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European Union

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**NOTE**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Delegations

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Subject: Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL establishing rules on support for strategic plans to be drawn up by Member States under the Common agricultural policy (CAP Strategic Plans) and financed by the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) and by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council  
*- Statement by the Estonian delegation, supported by Croatia, Hungary, Latvia, Poland and Slovakia, regarding the future CAP*

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Delegations will find in the Annex a statement by the Estonian delegation, supported by Croatia, Hungary, Latvia, Poland and Slovakia, regarding the future Common Agricultural Policy.

**Statement for the minutes**

Statement by the Estonian delegation, supported by Croatia, Hungary, Latvia, Poland and Slovakia, regarding the future CAP.

The future CAP should lead to a transition to a more sustainable and climate-smart agriculture. There are specific measures in the future CAP to address that. For the potential of farmers to be fully realized, different circumstances in different member States should be truly taken into account.

Also considering the climate neutrality objective, various analyses have shown the huge potential of liming in increasing carbon sequestration and protecting organic carbon stock in acidic soils. There is a strong correlation between soil pH and organic carbon. In areas where the soil is acidic, the organic carbon content is lower. This affects farming and the wider functioning of the ecosystem.

We believe that it is necessary to maximize organic carbon stock in soils. Therefore we request the European Commission to confirm that liming should be considered as eligible practice under eco-schemes and environmental, climate and other management commitments.

A similar request was on the table at the November 2019 Agri-Fish Council.

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