



Valsts kanceleja

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Prime Minister: The high European food standards are a good example for the world

On June 2, Laimdota Straujuma, Prime Minister of the Republic of Latvia, addressed the meeting of Copa/Cogeca, European farmers and agri-cooperatives organisation, on the challenges and opportunities of the EU agriculture sector. Copa/Cogeca is the largest professional agriculture organisation in Europe which brings together 76 organisations from 26 EU Member States.

Laimdota Straujuma thanked the hosts for the opportunity to address the organisation and noted that Copa-Cogeca is an important partner of the EU politicians who advocate and promote reasonable and evidence-based needs of EU farmers.

The Prime Minister also remarked that EU's support is of particular importance for the Baltic States and Finland which have suffered the most severe effects of Russia's sanctions towards the dairy sector. According to Laimdota Straujuma, yesterday this was already informally discussed by the EU Ministers for Agriculture during the meeting of the Council of Ministers in Rīga.

The Latvian Prime Minister touched upon the free trade agreement with the United States of America. "Europe is among the largest food exporters maintaining high quality standards. We would be pleased to see these high food quality standards disseminating throughout the world. The United States is our biggest trade partner. It is also our strategic partner. By concluding the free trade agreement we would become the largest trade bloc. And we would set high quality standards by including in the agreement an emphasis that it is necessary to maintain high veterinary and phytosanitary standards and food production traditions."

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