

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Market Access and International Trade in Irish Meat

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Fisheries and Food**
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Context

- 2015 Forecasts – ESRI
 - Economic Growth: 4.6%
 - Unemployment: 9.7%
 - Private Consumer Expenditure: €87.6bn (*up €2.6bn*)
 - *Exports of Goods and Services: €207.6bn (up 6.2bn)*
- *Weak Euro Zone Growth a Downside Risk*

Contextual Background - International Factors

- Access Issues
- Economic Factors
- Appointment of New EU Commission in 2014
- Russia Ban
- Bilateral and Multilateral Trade Negotiations :
 - WTO, CETA, TTIP, Mercosur , Vietnam ,Japan , Thailand and India, Other

MARKET ACCESS



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Irish Beef in US

- US BSE Rule - 1st November 2013
- Country Approval - SRT sent to FSIS
- US FSIS Inspection – June 2014
 - *“Ireland has consistently and effectively implemented a beef slaughter inspection system that satisfies all criteria for equivalence “ - 30 December 2014*

US – Next Steps

- Agree Health Certificates
- DAFM to certify individual applicant plants
- Approved Plants to work with FSIS on Label Approvals – US Guidelines Circulated

China- Beef

- MAFF / AQSIQ Inspection in December ;
- Awaiting final report which may lead to lifting of the BSE Ban;
- After that certificate to be agreed and individual plant approvals
- CNCA Inspection Service Visit Required

Markets opened in 2014

- **PIGMEAT:** Vietnam, Export Certificate agreed with Philippines
BEEF: Access was gained to Lebanon, Namibia, The Philippines and New Caledonia
SHEEPMEAT: Lebanon, Namibia and Hong Kong

Russia

- **What is affected:**
- **EU , US, Norway, Canada , Australia**
- **EU** : live animals (except pedigree animals), beef, pork, poultry, seafood, dairy products (bar product for infant formula, casein and lactose free products), vegetables (excl. seed potatoes) and fruits.
- In addition to temporary restrictions on pork products since the beginning of 2014 and beef trimmings from June 2014.

Trade Negotiations



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EU/US TTIP

- December 2014 : Council Statement committing itself to concluding EU/US TTIP agreement by end 2015;
- Ambitious because Trade Commissioner has referred in last couple of days to “*skeleton*” agreement by end of this year

EU/CANADA – Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement

- All agricultural elements finalised but ratification delayed as a result of the Investor State Dispute Settlement Issue
- If agreed by the European Council and European Parliament it will come into effect in late 2016.
- Analysis suggests that Canada is unlikely to be able to fill its beef TRQ for at least seven years.

MERCOSUR

- Re-launched in May 2010
- Activity in July 2014 but now appears to have slowed

Vietnam

- Negotiations on EU-Vietnam FTA commenced in June 2012
- Negotiations have entered a substantial phase. Both sides aim to conclude the negotiations within the next few months.
- Potential for Meat (particularly pork) and Dairy exports under such an agreement.

Japan

- Negotiations commenced on Nov 2012
- Ireland had pressed for market access for beef as part of the regulatory convergence.
- Ban on Irish beef products to Japan was lifted in Dec 2013;
- FTA Progress Slow – Significant EU defensive interests

EU/Thailand FTA

- FTA negotiations launched in February 2013. Important potential market for Ire.
- Ireland is seeking a reduction in tariff for a wide range of meat products.
- Political situation in Thailand has meant little progress in 2014.

EU/India

India

- FTA Negotiations launched June 2007.
- Key offensive interests for Ireland and Beverages and Dairy.
- 11 full rounds but no progress has been achieved this year due to elections etc.
- Market access currently very difficult to quota restrictions, high tariff and NTB's particularly in relation to dairy and beverages.

China

- Australia recently concluded FTA
- NZ have FTA
- Non agricultural Issues a Barrier for EU

WTO ?

- Negotiations Commenced 2001.....
- Little change in attitude from negotiation partners to allow movement from 2008 position
- EU Commission reference to concluding round with unambitious outcome

ENDS

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