



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 19 November 2012

16117/12

CRS CSA 27

SUMMARY RECORD

**Subject : 1444th meeting of the Special Committee on Agriculture (SCA)
held in Brussels on 12 November 2012**

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1. **Adoption of the provisional agenda**

15868/12 OJ CSA 27

The agenda was approved.

I

2. **Summary record of the 1443rd meeting of the SCA**

15775/12 CRS CSA 26

The SCA approved the summary record.

II

3. **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing rules for direct payments to farmers under support schemes within the framework of the common agricultural policy**

- Small Farmers

- Greening

- *Orientation debate*

14149/1/12 REV 1 AGRI 616 AGRIFIN 170 CODEC 2213

15874/12 AGRI 731 AGRIORG 179 CODEC 2596

4. **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financing, management and monitoring of the common agricultural policy (horizontal regulation)**

- Greening penalties

- *Orientation debate*

15854/12 AGRI 729 AGRISTR 149 AGRIORG 178 AGRIFIN 207 CODEC 2590

Items 3 and 4 were discussed together.

Small farmer payment

The SCA considered the suggested Presidency amendments concerning the small farmer payment as set out in doc. 14149/1/12 REV 1. The SCA noted the Presidency's summary, the main elements of which were as follows:

- There was considerable support for the Presidency's suggested amendments to the calculation method as a step in the right direction.
- Delegations' comments on other aspects of the scheme, their scrutiny reserves, as well as the comments from the Commission representative were noted.

- The outcome of this discussion would be reflected in the preparations towards Council reaching a partial general approach.

Greening and greening penalties

The SCA considered the suggested Presidency amendments to the greening provisions as set out in doc. 15874/12, along with the Presidency note on penalties for non-compliance with greening requirements as set out in doc. 15854/12.

The SCA noted the Presidency's summary, the main elements of which were as follows:

- The views expressed were to be considered as preliminary, the scrutiny reserves of many delegations were noted, as were the requests for further discussion on other aspects of greening, including the Ecological Focus Areas in Article 32.
- While there was some support for the suggestion to partially de-link the greening payment from the basic payment while allowing greening penalties to go beyond the greening payment, requests for clarification and suggestions for improvement were noted.
- While a large number of delegations considered that a mount of any greening penalty should not be higher than the total greening payment amount, some delegations acknowledged that this could be the case for serious infringements.
- On the issue of equivalence, there was broad support for the suggested approach to recognise that the greening requirements could also be considered to be fulfilled by farmers participating in either second-pillar Agri-Environment/Climate Schemes or national or regional Environmental Certification Schemes, provided such schemes would generate at least equivalent benefits for the environment and/or for the climate as the greening practices proposed by the Commission.

- On the issue of "green by definition" in relation to permanent grassland, a large number of delegations could go along with the Presidency's suggestion that farms with at least 75% of permanent grassland or land used for growing grass or other herbaceous forage should be considered as "green by definition". Some delegations preferred a lower rate than 75%.
- On the maintenance of permanent grassland, the approach suggested by the Presidency was broadly supported as a step in the right direction.

The SCA also noted delegations' other comments and the comments made by the Commission representative, as well as the Presidency's invitation to delegations to send their written contributions to the Council Secretariat by 14 November 2012 close of business with a view to coming back to this issue at a next meeting.

5. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down specific measures for agriculture in the outermost regions of the Union

- *Preparation for the next informal trilogue*
15717/12 AGRI 721 POSEICAN 8 POSEIDOM 9 POSEIMA 9 CODEC 2562

The SCA has approved the mandate for the Presidency for the third trilogue.

6. Proposal for a Regulation (EU) No .../ of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down specific measures in favour of agriculture in the smaller Aegean islands

- *Preparation for the next informal trilogue*
15589/12 AGRISTR 144 CODEC 2518 AGRIORG 174 AGRIFIN 199 REGIO 116

The SCA has approved the mandate for the Presidency for the third trilogue.

7. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the definition, description, presentation, labelling and the protection of geographical indications of aromatised wine products

- *Oral debriefing on the second trilogue*

The SCA took note of the information given by the Presidency on the outcome of the second informal trilogue that took place on 7 November 2012 and on its intention to return at the SCA for a possible adjusted mandate after the third trilogue.

8. - **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financing, management and monitoring of the common agricultural policy (horizontal regulation)**
- **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing rules for direct payments to farmers under support schemes within the framework of the common agricultural policy**
- **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural development (EAFRD)**
- **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products (Single CMO Regulation) (CAP Reform)**
- European Data Protection Supervisor
15665/12 AGRI 717 AGRISTR 146 AGRIORG 176 AGRIFIN 202 CODEC 2543
15982/12 AGRI 735 AGRISTR 151 CODEC 2613

The SCA took note of the texts of the provisions concerning the processing and protection of personal data in the horizontal, rural development, direct payments and Single CMO Regulations and will come back to this issue at its next meeting.

9. **A.O.B.**

Nomination of members of the Steering Board for the European Innovation Partnership on Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability

The Presidency informed the SCA about its proposal for the list of three Ministers to be nominated to the Steering Board for the European Innovation Partnership on Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability. Delegations were invited to send comments on the proposed list until Wednesday 15 November close of business.

The SCA agreed to come back to this issue at its next meeting.

10. **Organisation of future work**

The Presidency informed the SCA on the preparation of its next meetings on 19 and 20 November 2012.