

## SHEEP AND GOAT MEAT

### Non-exhaustive list of issues and questions to facilitate preparations for bilateral meetings

COUNTRY:.....

#### 1. General situation of the sector

2002 2003 2004 2005

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- **Production:**

Total size of the flock:

Number of breeding ewes:

Production of meat (tons):

- **Imports:**

- Live (head):

- Live (tons/carcass equivalent):

- Meat (tons):

- **Exports:**

- Live (head):

- Live (tons/carcass equivalent):

- Meat (tons):

- **Consumption (tons, total):**

- **Price (specify currency):**

(Standard quality lamb carcass. Standard quality of fresh or chilled sheep carcasses are defined as being “lamb of less than one year old at slaughter of acceptable fat level with a carcass weight or estimated carcass weight of at least 12 kg)

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#### 1. Farm level

- **Breeds of sheep:**

Are they predominantly meat breeds or is production more focused on wool or milk?

Where there is milk production are lambs fattened as heavy carcasses (minimum 25 kg) or are they marketed as light lambs?

- **Farm structure:**

What is the number of holdings engaged in sheep production?

What is the size of such farms?  
(Average number of animals per holding)

Is sheep production concentrated in certain areas (Less Favoured Area type regions for example) or dispersed?

Are there farms that specialise in milk production?

Is the identity of all farmers known?

## 2. Markets

- How is the commerce organised? Are there live markets or direct purchases by slaughterhouses, or both?
- Is the live market privately organised or does the State play a role?
- Can a list be provided of the various markets/slaughterhouses, showing their relative importance in terms of throughput of lambs?
- Are slaughterhouses publicly owned, private or co-operatives (semi-public)? Do they purchase the meat and then market it or are they service slaughterhouses which slaughter animals for a fee?

- **Consumption:**

Is lamb a traditional meat? Is the consumption concentrated at certain times of year (Easter or Christmas for example) or is demand steady throughout the year?

Evolution of production and consumption: Have there been reductions or increases in production or consumption (in past 5 years)?

## 3. Slaughterhouses

- Are the slaughterhouses certified for export to the EU?
- Are there official personnel present in slaughterhouses (vets for example)?
- Is there a classification system for carcasses, based on the muscle conformation and fat cover?

- Are storage facilities available (cold stores)?

#### 4. **Collection of information**

- Is a census of the number of animals regularly carried out?
- Are statistics available for numbers and slaughterings? If so, on what basis? – weekly, monthly...?
- Are production forecasts carried out?
- Do the authorities monitor the prices on the markets?

#### 5. **Imports/Exports**

- Are there import agreements with other countries?
  - Other candidate countries?
  - EU countries?
  - Non-candidate countries (NZ, AUS etc.)?
- With regard to imports, are there quotas in operation?

How are they managed? (Certificates of origin and import licences, for example).
- Are there exports to other countries?
  - Other candidate countries?
  - Non-candidate countries ?

#### 6. **Support measures**

- Are there any intervention mechanisms in operation, such as private or public storage?
- Are there any other State measures that the sector can benefit from (i.e. promotion)?