Spain: The food industry, with great potential for developing

The food and beverage industry continues the process of internationalization. Exports 6% in 2015, a year in which growth was 3% increase. It is therefore the main industrial sector in Spain. Agriculture Minister has assessed positively the two years of implementation of the Strategic Framework Industry Food and Beverages.

Minister of Agriculture, Food and Environment, Isabel García Tejerina, highlighted the increase in exports of the food industry and Spanish drinks, not only to the markets of the European Union but to the rest of the world. "More and more sectors with more presence in export, which send their products to more destinations," stressed the minister, who added that the number of exporting companies grow and consolidate its presence in international markets.

Isabel García Tejerina met at the headquarters of the Ministry, with the Executive Committee of the Spanish Federation of Industries Food and Beverage (FIAB) to take stock of the second year of the Strategic Framework Industry Food and Beverage for period 2014-2020, prepared by IFLA in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture.

In his speech, García Tejerina has positively assessed the implementation of this framework in these two years, as reflected in many indicators. Thus, in 2015 the growth of the industry food and beverage was 3%. It is, he added, the main industrial sector in Spain.

Also, this sector has performed well in terms of employment, since between 2014 and 2015 have created 20,000 net jobs. And with regard to internationalization, exports have increased by 6% in 2015.

Strategic framework

Moreover, García Tejerina has detailed at the meeting has reviewed progress in the four areas in which the Strategic Framework Industry Food and Beverage is based: efficiency, value creation, promotion and internationalization.

Thus, the minister stressed the importance of efficiency to improve the competitiveness of enterprises. In this area, García Tejerina has referred to the Comprehensive Sustainability of the food industry, a tool that the Ministry makes available to the industry so that it can quantify their sustainability.

In creating value, García Tejerina has stressed the advances in research and innovation. At this point, the minister has referred to the signing of the Code of Good Marketing Practices, which will help promote the presence of innovation in linear distribution chains.

In the field of revitalization, the law is particularly important measures to improve the functioning of the food chain and the importance of having the CIA and Food Control (AICA) as guarantor of compliance.

And to improve the internationalization of the sector, the minister has been worth the Strategic Directions for the internationalization of the food industry and the creation of its Working Group Lines.

Finally, García Tejerina has stated that these advances have been achieved through cooperation and joint work, "the conviction that the industry of food and beverages in Spain has come a long way and still has great potential to develop ".

Source: MAGRAMA