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## CEFS PRESS RELEASE

### **CAP and sugar reform - towards 2020**

#### ***The European Sugar Manufacturers' Association opposes the Commission's proposal aiming at ending the quota system in 2015***

CEFS, representing European Sugar manufacturers, would like to express strong concerns on the Commission's proposal aiming at ending the sugar quota system in 2015. This decision comes as a surprise as CEFS understood that the Commission initially intended to prolong the current system.

This proposal is not in line with CEFS position which supports the prolongation of a quota system, nor with the position of the European Parliament. CEFS will be working with the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers to ensure that these proposals are amended.

In addition, the impact assessment used by the Commission to justify the abolition the quota system in 2015 includes several inconsistencies such as the assumed increase in European production, whilst yields, beet and sugar prices are all expected to decrease. Furthermore, this static approach of the study does not take into account any volatility and its impact on the specific, long-term business model of beet sugar production.

CEFS considers that the overall direction of the CAP should be to guarantee food supplies for European consumers, while progressively increasing the efficiency and sustainability of production. Food security has become a key issue and recent developments in the European sugar sector have demonstrated how important it is to have dependable sources of supply and to avoid excessive volatility, especially during times of market turbulence. Throughout this period, the European sugar industry has proved - within the current framework - to be an extremely reliable supplier in terms of physical delivery, sustainability and product quality.

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**About CEFS:** CEFS represents all European sugar manufacturers, covering sugar production in 20 EU countries and Switzerland. For further information on CEFS and the future sugar regime, please see: [www.cefs.org](http://www.cefs.org) under the news section

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