



Promoting Cold Chain Logistics to the EU – Meeting with DG AGRI

On 20 September, a group of cold chain logistics stakeholders including GCCA and like-minded associations from across Europe, sat around the table with Mr Fabien Santini, Deputy Head of Unit of the European Commission's DG AGRI, to emphasize the essential role of temperature-controlled logistics in guaranteeing food security and supply chain resilience.

Admittedly, the COVID pandemic revealed the resilience of the food chain, there was no food crisis on top of the health crisis. Learning the lessons of the pandemic, the European Union (EU) put supportive policies in place – exceptional crisis measures, market transparency efforts, state aid, and more preventively an improved overall preparedness of the EU including industry strategy; and a new single market emergency instrument. The EU identified major risks for the EU food supply and security:

- Climate change and extreme events
- Emerging risks like cybersecurity, geopolitics, accidents
- Dependencies on imported goods – not only food but also essential products like fertilizers

The EU developed a contingency plan focusing on Collaboration and coordination, information and communication with experts and emergency response capabilities.

The energy crisis - not only the cost of power but also the record-low levels of fuel stocks and reduced availability of diesel in some parts of Europe – will also be addressed in DG AGRI as it starts impacting food supply chains heavily and in turn, cost of consumer products as well as inflation. The European Commission's agricultural and rural development department opened a public online dashboard providing market data on national and European agriculture, data is available by food segment – see [here](#)

GCCA and the group of stakeholders' claim includes a request to DG AGRI to monitor the following critical stakes:

1. Energy availability and cost
2. Capacity of temperature-controlled storage - current and forecast
3. Refrigeration gases
4. Diesel & fuel availability
5. Labour availability
6. Support the transition from old, f-gas operated facilities, to clean systems and building renovation

More to come on this front, stay tuned to GCCA channels !

