



Council of the
European Union

**Brussels, 14 November 2014
(OR. en)**

15314/14

CRS CSA 21

SUMMARY RECORD

Subject: 1493rd meeting of the Special Committee on Agriculture (SCA) held in
Brussels on 3 November 2014

SUMMARY

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1. **Adoption of the agenda**
14845/14 OJ CSA 21

The agenda was approved.

I

2. **Summary record of the 1492nd meeting of the SCA**
14564/14 CRS CSA 20

The SCA approved the summary record.

II

3. **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on organic production and labelling of organic products, amending Regulation (EU) No XXX/XXX of the European Parliament and of the Council [Official controls Regulation] and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007**
– Presidency compromise text
14760/14 AGRILEG 208 CODEC 2099

The Committee had a round table to grasp views and political orientations from delegations on the main issues highlighted by the Presidency compromise text.

Almost all delegations welcomed the Presidency compromise text, confirming that good progress had been made, that it was heading in the right direction and encouraging the pursuit of the work on this dossier. However, a number of delegations considered that the Presidency compromise text should still provide more flexibility to ensure the sustainable growth of the organic sector (e.g. by maintaining the possibility to set mixed farms, to use non organic seeds). Moreover, some member States asked the Italian Presidency to discuss compromise text at the expert level.

The Commission also welcomed the Presidency compromise text which was ambitious, and assured delegations that the new Commissioner was ready to have a "fresh look" at the proposal. The Commission representative also indicated its willingness to show some flexibility in order to move forward rapidly on this dossier.

The Council Legal Service explained that the original Commission proposal raised serious concerns as regards the structure of the text and the use of delegated acts, and took the view that the Presidency's redrafted compromise text represented in this respect a step in the right direction.

The Presidency concluded that it would table this dossier at a next SCA in light of the views expressed by delegations.

4. **State aid in the Republic of Cyprus in the form of a tax exemption on motor fuel used for agricultural purposes**

- Exchange of views
13778/14 AGRI 606

The SCA took note of the request of the Cyprus delegation, of the Commission representative's and delegations' comments and reservations. The Presidency would reflect on how best to handle this item at the "Agriculture and Fisheries" Council meeting on 10-11 November 2014.

5. **Any other business**

(a) **Small farmers towards simplification (Workshop, Rome, 3 October 2014)**

- Information from the Presidency
14939/14 AGRI 668 AGRIORG 149

The SCA took note of the information provided by the Presidency on the workshop on small farmers set out in document 14939/14, as well as of the comments from delegations and from the Commission representative.

(b) **New rules on qualified majority vote**

- Oral information from the Council Legal Service

The SCA took note of the information provided by the Council Legal Service concerning the new rules on qualified majority vote applicable as from 1st November 2014.

6. **Organization of future work**

The Presidency informed the SCA on the preparation of the "Agriculture and Fisheries" Council meeting on 10-11 November 2014. On the item relating to the Amending Letter No 1 to the draft general budget for 2015, the Presidency consulted the Committee on the possible tabling of draft Council conclusions. It took note of delegations' comments, scrutiny reservations and parliamentary scrutiny reservations and would reflect on how best to handle this item at the Council meeting on 10-11 November 2014.