

Brussels, 29 July 2025
(OR. en)

10841/1/25
REV 1
PV CONS 36
AGRI 309
PECHE 192
PARLNAT

DRAFT MINUTES
COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
(Agriculture and Fisheries)
23 and 24 June 2025

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Council adopted the agenda set out in document 10163/25.

2. Approval of "A" items

- a) Non-legislative list 10196/25

The Council adopted all "A" items listed in the document above, including all linguistic COR and REV documents presented for adoption.

- b) Legislative list (Public deliberation in accordance with Article 16(8) of the Treaty on European Union) 10197/25

Agriculture

1. **Regulation amending the POSEI Regulation for outermost regions affected by natural disasters, in particular cyclone Chido devastating Mayotte**
Adoption of the legislative act
Decision to derogate from the eight-week period provided for in Article 4 of Protocol 1 on the role of national parliaments in the EU
approved by SCA on 19.06.2025

 10067/25 + COR 1
PE-CONS 16/25
+ COR 1
AGRI

The Council approved the European Parliament's position at first reading and the proposed act has been adopted pursuant to Article 294(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (legal basis: Article 43(2) and Article 349 TFEU). The Council also agreed to derogate from the eight-week period referred to in Article 4 of Protocol 1.

Environment

2. **Directive amending Directive 2008/98/EC on waste**  10095/25 + ADD 1
Adoption of the Council's position at first reading and of the
statement of the Council's reasons 6978/25 + REV 1
approved by Coreper, Part 1, on 18.06.2025 (da)
+ ADD 1
ENV

The Council approved its position at first reading, in accordance with Article 294(5) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and the statement of the Council's reasons (legal basis: Article 192(1) TFEU).

A statement by Lithuania and a statement by Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, France, Germany, Hungary, Netherlands, Romania, Slovakia, Spain and Sweden are set out in the Annex.

Economic and Financial Affairs

3. **Decision on providing macro-financial assistance to Egypt**  10066/25
Adoption of the legislative act PE-CONS 18/25
approved by Coreper, Part 2, on 19.06.2025 ECOFIN

The Council approved the European Parliament's position at first reading and the proposed act has been adopted pursuant to Article 294(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (legal basis: Article 212(2) TFEU).

MEETING ON MONDAY 23 JUNE 2025 (11:00)

AGRICULTURE

Non-legislative activities

3. Trade-related agricultural issues 10402/25
Information from the Commission
Exchange of views

Legislative deliberations

(Public deliberation in accordance with Article 16(8) of the Treaty on European Union)

4. **Omnibus on agriculture**  10362/25
Policy debate 8983/1/25 REV 1
+ ADD 1
+ ADD 1 COR 1

The Council held a policy debate.

Any other business

5. Agriculture

a) Current legislative proposals



(Public deliberation in accordance with Article 16(8) of the Treaty on European Union)

i) Regulation amending the common market organisation (CMO) Regulation as regards the strengthening of the position of farmers in the food supply chain

10296/25

The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency and of delegations' comments and questions.

ii) Regulation on cross-border enforcement of unfair trading practices (UTPs) – state of play

10297/25

Item 5 a) ii) was taken together with item 5 a) i).

iii) Amending Regulation as regards certain market rules and sectoral support measures in the wine sector and for aromatised wine products – state of play

10607/25

Information from the Presidency

The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency and delegations' comments.

b) Congress of Rural Renewal and Development (Poznań, 8-10 May 2025)



10290/25

Information from the Presidency

The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency. It also took note of the delegations' reactions.

c) 57th Conference of Directors of EU Paying Agencies (Warsaw, 6-7 May 2025)



9926/25

Information from the Presidency

The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency.

d) High-level conference on research, innovation and digitalisation to advance the competitiveness of European agriculture and ensure food security (Warsaw, 11-12 June 2025)

 10595/25

Information from the Presidency

The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency on the outcome of the high-level conference on research, innovation and digitalisation to advance the competitiveness of European agriculture and ensure food security, which took place in Warsaw on 11-12 June 2025.

The Council also took note of the comments made by delegations

e) The protection of traditional names of animal origin food

 10489/25

Information from Czechia, Austria, Croatia, Hungary, Italy and Slovakia supported by France, Ireland, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Romania and Spain

The Council took note of the information provided by Czechia, Austria, Croatia¹, Hungary, Italy and Slovakia, with support from France, Ireland, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Romania and Spain, on the protection of traditional names of food of origin and of the comments of the Commission and of delegations.

¹ Croatia asked to be mentioned as a co-sponsor in the minutes.

MEETING ON TUESDAY 24 JUNE 2025 (10:00)

FISHERIES

Non-legislative activities

6. **Communication on sustainable fishing in the EU: state of play and orientations for 2026** 9750/25
Presentation by the Commission
Exchange of views

The Council took note of the Commission presentation of its communication on “Sustainable fishing in the EU: state of play and orientations for 2026 and held an exchange of views.

AGRICULTURE

Legislative deliberations

(Public deliberation in accordance with Article 16(8) of the Treaty on European Union)

7. **Regulation on the protection of animals during transport and related operations** 9581/25 + COR 1
Progress report

The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency on the progress made in examining the legislative proposal and exchanged views.

The Council also took note of the comments made by delegations on this subject.

8. **Regulation on the production and marketing of plant reproductive material** 9668/25
Progress report

The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency on the progress made in examining the legislative proposal.

The Council also took note of the comments made by delegations on this subject.

9. **Regulation on a monitoring framework for resilient European forests** 10020/25 + ADD 1
+ ADD 1 COR 1 (lt)
+ ADD 2
General approach

The Council reached a general approach on the legislative proposal. The Council also took note of the statement made by Austria, Finland, Latvia, Slovenia and Sweden and of the statement made by the Commission. Both statements are set out in the Annex.

Any other business

10. Fisheries

- a) **Mandatory use of IT *CATCH* to fight illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing** 10231/25
Information from the Commission

The Council took note of the information provided by the Commission on the mandatory use of CATCH as of 10 January 2026 to fight illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU), as well as on the implementation of the revised Fisheries Control Regulation. The Council also took note of delegations' comments.

- b) **Implementation of the Fisheries Control Regulation** 10232/25
Information from the Commission

Item 10 b) was taken together with item 10 a).

- c) **Action for the recovery of fish stocks in the Baltic Sea and better future prospects for the sectors dependent on these stocks** 10233/25
Information from Sweden

The Council took note of the information provided by Sweden on action for the recovery of fish stocks in the Baltic Sea and better future prospects for the sectors dependent on these stocks. The Council also took note of the delegations' comments.

- d) Atlanto-Scandian herring** 10234/25
Information from Ireland, the Netherlands and Sweden

The Council took note of the information provided by Ireland, the Netherlands and Sweden about difficulties of the Atlanto-Scandian herring (ASH) fishery. The Council also took note of the delegations' reactions.

- e) European Ocean Pact** 9876/25
Information from the Commission

The Council took note of the presentation by the Commission of the European Ocean Pact as well as of delegations' reactions.

Agriculture

- f) Alignment of production standards applied to imported products in terms of pesticide MRLs** 9995/25
Information from Bulgaria, Croatia, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Luxembourg, Romania and Spain, supported by Austria

The Council took note of the information provided by Bulgaria, Croatia, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Luxembourg, Romania and Spain, and supported by Austria.

- g) Current legislative proposals**
(Public deliberation in accordance with Article 16(8) of the Treaty on European Union)

Regulation on plants obtained by certain new genomic techniques and their food and feed products – state of play 9879/25
Information from the Presidency

The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency on the state of play of the examination of, and interinstitutional negotiations on, the proposal.

- h) A joint effort for a future-fit and competitive agriculture - Demands on the availability of effective plant protection methods** 10063/25
Information from Austria, supported by Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Portugal and Slovakia

The Council took note of the information provided by Austria, with the support of Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Portugal and Slovakia.

- i) Special Report of the European Court of Auditors "Food labelling in the European Union"** 10420/25
Information from Bulgaria, Estonia, Finland, the Netherlands and Spain

The Council took note of the information provided by Bulgaria, Estonia, Finland, the Netherlands and Spain.

- j) Conference "Science and Innovation for Resilient Forests"** 9739/25
(Sękocin Stary and Rogów, 28-29 May 2025)
Information from the Presidency

The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency on the Conference.

- k) Conference on Sustainable management of populations of protected animals that cause losses in agriculture (Brussels, 15 May 2025)** 9116/25
Information from the Presidency

The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency on the conference regarding the sustainable management of populations of protected animals that cause losses in agriculture. It also took note of the comments made by delegations.

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- 1** First reading
- C** Item based on a Commission proposal
- 2** Public debate proposed by the Presidency (Article 8(2) of the Council's Rules of Procedure)
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Statement to the legislative "A" item set out in doc. 10197/25

Ad "A" item 2: **Directive amending Directive 2008/98/EC on waste**
*Adoption of the Council's position at first reading and of the statement of
the Council's reasons*

STATEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

“Lithuania supports the targeted revision of the Waste Framework Directive, recognizing its importance in addressing textile and food waste management across the EU. However, we believe that the current compromise text does not sufficiently address the challenges faced by member states experiencing a high influx of second-hand textiles.

In Lithuania, second-hand textiles represent 29% of total textile consumption — significantly higher than the EU average of 7.6%. The exclusion of reuse operators from the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) system overlooks the realities of managing second-hand textiles. Without contributions from commercial reuse operators, the financial responsibility for waste management falls unevenly on producers placing new textiles on the market. This creates an imbalance and hinders the ability of countries with significant second-hand textile markets to fund proper waste management.

While we welcome the inclusion of a review clause, this alone does not provide immediate solutions. Greater flexibility is needed to allow member states facing these challenges to include commercial reuse operators in their EPR systems, ensuring a more equitable distribution of costs and support for effective textile waste management.

Lithuania remains committed to improving the sustainability of textile waste management and urges further consideration of the unique circumstances faced by countries with high volumes of second-hand textiles.”

STATEMENT BY AUSTRIA, BULGARIA, CROATIA, CYPRUS, CZECHIA, FRANCE, GERMANY, HUNGARY, NETHERLANDS, ROMANIA, SLOVAKIA, SPAIN AND SWEDEN

“Recital 47 clearly demonstrates the need for supervision and monitoring of compliance and the ensurement of accuracy, completeness, up-to-datedness and availability regarding information which online platforms receive from traders, relating not only to the obligations under Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 (Digital Services Act) but also to the extended producer responsibility obligations of Directive 2008/98/EC (Waste Framework Directive). Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 does not restrict the Member States from ensuring that EPR obligations under Directive 2008/98/EC are fulfilled, as the Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 supports the enforcement of and compliance with Directive 2008/98/EC. Under certain conditions, providers of online platforms may be held liable if they do not comply with their specific obligations, in particular under Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 and Directive 2008/98/EC. Member States will exercise their respective monitoring powers in full accordance with Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 and Directive 2008/98/EC to ensure compliance by providers of online platforms. In order to ensure compliance, the provider of the online platform must provide sufficient evidence prior to allowing producers to use the services. Particularly, this applies to the verification and securing of registration.

Being aware of the rapidly growing e-commerce market and its consequences outlined in the European Commission’s Communication *A comprehensive EU toolbox for safe and sustainable e-commerce*, we count on the support of the European Commission to tackle this significant challenge. The Waste Framework Directive, which will be revised within the Circular Economy Act, needs to ensure a level playing field and continued environmental protection. We support the inclusion of a more specific obligation in the Waste Framework Directive to ensure that online platforms comply with their obligations under all extended producer responsibility (EPR) regimes.”

Ad "B" item 9:

Regulation on a monitoring framework for resilient European forests
General approach

JOINT STATEMENT BY AUSTRIA, FINLAND, LATVIA, SLOVENIA AND SWEDEN

“Austria, Finland, Latvia, Sweden and Slovenia agree that it is important providing comparable and consistent information on the state and use of forests in the EU in order to contribute to the bio-economy, fighting against climate change, protecting biodiversity and thus strengthening the overall resilience of forests. From the very beginning of the negotiations, Austria, Finland, Latvia, Sweden and Slovenia made clear that the objectives and benefits of a binding legal act must aim at an actual added value at EU level, avoiding additional costs and disproportionate requirements while at the same time taking national circumstances and established national forest monitoring systems fully into account, as part of a bottom up approach. Moreover, the quality and security of forest data must be preserved, especially with regard to sensitive operational data and the necessary protection of the location of the sampling plots of national forest inventories.

Austria, Finland, Latvia, Sweden and Slovenia have established a functioning system of forest monitoring for decades based on a comprehensive forest inventory and interpretation of measurements into information by competent national experts. The successful cooperation between the national forest inventories includes, above all, the harmonization of forest data. EU Member States are equally embedded in the international system of reporting with periodic presentation of the state of forests (namely Forest Resources Assessment and State of Europe’s Forests under the Forest Europe process).

Hard work of this and previous Presidencies resulted in the compromise text, representing a significant improvement compared to the initial proposal and is considered as a step in the right direction. This applies in particular to the bottom-up approach based on national forest data, the deletion of geographically explicit maps, forest units, certain indicators and the omission of provisions relating to forest management plans.

However, there are still several key elements that, from our standpoint, would benefit from additional clarification. This essentially concerns the necessity of a legal act in terms of safeguarding the subsidiarity and proportionality principle, the definition of forests, the need to delete individual indicators such as primary and old-growth forests, as well as the number and scope of delegated acts. The latter is of particular concern, as extensive use of delegated acts could undermine the principle of subsidiarity and shift decisions in competence of Member States away from them. In this context, it should be noted that including delegated acts will not only raise legal concerns, but are also very likely to lead to significant increase of the implementation costs for Member States.

Austria, Finland, Latvia, Sweden and Slovenia assume that the aforementioned issues will be further discussed in the negotiation process ahead and that those key concerns along with additional simplification will be adequately addressed.”

STATEMENT BY THE COMMISSION

“The Commission thanks the Presidency for the efforts made towards agreeing on a General Approach of the Council, acknowledges the progress made by the co-legislators, and reiterates its openness to work on the proposal including on simplification.

However, the Commission expresses concerns in relation to a General Approach based on a significant number of amendments that taken together alter the core elements of the proposal and prevent the achievement of its objectives, therefore depriving it of its *raison d’être*. Indeed, if adopted, these amendments would result in an EU forest monitoring framework that is not fit-for-purpose and would not ensure an adequate level of flexibility to account for future technological progress neither the necessary resilience-building against climate-induced disasters. At the same time, it would lead to greater costs and administrative burden at EU and national level and would not contribute to the objective of making high quality standardised data available across the EU.

First, while the Commission would be open to work with the co-legislators on improving the proposal in relation to indicators, the full deletion of all indicators to be monitored by the Commission through Earth Observation and the deletion of the provision on sharing of raw ground data would **impede the combination of Earth Observation and ground data, affect the quality and accuracy of data**, while the suggested shift of the responsibility for some data collection to the Member States would introduce **unnecessary burden** on them.

Second, the proposed changes would **prevent a mapping** of EU-wide forest data, limiting the added value of the Regulation compared to existing international reporting frameworks, diminishing the simplification potential of map use by forest actors and stakeholders envisioned by the proposal.

Third, the structural deletion of the minimum frequency of data collection, of accuracy standards and of a data quality assessment process would **undermine the objective of providing timely and reliable forest data** in the EU.

Finally, by fully deleting all resilience-related indicators, the proposal would fail to advance real-time monitoring of **climate impacts on EU forests and improve the understanding on the interplay between management, diversity and resilience**.

The Commission hopes that its main concerns can be addressed in the course of the legislative procedure. If the current draft Council position were to be confirmed by the co-legislators, the Commission might consider withdrawing the proposal.”