Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Market Access and International Trade in Irish Meat

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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
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

- **PIGMENAT**: 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
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