ANNEX

**Negotiating Directives**

1. The Commission should open negotiations with the United States of America on an agreement regarding the importation of High Quality Beef from animals not treated with certain growth-promoting hormones, in particular concerning the operation of the tariff rate quota for High Quality Beef set out in Article II of the Revised Memorandum of Understanding of 21 October 2013.
2. To this end, the Commission may in particular offer the United States of America a country-specific allocation of a certain proportion of the annual tariff rate quota for High Quality Beef, referred to in Article II(4) of the Revised Memorandum of Understanding of 21 October 2013. The Commission is not authorised to negotiate an increase of the annual quantity of the tariff rate quota for High Quality Beef (45 000 tons, product weight), set out in Article II(4) of the Revised Memorandum of Understanding of 21 October 2013.
3. An agreement with the United States of America and in particular any country-specific allocation of quantities within the tariff rate quota for High Quality Beef referred to in Article II(4) of the Revised Memorandum of Understanding should respect the relevant WTO rules on the matter, including those relating to the WTO/GATT rights of other supplying countries using that tariff rate quota.
4. The Commission should seek to obtain the accord of the other substantial supplying countries with regard to the country-allocation of the said tariff rate quota, in line with the applicable WTO rules, to the extent necessary.
5. The Commission should report to the Council on the outcome of the negotiations and, where appropriate, on any problem that may arise during the negotiations.