



# Stop Export-Dumping with dairy products! Food Sovereignty now!

Brussels, August, the 31th 2010

## **This we want to show**

What you can see flying through the air is milk powder – produced by the European dairy industry. It get´s scattered over the developing countries while they are not able to protect their own markets from European imports.

## **We want to point out that**

for many years, countries like Cameroon, Bangladesh, Senegal or Ghana have been **misused as key markets** for exported agricultural products from the European Union. By practicing an agricultural policy which encourages the food industry to sell their products on export markets **the EU takes responsibility** for the loss of food sovereignty and an increase of hunger and poverty in those countries.

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## We are criticising

the fact that the European dairy industry is the only beneficiary from this export business of dairy products.



**Famers in the southern countries** are not able to sell their own dairy products on local markets, because they **cannot compete against the low prices** for milk powder imported from the EU.

### **Cameroon:**

In August 2009 1 litre of drinking milk was sold for 0,51 € and was made out of milk powder imported from the EU. At the same time, dairy farmers living in the north west of Cameroon needed at least 0,61 € for 1 litre of milk to be able over their cost of production.

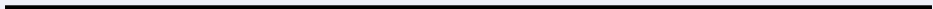
### **Bangladesh:**

In April 2009, for example, the price for imported milk powder was 0,19 €/l. At the same time, local prices were 0,22€/l.



**Not even farmers living in the EU benefit** from this export strategy of the European Commission and the dairy industry. In countries all over the EU dairy farms are abandoned. The reason for this change in structure of the agricultural sector is a decline in prices for dairy products paid to the farmers.

Between 1995 and 2007 about half of Europe's dairy farms were abandoned, in Germany 16 % of existing dairy farms stopped their production.





The effects of price dumping for milk powder produced in the EU are caused by the aim of European politicians and the processing sector to serve global export markets. **In spite of strong protests** the European Commission consistently pays export subsidies to the dairy industry in the amount of more than 300 million Euros per year. Beneficiaries are corporate groups like Nestlé, Danone or Nordmilch.



A lasting overproduction is also caused by a continuous increase of milk quotas in the EU. The classical meaning of the milk quota – which is to control the amount of milk and dairy products – cannot be fulfilled anymore. According to the European Court of Auditors the abolishment of milk quota supposed to be realized in 2015 will cause a further increase in the existing surplus of milk in Europe. The aim of this reformation of milk quota regulation is the adjustment of European milk prices on a global level. Thereby export rates of dairy products can be augmented. At the same time **destructive price dumping in southern countries is persisting** and European farmers are deprived of means of existence.



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## We claim ...



**Respect for food sovereignty of developing countries!** Food supply has to be given the highest priority and must stay prime responsibility of the farmers of those countries.

Therefore:



**Stop all kind of dumping on agricultural markets!** Firstly, export subsidies for agricultural products have to be abolished. The other agreements, which abet the overproduction have to be reconsidered and changed. Alternative possibilities like a flexible and demand-orientated regulation of milk volumes have to be established.



**Immediate stop of demanding more deregulation for agriculture in the countries of the south.** International trade agreements (EPAs, WTO) should not confine the possibilities of developing countries to regulate the import of agricultural products from foreign countries.



The first aim of European agricultural politics has to be the **encouragement and respect for the rural agriculture in Europe and the countries of the south.** To achieve this, there is no need for a “clientele policy” in favour of the European food industry, but an active communication with farmers and civil groups demanding for strategies in agriculture, which are both socially and ecologically sustainable.



**Junge Arbeitsgemeinschaft  
bäuerliche Landwirtschaft**

**Young workinggroup  
on peasant farming**

[www.abl-ev.de/junge-abl](http://www.abl-ev.de/junge-abl)

### **Supporters of this action:**

AbL, European Coordination Via  
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