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NOTE

From:	Presidency
To:	Special Committee on Agriculture
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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 *- Eco-schemes: Recognition of efforts for climate and environment in the second pillar*

With a view to the meeting of the Special Committee on Agriculture on 5 October 2020, delegations will find in the Annex a Presidency paper on the recognition of efforts for climate and environment in the second pillar in relation to a minimum budget for eco-schemes.

ANNEX

Presidency Paper

Eco-schemes: Recognition of efforts for climate and environment in the second pillar

For the "Agriculture and Fisheries" Council meeting on 21 September, the Austrian delegation tabled a suggestion (10934/20) that would help recognise Member States' efforts for climate and environment in the second pillar should a minimum budget for eco-schemes be introduced. A number of Member States showed interest in the Austrian approach, including at Special Committee on Agriculture on 28 September 2020, where the Austrian delegation explained their idea in depth.

The Presidency agrees with the general idea of taking into account expenditure for environmental and climate purposes in the second pillar when determining the level of expenditure for eco-schemes. However, the Presidency is of the opinion that some adjustments to the Austrian proposal are necessary:

- Only the total EAFRD contribution reserved for interventions in accordance with Article 65 exceeding 30% should be counted;
- This amount shall be deducted one Euro for each Euro from the indicative financial allocation for eco-schemes.

Drafting suggestion on Article 86[*]:

"6c. Where the total EAFRD contribution for the respective calendar year referred to in paragraphs 6a and 6b reserved for interventions in accordance with Article 65 exceeds 30 %, Member States may decide to take into account the exceeding amount of the financial allocation for those interventions in the calculation of the indicative financial allocation referred to in paragraph 6a or in the calculation of the amount referred to in paragraph 6b.

[*] Due to the short notice, the Council Legal Service did not yet have the opportunity to scrutinise the drafting suggestions.

In such a case, the exceeding amount referred to in the first subparagraph shall be deducted from the indicative financial allocation set out in accordance with paragraph 6a or from the amount referred to in paragraph 6b."