



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 10 July 2024
(OR. en)

11600/24
PV CONS 40
AGRI 541
PECHE 264

DRAFT MINUTES
COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
(Agriculture and Fisheries)
24 June 2024

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Council adopted the agenda set out in document 11159/24.

Non-legislative activities

FISHERIES

2. Communication on Sustainable fishing in the EU: state of play and orientations for 2025 10679/24

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 2025 and held an exchange of views.

3. Approval of ‘A’ items

(a) Non-legislative list 11413/24

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

A statement to these items is set out in the Addendum.

(b) Legislative list (public deliberation in accordance with Article 16(8) of the Treaty on European Union) 11414/24

Agriculture and Fisheries

1. Decision setting up a Standing Forestry Committee 10896/24 + ADD 1

General approach + COR 1
approved by Coreper, Part 1, on 14 June 2024 FORETS

The Council reached a general approach on the compromise text proposed by the Presidency.


A statement to this item is set out in the Annex.

Non-legislative activities

AGRICULTURE



4. Conclusions on the future of agriculture in the EU 11247/24
Approval

Any other business

5. (a) **Impact of Russia's actions in the Baltic Sea and on the EU single market**  11392/24
Information from the Lithuanian, Estonian, Latvian and Swedish delegations

The Council took note of the information provided by the Estonian, Latvian, Lithuanian and Swedish delegations as set out in the document above on the impact of Russia's actions in the Baltic Sea and the EU single market. The Council also took note of the Commission's and delegations' comments.

- (b) Future development of fisheries relations between the European Union and Norway 11266/1/24 REV 1
Information from the German delegation, on behalf of the German, Belgian, Spanish, Estonian, French, Irish, Latvian, Netherlands, Polish, Portuguese, and Swedish delegations

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

- (i) **Regulation on a monitoring framework for resilient European forests - state of play** 10843/24

The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency on the progress of work on the proposal for a Regulation on a monitoring framework for resilient European forests.

The Council also took note of the comments made by some delegations on this subject, as well as of the intervention by the Commission.

(ii) Regulation on plant reproductive material - state of play

11142/24

The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency on the progress of work on the proposals for a Regulation on plant and forest reproductive material.

The Council also took note of the comments made by some delegations on this subject, as well as of the intervention by the Commission.

(iii) Regulation on forest reproductive material (FRM) - state of play

11145/24

Item 5 (c) (iii) was taken together with item 5 (c) (ii)

(iv) Regulation on the protection of animals during transport - state of play


11420/24

Information from the Presidency

The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency on the progress of work on the proposal for a Regulation on the protection of animals during transport.

The Council also took note of the comments made by some delegations on this subject, as well as of the intervention by the Commission.


(d) Symposium: experiences and perspectives on front-of-pack nutrition labelling systems
(Brussels, 25 April 2024) - outcome
Information from the Presidency

 11109/24

The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency on the outcome of the symposium on experiences and perspectives on front-of-pack nutrition labelling systems.

The Council also took note of the comments made by some of the delegations on this subject, as well as of the intervention by the Commission.


(e) Introducing the eligibility of expenses related to the purchase of breeding animals within the CAP Strategic Plans

 10168/24 + COR 1

Information from the Romanian delegation

The Council took note of the information provided by the Romanian delegation. It also took note of the comments made by some other delegations on this subject, as well as the intervention of the Commission.


(f) Measures to prevent loss of funds and reduce the administrative burden in the management of EAFRD funds

 11217/24

Information from the Bulgarian delegation on behalf of the Bulgarian, Czech, Greek, Lithuanian, Romanian and Slovak delegations

The Council took note of the information provided by the Bulgarian delegation on behalf of the Bulgarian, Czech, Greek, Lithuanian, Romanian and Slovak delegations. It also took note of delegations' comments as well as of the intervention of the Commission.

(g) Call to abolish or increase the individual limit of an enterprise in primary agricultural production under the Temporary Crisis and Transition Framework for State Aid

 11353/24

Information from the Bulgarian delegation, on behalf of the Bulgarian and Romanian delegations, and supported by the Polish delegation

The Council took note of the information provided by the Bulgarian delegation on behalf of the Bulgarian and Romanian delegations and with the support of the Polish delegation. It also took note of the Commission's reply and the comments made by some delegations.

(h) Significant damage to agricultural areas due to adverse weather conditions 11319/24
Information from the Croatian delegation

The Council took note of the information provided by the Croatian delegation. It also took note of the Commission's reply and the comments made by some delegations.

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- 1 First reading
 - 2 Public debate proposed by the Presidency (Article 8(2) of the Council's Rules of Procedure)
 - C Item based on a Commission proposal
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Statements to the legislative "A" items set out in doc. 11414/24**Ad "A" item 1:** **Decision setting up a Standing Forestry Committee**
*General approach***STATEMENT BY THE COMMISSION**

“The Commission expresses serious concerns on the General Approach with regard to changes which put into question the aim and purpose of the proposal. Three changes in particular distort the Commission’s proposal and are therefore red lines for us. The Commission hopes that its main concerns can be rectified in the course of the legislative procedure, otherwise the Commission will need to consider whether or not to withdraw its proposal.

First, a Commission Expert Group has an advisory purpose. In line with the principle of institutional and administrative autonomy and the Inter-institutional agreement on better law-making of 2016, the Commission is entitled to decide if and when to consult the experts depending on the topics it needs the advice on, except for the preparation of draft delegated acts.

Second, which services will represent the Commission is an internal decision emerging from its institutional and administrative autonomy.

Third, the Commission underlines that it cannot and does not intend to impose to Member States which representatives must attend. However, the composition of the group should ensure that it can live up to its intended role and mandate so that it can provide the necessary expertise to the Commission directly in the expert meetings. This should cover all relevant EU policy matters pertaining to forests and forestry including the implementation and follow-up of the EU Forest Strategy for 2030. This would not only support the Commission in ensuring coherence and consistency in related policy-making but also strengthen the Standing Forestry Committee (SFC) as central advisory body on forest and forestry related matters, allowing Member States to express their views fully.

Furthermore, the Commission also observes that the name of “committee” should be avoided and replaced with “expert group”, for reasons of better regulation, clarity and consistency. If the 1989 Council decision is repealed, the group established by this Decision is a Commission Expert Group which should be set up by the Commission.”
