



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 15 September 2023  
(OR. en)

12823/23  
CRS CSA 17

**SUMMARY RECORD**  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE  
11 September 2023

## SUMMARY

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1. **Adoption of the agenda** 12709/23

The agenda was adopted.

**Non-discussion items (I)**

2. **Summary record of the 1699th meeting of the SCA** 12823/23

The SCA approved the summary record.

**Discussion items (II)**

3. **Trade-related agricultural issues**

*Information from the Commission*

*Preparation of the Council debate*

The SCA took note of the information provided by the Commission, of the views expressed by delegations, and of the information provided by the Presidency on the organisation of the upcoming ministerial discussion. The Presidency would continue to regularly invite the Commission to update the SCA on any developments in agricultural trade, trade negotiations, and other related issues.

4. **Directive on soil health: Protecting, sustainably managing and restoring EU soils - Agricultural aspects**  12650/23

*Information from the Commission*

*Preparation of the Council debate*

The SCA took note of the information provided by the Commission on the agricultural aspects of the proposal for a Directive on soil health. It also took note of the information from the Presidency on the organisation of the upcoming Council debate on this point, as well as of delegations' comments and questions.

5. **Regulation to convert the Farm Accountancy Data Network (FADN) into a Farm Sustainability Data Network (FSDN)** **①C** 12194/23  
*Analysis of the final compromise text with a view to agreement*

The SCA approved the text as set out in the annex to document 12194/23. The SCA also authorised the Presidency to send a letter to the European Parliament informing it that a first reading agreement could be reached on the Commission's proposal, provided that Parliament agreed to adopt its position in the form of that text. It took note of the Commission's statement concerning the no-opinion clause (set out in the annex to this summary record).

6. **A Long-Term Vision for the EU's Rural Areas (LTVRA):** 12616/23  
**Shaping the future of EU's rural areas**  
*Preparation of the Council debate*

The SCA took note of the information provided by the Presidency on the organisation of the upcoming Council debate on this point, as well as of the information provided by the Commission and of delegations' comments and questions.

#### **Any other business**

7. **Organisation of future work**

The Presidency informed the SCA about the "Agriculture and Fisheries" Council meeting on 18 September 2023.

As regards that Council meeting, the Greek delegation requested an item under "any other business" on the Climate crisis and devastating natural disasters in Greece.

The SCA subsequently agreed that this item would be held in public session in accordance with article 8(2) of the rules of procedure of the Council.

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- ①** First reading  
**C** Item based on a Commission proposal

**STATEMENT**

**Ad item 5:**                    **Regulation to convert the Farm Accountancy Data Network (FADN)  
into a Farm Sustainability Data Network (FSDN)**  
*Analysis of the final compromise text with a view to agreement*

**STATEMENT BY THE COMMISSION**

“The Commission underlines that it is contrary to the letter and to the spirit of Regulation 182/2011 (OJ L 55 of 28.2.2011, p. 13) to invoke Article 5(4), subparagraph 2, point b), in a systematic manner. Recourse to this provision must respond to a specific need to depart from the rule of principle, which is that the Commission may adopt a draft implementing act when no opinion is delivered. Given that it is an exception to the general rule established by Article 5(4), recourse to subparagraph 2, point b), cannot be simply seen as a discretionary power of the Legislator, but must be interpreted in a restrictive manner and thus must be justified.”

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