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NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations
Subject: Women in agriculture
- Exchange of views

Delegations will find in the Annex a Presidency note for the exchange of views on the above-mentioned subject during the Council meeting ('Agriculture and Fisheries') on 13 July 2026.

Women in agriculture

As the United Nations marks 2026 as the International Year of the Woman Farmer, this agenda item provides an opportunity to reflect on the changing role of women in agriculture and on their contribution to the future of the sector. While women are essential to farming, food production and rural communities, their contributions are too often under-recognised and they remain under-represented in leadership and decision-making.

The discussion provides an opportunity for Member States to explore how the agri-food sector can become more inclusive, resilient and sustainable by addressing barriers to participation, supporting the next generation of women in farming, and ensuring that talent, innovation and leadership can thrive regardless of gender.

Guiding questions

- How can we build on existing progress to advance women's participation, visibility and formal recognition in the agri-food sector?
 - What specific practical steps or alternative pathways could be introduced to ensure that women farmers have equal access and opportunity when it comes to purchasing, inheriting or establishing a farm enterprise?
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