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PRESS RELEASE : CELCAA response to the publication of US tariffs

CELCAA is disappointed and saddened by the latest turn in trade relations with the US, with the planned application of a 20% tariff on all import from the EU from 9 April.

For decades, the US has been a valued and reliable trading partner for the EU agri-food sector. US consumers have delighted in the quality and variety that EU agri-food imports afford. It is a sorry day for trade and ultimately, for the consumer in the US.

Trade will continue to find a way

While we expect that exports to the US will continue nevertheless, the imposition of the tariffs announced in the last 24 hours severely hinders the scope for existing commercial relationships to continue 'business as usual' and for new commercial relationships to thrive. It sets a lamentable precedent for trade relations with the US going forward and will ultimately hinder innovation.

Diversification of trade and the opening of new market opportunities in other regions of the world will be key to weathering this storm.

CELCAA welcomes the news that there is a small window of scope for further negotiation and stands ready to liaise with the European Commission in their deliberations on the next steps to take vis à vis the US administration's decisions. CELCAA fully supports the re-confirmation of a strong, outward looking trade agenda for the EU.



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