65%
99/00	21,916	19,792	48,157	400	67,949	90,265	69,463	97%	69%
00/01	21,848	22,223	43,909	561	66,132	88,541	67,159	98%	65%
01/02	20,661	23,726	39,391	834	63,117	84,612	67,159	94%	59%
02/03	20,404	24,727	28,598	1,942	53,325	75,671	67,159	79%	43%
EU25 support is included from 03/04 (at least from 1 May 2004)									
03/04	22,074	24,782	30,891	1,953	55,673	79,700	67,159*	83%	46%
04/05	24,391	27,237	31,214	2,042	58,451	84,884	67,159*	87%	46%
05/06	40,280	13,445	28,427	1,251	41,872	83,404	67,159*	62%	42%
06/07	56,530	5,697	26,632	1,852	32,329	90,711	72,244**	45%	37%
07/08	62,610	5,166	12,354	2,389	17,520	82,519	72,244**	24%	17%
08/09	62,825	5,348	11,796	1,086	17,144	81,055	72,244**	24%	16%
09/10	63,798	5,324	8,764	1,402	14,088	79,288	72,244**	20%	12%
09/10r	63,798	5,324	10,883	1,402	16,207	81,407	72,244**	22%	15%
10/11	68,051	3,142	6,502	1,393	9,644	79,088	72,244**	13%	9%
11/12	70,977	2,981	6,859	1,003	9,840	79,089	72,244**	14%	9%
12/13	71,140	2,754	5,899	1,781	8,653	81,574	72,244**	12%	8%

Total support = sum of Green Box, Blue Box, AMS, *de minimis*

\*New footnote added: "Without prejudice to the EC25 commitment to be presented in the new EC25 schedule after enlargement."

\*\*This commitment is in conformity with the information on the EC25/27 commitments as communicated to the Membership at the 53rd meeting of the Committee on Agriculture. Information on the EC25 commitment was provided in writing to the Committee. The EC25 figure is increased by 520 million EUR (Bulgaria's AMS commitment) to establish the EC27 level.

# Filters

- Notifications from all Members are reviewed
- Some additional focus is placed on:
  - FTA partners
  - Other agriculture exporters
  - Measures exempt from reduction commitment
  - Key trading partners
  - On going systemic issues

# That's interesting...Article 18.6

- Varied sources:
  - general media, agriculture newsletters, national sources, OECD reports, TPRs
- Industry



# Knowledge transfer

- Changes in personnel, retirement
- Evolving technology: WordPerfect vs MSWord
- Continuity through
  - Documents kept on common drive
  - Detailed analysis
  - Background information
  - Discussion on notifications and questions

# On the other side...

- Questions to Canada
  - Core group
    - Distributes questions to sector experts, programs
    - Review of draft responses
    - Submission via AG IMS

# Looking forward

- The current process works well
  - Maybe a few tweaks
- Free space on common drive getting smaller
  - Potential to make better use of the AGIMS



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# Questions?

