



**Final statement**  
**World Association of Beet and Cane Growers (WABCG)**  
**London, 28 November 2016**

The World Association of Beet and Cane Growers met on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2016 in London (United Kingdom).

In the wake of the recent Convention on Climate Change, COP22, in Marrakech, WABCG underlines that climate change first and foremost impacts the agricultural sector, increasing the uncertainty of yields, calling for new practices and new investment, and amplifying price volatility. We emphasize the fact that agriculture must inevitably be at the heart of any solution to climate change.

Beet and cane growers consider that it is fundamental that they be able to adapt to this new situation through a fair return on their products. They welcome the recovery of the world sugar market following a renewed global production deficit. WABCG stresses that in the majority of countries, beet and cane prices are calculated by applying a collectively negotiated, pre-defined formula according to the value of the final products, such as sugar, molasses, pulp, fiber (bagasse), ethanol and electricity. This system, which must be maintained and extended to the countries or regions where it is not yet implemented, is the only way growers will be able to benefit from this welcome increase in prices, after 4 depressed years.

Regarding the management of price volatility, beet and cane growers underline the importance of having the necessary tools at their disposal, including effective access to futures markets and insurance mechanisms.

Finally, beet and cane growers emphasise the importance of the diversification of outlets from beet and cane processing. Bioethanol is important but bioplastics and biogas also offer numerous sustainable, high value alternatives to take up tomorrow's energy challenges in a cleaner way.