



# Social questions

CEFS Congress – General Affairs Committee

Dubrovnik, 8 June 2017

# Items

1. Social Dialogue plenary meeting of 6 March 2017
2. EESC opinion on industrial change in the EU beet sugar industry
3. Trade and Sustainable Development
4. Social Questions WG meeting in Copenhagen
5. Ongoing work

# EU Sugar Sector Social Dialogue plenary meeting of 6 March 2017

- Joint Statement on the end of quotas
- 4 recommendations:
  1. Clarity on **aid for private storage**.
  2. Consideration of how the EU's **Structural and Investment Funds** may be used to support workers laid off.
  3. More **market transparency for sugar users**.
  4. Action on **trade**: promotion of EU exports; no market opening where no level playing field exists.

# **EESC opinion on industrial change in the EU beet sugar industry I**

- European Economic & Social Committee = EESC
- An opportunity to emphasise the unique characteristics of the sector and the potential challenges of the post-quota period
- Made possible by EFFAT's participation in the committee as a delegate.

# EESC opinion on industrial change in the EU beet sugar industry II

- Hearing held on 16 May 2017.
- Opinion to be adopted by EESC in July 2017.
- CEFS' recommendations for the post-quota period to be endorsed by a European institution → **high credibility**.

# Trade and Sustainable Development

- Trade and Sustainable Development = provisions on labour and the environment in the EU's FTAs.
- Cooperation with EFFAT to push for more binding provisions in the EU's FTAs.
- Coordination of CEFS & EFFAT responses to the public consultation on the Generalised System of Preferences.

# Meeting in Copenhagen, 20 September 2017

- Full meeting of the Social Questions WG
- Visit to Nordic Sugar DK factories.

# Ongoing work

- CSR Report 2017 – questionnaire to be circulated soon
- EU Sugar Beet Sustainability Partnership
- OSHA Campaign 2016-2017: ‘Healthy Workplaces for all Ages’





**Thank you.**

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