

abandonment and realise the targets of 55,000 ha under cane and a production of 400,000 t sugar;

- (xviii) **Setting up of a sugar based agro-industry framework.** This measure will assist the industry to move up the value chain for higher quality sugars and increasing production of sugar based agro products with focus on local exotic fruits;
- (xix) **Climate change.** There is need to set national targets for cane production and the evaluation of the impact on the cane industry of the carbon balance and assess its economic value with a view to consider the possibility to trade on carbon credit;
- (xx) **Certification of sugar / Organic sugar.** In view of the evolution of the market trends, there is an increasing demand among sugar buyers for the origin to be certified sustainable and this requirement is increasingly becoming a key element in their buying decisions. Moreover, with the sophistication of the consumer needs, there is increasing demand for organic sugars (double digit growth in certain destinations). Given limited supplies, these organic sugars are more remunerative and can represent a significant outlet for part of local production. It is thus recommended that technical and financial support be sought with the view to enabling producers to shift from traditional operations to sustainable sugar production practices, including for the production of organic sugars.

## 5.0 PART 4: UNFINISHED BUSINESSES

5.1 There are a certain number of measures which the JTC has not been able to tackle and finalise given that these will necessitate further consultations and studies among other stakeholders. The list of unfinished businesses is as follows:

- (i) Derocking and Mechanisation Scheme;
- (ii) Loan for re-plantation of old ratoons;
- (iii) Review of operation of MCIA;
- (iv) Regional research avenues for new cane varieties;
- (v) Review future mandate SIFB;
- (vi) Land abandonment and land conversion tax;
- (vii) Sugar based agro-industry framework;
- (viii) Duty free, trade quota, trade facilitation;
- (ix) Land abandonment and climate change;
- (x) Other cane and non-cane biomass; and
- (xi) Certification of sugar / Organic sugar.