



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 31 January 2022
(OR. fr)

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DRAFT MINUTES
COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
(Agriculture and Fisheries)
17 January 2022

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AGRICULTURE

4. Trade-related agricultural issues

5152/22

Information from the Commission

Exchange of views

The Council conducted a strategic discussion on the direction of EU trade relations and negotiations with third countries in the area of agriculture and in the framework of the preparation of the WTO's twelfth ministerial conference.

Once again, the Council noted the need to maintain an appropriate balance between three key elements: establishing solid trade relations at bilateral and multilateral level; maintaining a sustainable and resilient agricultural sector in the EU that can safeguard the Union's food security; and, following on from the European Green Deal, ensuring the successful transition of our food system.

In this regard, it is important to ensure greater coherence between trade policy, the CAP and the Green Deal, while fully respecting the commitments taken by the European Union within the international trading system and towards partner countries.

The Council will return to this issue, in particular to the issue of the reciprocity of trade agreements, at its upcoming meetings in February and March.

The Council also took note of the information from the Polish delegation on the potential negative effects of the embargo imposed by Belarus on the imports of a number of agri-food products, including apples, as set out in 5177/22.

5. Market situation 5153/22
Information from the Commission
Exchange of views

The Council took note of the information from the Commission on the situation on the main agricultural markets, and of the questions and requests presented in the delegations' comments. The Council also took note of the information from the Czech delegation on the pigmeat sector, as set out in 5176/22.

The Member States referred to the effects of various factors and uncertainties affecting the EU agri-food sector, including the high cost of agriculture inputs, in particular energy, fertiliser and feed, but also unfavourable weather conditions, veterinary diseases, trade embargoes and other uncertainties related to our trading relations with third countries.

In addition, the Council took note of the Commission's response to Member States' comments and requests. It requests that the Commission report at the next SCA meeting on the measures that could be taken to respond to the current situation.

Any other business

Agriculture

6. (d) Potential negative effects of the embargo imposed by Belarus on the imports of a number of agri-food products, including apples 5177/22
Information from the Polish delegation

Item 6(d) was addressed under item 4.

(e) Continuing critical situation in the pig sector in the Czech Republic – request for introducing exceptional EU support measures 5176/22
Information from the Czech delegation

Item 6(e) was addressed under item 5.

Statements relating to the non-legislative 'A' items set out in 5182/22

Ad 'A' item 11:

Commission Regulation (EU) .../... of XXX amending Annex XIV to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH)

Decision not to oppose adoption

STATEMENT BY GERMANY

‘Regarding the German translation:

Germany assumes that the German translation will be amended as follows:

- - Recital 3, first sentence: ‘... wissenschaftlich nachgewiesenermaßen wahrscheinlich schwerwiegende Wirkungen...’ replaced by ‘... nach wissenschaftlichen Erkenntnissen wahrscheinlich schwerwiegende Wirkungen ...’
- - Recital 15, fourth sentence: ‘... durch die Verordnung (EU) 2019/1021 des Europäischen Parlaments und des Rates eingeschränkt werden.’ replaced by ‘... durch die Verordnung (EU) 2019/1021 des Europäischen Parlaments und des Rates beschränkt werden.’
- - Recital 17, second sentence: ‘... bei denen wissenschaftlich nachgewiesen ist, dass er wahrscheinlich schwerwiegende Auswirkungen auf die menschliche Gesundheit und die Umwelt hat.’ replaced by ‘... die nach wissenschaftlichen Erkenntnissen wahrscheinlich schwerwiegende Auswirkungen auf die menschliche Gesundheit und die Umwelt haben.’
- - Recital 17, fifth sentence: ‘...um die Verwendung von Bisphenol A und strukturell verwandten Bisphenolen ... einzuschränken.’ replaced by ‘...um die Verwendung von Bisphenol A und strukturell verwandten Bisphenolen ... zu beschränken.’