

Brussels, 17 January 2025
(OR. en)

17138/24

LIMITE

PROBA 43
AGRI 902
DEVGEN 215
FORETS 276
WTO 155

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Outcome of proceedings of the Working Party on Commodities (PROBA) on 13 December 2024

DOCUMENT PARTIALLY ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC (29.07.2025)

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as it appears in CM 5320/24.

2. Tropical Timber

- *Debrief on the 60th session of the International Tropical Timber Council (ITTC 60) (Yokohama, Japan, 2-6 December 2024)*

The Commission debriefed about ITTC 60 and highlighted the focus on traceability. The mandate of the Executive Director was extended until January 2028; the term of the preparatory working group to work on the possible extension of the ITTA (to be addressed in 2029) was also extended. ITTC 61 will take place in Panama. The Commission underlined the excellent EU cooperation on the spot, notably through daily coordination. Also to be noted: the EU regulation on deforestation was discussed quite extensively in corridors.

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3. **DELETED**

PUBLIC

4. Common Fund for Commodities

- *Debrief on the 36th CFC Annual Meeting of the Governing Council (11-12 December 2024)*

Sweden debriefed about the 36th annual meeting of the Governing Council of the CFC, highlighting the adoption of the budget for 2025 and of several amendments to the 2024 agreement. These amendments will enter into force in January 2026. **DELETED**

One Member State referred to a proposed MoU between the CFC and the International Research Institute for Advanced Systems (IRIAS) and requested a discussion ahead of the next Executive Board meeting in March 2025, with a view to define a clear EU position.

5. PROBA handbook

- *Feedback and discussion*

The Presidency referred to its proposals regarding the handbook as presented at the beginning of its term (WK 13738 2023 REV 4) and stressed that the handbook is not legally binding but only a compendium of good practices, and therefore useful to enhance the Working Party's working methods. As the annual revision date is approaching, the incoming Polish presidency was invited to take this work forward. One Member State asked that a glossary of acronyms be prepared.

6. Sugar

- *Debrief on the 65th ISO Council Session, including MECAS and Administrative Committee (28-29 November 2024)*
- *Presentation of the Commission's proposal for the procedure to nominate the EU candidate for the position of Executive Director of the ISO*

The Commission briefed delegations on the outcomes of the 65th ISO Council Session, including the MECAS and Administrative Committee decisions. The 65th ISO Council decisions can be found in WK 15658 2024 INIT, the 65th ISO Council report in WK 15954 2024 INIT, and the 100th Administrative Committee decisions in WK 15391 2024 INIT.

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The Presidency presented a tentative timeframe for the procedure for nominating the EU candidate for the position of executive director of the ISO.

7. Grains

- *Debrief on the IGC Administrative Committee (11 December 2024)*
- *Preparation for the 61st IGC Council session*

The Commission briefed delegations on the outcomes of the IGC Administrative Committee meeting and presented the state of preparations for the 61st IGC Council session. The agenda of the 61st IGC Council session can be found in WK 16093 2025 INIT.

8. Olive Oil

- *Debrief on the 120th session of the Council of Members of the International Olive Council: Information by the Commission on the draft decision DEC-III. X/120-VI/2024 of the International Olive Council revising the Trade Standard applying to olive oils and olive pomace-oils*

The Commission briefed delegations on the outcomes of the 120th session of the Council of Members of the International Olive Council. The decisions of the 120th sessions can be found in WK 15750 2024 INIT.

The Commission also provided an update on draft decision DEC-III. X/120-VI/2024 as outlined in WK 15450 2024 INIT. The decision is currently being discussed at technical level within the dedicated Commission expert group for agricultural markets, in particular concerning aspects falling under the single CMO regulation – arable crops and olive oil. It is expected that by the end of April 2025 PROBA will receive a related proposal for a Council Decision on a position to be taken in the International Olive Council on the revision of the Trade standard for olive oil and olive-pomace oil.

Delegations requested further clarifications and one delegation provided comments as outlined in WK 16181 2024 INIT.

9. AOB
