



Council of the  
European Union

**Brussels, 4 May 2016  
(OR. en)**

**8078/16**

**CRS CSA 6**

## **SUMMARY RECORD**

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Subject: 1526th meeting of the Special Committee on Agriculture (SCA) held in  
Brussels on 18th April 2016

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1. **Adoption of the agenda**  
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The agenda was adopted.

I

2. **Summary record of the 1525<sup>th</sup> meeting of the SCA**  
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The SCA approved the summary record.

3. **Commission Regulation (EU) .../... of XXX amending Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 110/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the definition, description, presentation, labelling and the protection of geographical indications of spirit drinks**  
– Decision not to oppose the adoption (regulatory procedure with scrutiny)  
7821/16 AGRI 178 WTO 86

The SCA confirmed that it has no intention to oppose to this Regulation.

II

4. **Market situation**  
– Information from the Presidency on procedures  
– Information from the Commission

The SCA took note of the Presidency's and Commission's information on the recently launched procedures implementing the package of support measures agreed at the March Council, and the positive outcome of the procedures concerning the Council Regulation amending Council Regulation 1370/2013 (doc. CM 2356/16) and the Commission delegated regulation of 11.04.16, bearing in mind the objection recorded in doc. 7996/16.

The SCA also noted the Commission's update on the other measures under preparation and its further explanations on State aid-related measures, as well as the delegations' reactions, including the comments of CY and EL regarding the budget that would be available in relation with the proposal for a delegated act on fruit and vegetables. On that occasion it was noted that the UK delegation would not table a statement in relation with the adoption of the Council Regulation amending Council Regulation 1370/2013. It was also noted that the Latvian delegation would make the following statement.

"As regards the Commission's initiative on the temporary voluntary planning of milk production, Latvia has doubts on the effectiveness of the measure on market stabilization, and sees more risks than benefits for the producers engaging in such planning of production, among others due to the voluntary character of the measure.

However, with the aim of solidarity, Latvia does not oppose the delegated act authorising agreements and decisions of cooperatives and other forms of producer organisations in the milk and milk products sector on the planning of production."

5. **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council fixing the adjustment rate provided for in Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 for direct payments in respect of calendar year 2016**

- Information from the Presidency  
7901/16 AGRI 183 AGRIFIN 37 FIN 229

The SCA took note of the Commission's presentation of its proposal on the adjustment rate for direct payments and of the information provided by the Presidency, in particular the non-willingness of the EP to deal with the proposal in OLP/co-decision, as a consequence of which the SCA referred the proposal back to the Commission in view of setting this year's adjustment rate by means of an implementing act.

6. **G20 Agriculture Ministerial**

- Guidelines for the EU position at the G20
  - Presentation by the Commission and first reactions  
7953/16 AGRI 187 WTO 90 DEVGEN 50 ENV 222 ONU 38

The SCA had a first exchange of views on draft guidelines for the G20 Agriculture Ministerial (7953/16), to which it will return on 10 May, and on which delegations may provide comments until 25 April. The SCA also took note of the information provided by the Commission and of delegations' comments.

7. **OECD Agriculture Ministerial**

- Declaration adopted at the OECD Agriculture Ministerial
  - Information from the Commission

The SCA took note of the information provided by the Commission on the OECD Declaration adopted at the Agriculture Ministerial.

8. **Mercosur**  
– Information from the Presidency on next steps

The SCA took note of the information provided by the Commission as well as of concerns expressed by a large number of delegations regarding the deadline for written comments on the EU offer, the need for more detailed information on it and the availability of the requested impact assessment. In that light, the Presidency will endeavour to arrange a technical meeting and will liaise with its TPC counterpart.

9. **The European Court of Auditors (ECA) - three special reports (12/2015, 20/2015, 25/2015)**  
– Information from the Presidency

With regard to the pending three ECA reports, CY intervened to ask for a further discussion in the SCA on increased administrative costs in relation to CAP simplification, AT, supported by DE, suggested that the SCA should be updated twice a year about pending and forthcoming ECA reports and the Commission, while expressing the view that following up on ECA's recommendations could lead to an increase of administrative burden, supported the AT position and flagged the Commission's limited availability of resources to discuss the same ECA reports in different Council bodies. The Presidency concluded that it would prepare a document in coordination with CY and the Commission, which could serve as a basis for discussion at the next SCA.

10. **Any other business**  
• **Negotiations on the NEC directive**  
– Request from the Polish delegation, supported by the Lithuanian delegation  
7946 AGRI 186 CLIMA 31 ENV 220

The SCA took note of concerns expressed by the Polish delegation regarding negotiations on the proposal on the NEC Directive. These concerns were supported by a number of delegations. In addition, the SCA took note of comments made by delegations as well as by the Commission.

## 11. Organization of future work

The Presidency informed the SCA on the preparation of the next SCA meeting, the "Agriculture and Fisheries" Council meeting on 17 May as well as on the preparation of the informal meeting of Agriculture Ministers in Amsterdam on 31 May 2016.

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