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PRESS STATEMENT

CANADA REDUCES ANTI-SUBSIDY DUTIES ON EU SUGAR

On 30 March 2022 the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) issued a notice of conclusion of the re-investigations (initiated in October 2021) of the anti-subsidy duties on refined sugar from the EU and the anti-dumping duties on refined sugar from Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

The notice looked at 36 alleged subsidy programmes throughout the EU, ranging from voluntary coupled support (VCS) for sugar beet to national aid to the French overseas sugar sector. 12 of these programmes were found countervailable.

The notice reduces the anti-subsidy duty by over 80%, from 24.39 EUR/100kg to 3.97 EUR/100 kg, and fully withdraws anti-subsidy duties for Cosun Beet Company. Critically, CBSA held the decoupled support programme under the EU Common Agricultural Programme not to be specific, and thus not countervailable.

CEFS Director General Marie-Christine Ribera said: "the conclusion of this reinvestigation vindicates what we've been saying for years: that EU sugar is substantially unsubsidised, in contrast to other major producers and exporters such as India and Thailand. The conclusion revises an exaggerated figure that was based on outdated information."

The CBSA concluded, *inter alia*, the following duties for the alleged programmes it found: 1.791 EUR/100kg for VCS; 0.858 EUR/100kg for national aid to the French overseas sugar sector; 0.703 EUR/100kg for Programmes of Options Specifically Relating to Remoteness and Insularity; and 0.32 EUR/100kg for the French Jaundice Compensation Scheme.

Concerning the anti-dumping reinvestigation, only one operator cooperated fully since duties were first adopted in 1995: Cosun Beet Company, which is the sole sugar producer in the Netherlands. As a result of its cooperation, Cosun Beet Company will obtain access to the Canadian sugar market at the same terms as on the EU market.

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CEFS President and Cosun Beet Company CEO said: “we welcome the result of the CBSA’s reinvestigation. We know we trade our sugar competitively but fairly, which is why we decided to cooperate in this process, despite the time and effort required”.

The anti-dumping duties for exporters of sugar from Denmark, Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States remain unchanged.

CEFS thanks the European Commission for their unwavering support in this case.

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