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#### **INFORMATION 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 amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1217/2009 as  
regards conversion of the Farm Accountancy Data Network into a Farm  
Sustainability Data Network  
*- Summary of public feedback received after adoption of the proposal*

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Delegations will find attached, for information, a letter by the European Commission's Director-General for Agriculture and Rural Development to the chair of the Special Committee on Agriculture with a summary of the public feedback received after the adoption of the above-mentioned proposal.

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The Director-General

Brussels  
AGRI.A.2/MZ/sd agri.a.2(2022)8034015

Dear Mr Nĕmec,

On 22 June 2022, the Commission adopted the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1217/2009 as regards conversion of the Farm Accountancy Data Network (FADN) into a Farm Sustainability Data Network (FSDN).

The main objectives of the proposal are to:

- improve the current role of FADN as source of harmonised economic and accountancy farm-level data in the EU, including income-related indicators of the future CAP;
- reinforce the relevance of FADN/FSDN for policy-making, research, evaluation and policy analysis;
- add variables related to environmental and social dimensions to allow for a comprehensive assessment of the situation of farms and their performance;
- simplify existing data collection and introduce innovative and modern systems and practices, also through better interoperability with other data sources;
- improve the sustainability performance of farmers' agricultural operations including through improvement of farm advisory information.

As part of the Commission's Better Regulation framework, legislative proposals and accompanying documents, which are put forward to the European Parliament and to the Council, are opened for public feedback once they have been adopted by the Commission.

Mr Stanislav Nĕmec  
SCA Spokesperson  
Permanent Representative of the Czech Republic to the European Union  
Rue Caroly / Carolystraat, 15  
B-1050 Bruxelles/Brussel

The annex to this letter summarises the feedback received through the Commission 'Have your say' webpage between June and September 2022<sup>(1)</sup>.

Yours faithfully,



p.o. Michael NIEJAHR  
acting Deputy Director-General  
in absence of

Wolfgang BURTSCHER

Enclosure: Annex A - Summary of the public feedback received after the adoption of the proposal on the conversion of FADN to a Farm Sustainability Data Network

Copy:

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<sup>(1)</sup> <https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12951-Conversion-to-a-Farm-Sustainability-Data-Network-FSDN-en>

## **Annex A            Summary of the public feedback received after the adoption of the proposal on the conversion of FADN to a Farm Sustainability Data Network**

### **1. RESPONDENTS**

22 contributions were registered: 7 from NGOs, 5 from private companies or business organizations, 5 from EU citizens, 2 from academics or researchers, and 3 from respondents who classified themselves as “others”.

In relation to the country of origin, 5 responses came from Belgium, 4 from Germany, 3 from Slovakia, 2 from the Netherlands, and 1 from respectively Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Hungary, Poland, Slovenia, and the United Kingdom.

### **2. FEEDBACK**

The feedback received was overwhelmingly positive (close to 90% of the contributions), and focused mainly on the following areas: data quality, protection and management, inclusion of new variables.

Regarding **data quality**, most of the responses asked for an improved system where data are up-to-date, reliable, comparable, and accountable. Moreover, some contributions asked for more information on specific data requirements in order to assess **data privacy and protection** issues. Likewise, some of them demanded data registration by farmers to be anonymous and voluntary. Other respondents also requested an automation of data collection to limit costs and improve quality. Many respondents demanded further specification on how the **interoperability and comparability** will be ensured. Several replies called for a **limitation of the transfer of power to the Commission** on data management, suggesting the replacement of delegated acts by implementing acts in a few articles (such as farm ID, use of data, access to and transmission of primary data).

On the other hand, on the inclusion of **new variables**, several business organizations requested that this data network should **keep focusing on the economic dimension**. Nevertheless, a sizeable amount of responses urged the Commission to move forward on this topic and asked for a **comprehensive set of social and environmental variables**, including climate footprint, water, soil and biodiversity. Some organizations called for

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the inclusion of specific data on organic production. Other respondents included data on farming practices and on forestry and agroforestry. Likewise, some farmers' organizations called for the inclusion of data on the positive impact of agriculture on the environment.

Finally, feedback also included six contributions requesting the inclusion of wireless technologies into the variables, and one of them asked for the inclusion of night light pollution. Besides, there was a specific comment from an NGO asking for a clarification of the social objectives and for how it will serve / match the Farm to Fork strategy ambition and the Carbon Farming Initiative.