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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
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Subject:	Regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 (CMO) as regards the school scheme, sectoral interventions, the protein sector, hemp, marketing standards, import duties, the availability of supplies and securities - Presidency suggested amendments on Block 1, regarding the EU school scheme and grading methods for pigmeat

With a view to the meeting of the Working Party on Agricultural Products on 18 March 2026, delegations will find in annex the Presidency suggested amendments on Block 1, regarding the EU school scheme and grading methods for pigmeat, of the above proposal.

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Presidency compromise suggestions for block 1

22	(10) The aid for the supply of fruit and vegetables and of milk and milk products in educational establishments**, covering nurseries, pre-schools, primary and secondary level educational establishments,** laid down in Part II, Title I, Chapter II, of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 ('EU school scheme') has proven to be effective in increasing the consumption of selected agricultural products. In order to contribute to achieving the CAP objectives, the EU school scheme should be continued. However, in order to increase its effectiveness and to ensure coherence with other CAP instruments, the EU school scheme should be based on delivery of performance and should be implemented as a type of intervention supported by the Fund. The Union should set the basic policy parameters, such as the objectives of the EU school scheme and its basic requirements, while Member States should bear greater responsibility as to how they meet the objectives and achieve targets. Enhanced subsidiarity makes it possible to better take into account local conditions and needs. Rules laid down in Regulations (EU) .../... [NRPF Regulation] and (EU) …/… [Performance Regulation] should apply to the EU school scheme, as complemented by this Regulation. The EU school scheme being a market intervention measure, the specific rules on the type of intervention should be laid down in Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013.

23	(11) The objective of the EU school scheme is to reconnect children with agriculture and increase healthy eating habits. As children from vulnerable groups are more prone to have unhealthy diets, Member States should be given the possibility to focus on these groups according to socio-economic considerations. In order to reduce the intake of free sugars**, as defined by the World Health Organization,** and fats by schoolchildren, the distribution of products high in free sugars and fats should be limited. In order to raise awareness of children of the variety of products that are cultivated in the Union as well as their different qualities, the distribution of products originating in the Union should be prioritised combined with criteria linked to higher environmental and social sustainability standards. Member States should ensure the implementation of ~~awareness raising measures~~**accompanying awareness-raising activities** on certain topics. To avoid duplicates, the national curriculum can be used instead of the EU school scheme. In view of the

	increased concern over processed foods and products potentially high in added sugars, which do not meet children's nutritional needs, it is appropriate to exclude those products from the EU school scheme.

50	(38) Section B, point IV, of Annex IV to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 lays down that the grading methods to assess the lean-meat content for the purposes of the Union scale for the classification of pig carcasses are to be authorised by the Commission. Considering that the pig grading methods to assess the lean-meat content are authorised per Member State, for the sake of simplicity and reduction of administrative burden, the grading methods should be authorised by Member States instead of the Commission**, under the common peer-review procedure, supervised by the Commission, established in Commission Delegated Regulation EU 2017/1182**.

57	Article 1 Amendments to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013

58	Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 is amended as follows:

89	(10) in Part II, Title I, Chapter II is deleted;

90	(11) in Article 23a, the following paragraph is inserted:

91	‘ 1a. In school year 2027/2028, the aid under the school scheme allocated for the distribution of products, the accompanying educational measures and the related costs referred to in Article 23(1) shall not exceed EUR ~~90 001 722,9~~**92 001 722,9 for the period from 1 August to 31 December 2027**.; ’

92	(12) in Part II, Title I, the following Chapter is inserted:
93	‘ CHAPTER IIa
94	Types of interventions referred to in Regulation (EU) .../... [NRPF Regulation]
95	Section 1
96	General provisions
102	Section 2
103	EU school scheme
104	Article 27
105	Scope and general rules
106	1. This Section lays down rules concerning the types of interventions in the NRP Plans to support the distribution of agricultural products to children in educational establishments in order to increase the consumption of selected agricultural products and to improve children's eating habits (‘EU school scheme’).

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107	2. The participants in the EU school scheme shall be children attending educational establishments**, including early childhood education,** which are administered or recognised by the Member States' competent authorities.
108	Member States shall establish in their NRP Plans the eligibility criteria for participants in the EU school scheme. In cases where Member States consider it necessary for the attainment of the objectives of the school scheme, they may focus on certain age group or prioritise certain groups of children according to socio-economic considerations.
109	3. Member States shall establish in their NRP Plans the categories of beneficiaries of the interventions in the EU school scheme which shall be selected among educational establishments or authorities, organisations acting on their behalf, suppliers, or any other public or private **law** bodies involved in the management or provision of any of the types of interventions referred to in paragraph 4.
110	4. Member States shall establish and provide support for interventions based on the following types of interventions under the conditions laid down in this Section and as further specified in their NRP Plans:
111	(a) supply and distribution of agricultural products;
112	(b) **accompanying** awareness-raising ~~measures~~**activities**.
113	5. Member States shall ensure that educational establishments participating in the EU school scheme publicise, at **least at** school premises ~~and other relevant places~~, their involvement in the EU school scheme and the fact that it is subsidised by the Union. Member States shall provide for the use of any suitable publicity tools, which may include posters, dedicated websites, informative graphic material, and information and awareness-raising campaigns. The Union emblem and funding statement shall be used in accordance with Annex V to Regulation (EU) …/... [Performance Regulation].

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114	6. Member States shall report under the data set related to the operation referred to in Article 63(1) [Data collection and recording], point (e), of Regulation (EU) …/… [NRPF] about the funds used for the supply and distribution of each of the product groups listed in Article 28(1) of this Regulation and for the ~~awareness raising interventions~~**accompanying awareness-raising activities** referred to in Article 29 of this Regulation, **additionally** the number of educational establishments and of children participating in the EU school scheme, the average portion size and the number of delivered portions, the quantities of products supplied broken down by product groups and by organic products, and if applicable, of products referred to in Article 29(2) of this Regulation, and the **accompanying** awareness-raising ~~interventions~~**activities** implemented.
115	Article 28
116	Supply and distribution of agricultural products
117	1. Only the following products shall be eligible for supply and distribution under the EU school scheme:
118	(a) fruit and vegetables listed in Part IX of Annex I;
119	(b) processed fruit and vegetable products listed in Part X **of Annex I**;
120	(c) fresh bananas, excluding plantains, within CN code 0803 90;
121	(d) drinking milk, cheese, curd, yoghurt and other fermented or acidified milk products without added flavouring, fruit, nuts or cocoa listed in Part XVI of Annex I.

122	2. Products distributed under the EU school scheme shall not contain more than 10 % of free sugars or more than ~~30 % fats~~**35 % fats, except for nuts**.
123	3. Products distributed under the EU school scheme shall not contain any of the following:
124	(a) added sugars;
125	(b) added salt;
126	(c) added fat;
127	(d) added sweeteners;
128	(e) added artificial flavour enhancers E 620 to E 650 as defined in Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council*.
129	Notwithstanding the first subparagraph of this paragraph, Member States may, after obtaining the appropriate authorisation from their authorities responsible for health and nutrition in accordance with their national procedures, decide that eligible products referred to in paragraph 1, points (b) and (d), may contain limited quantities of added sugar, added salt and/or added fat, which are necessary to process products and define the maximum daily intakes.
130	4. Member States shall prioritise the distribution of products of ~~either~~**one** or both of the following groups:

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131	(a) ~~seasonal~~ fresh fruit and vegetables;
132	(b) ~~skimmed or semi-skimmed~~ unsweetened drinking milk and lactose-free versions thereof.
133	5. Member States shall, taking into account national circumstances, prioritise the distribution of products originating in the Union and one or more of the following:
134	(a) products with low climate footprint;
135	(b) products which are certified according to organic production standards**, according to Regulation (EU) 2018/848**;
136	(c) products which are contained in sustainable packaging;
137	(d) products which have been produced in compliance with animal welfare standards or practices which are higher than those provided for in Union legislation;
138	(e) products which are **seasonal,** locally produced and marketed through short supply chains;
139	(f) products which originate from small farms as determined by Member States;
140	(g) products which comply with fair-trade production standards~~.~~**;**
140a	**(ga) products recognised under the quality schemes established by Regulation (EU) 2024/1143.**

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141	6. Member States shall establish in their NRP Plans the list of products that may be supplied and distributed and the prioritisation criteria. **When setting the prioritisation criteria, Member States shall take into account relevant EU rules and standards.**
142	7. Products distributed under the EU school scheme:
143	(a) shall not be used in the preparation of the regular school meals;
144	(b) shall not replace products that are part of the regular school meals through the financial contribution from public and/or private entities, except where educational establishments distribute regular school meals free of charge;
145	(c) should remain at all times clearly recognisable as part of the EU school scheme, through suitable communication and publicity measures.
146	Member States shall ensure the added value of the EU school scheme in relation to the provision of other meals in educational establishments.
147	Article 29
148	**Accompanying** awareness-raising ~~interventions~~ **activities**

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149	1. The **accompanying** awareness-raising ~~interventions~~**activities** shall be directly linked to the objectives of the EU school scheme of increasing the consumption of selected agricultural products and improving children's eating habits.
150	They shall be aimed at reconnecting children with agriculture and the variety of Union agricultural products, particularly those produced in their region, and raising awareness about related issues, such as healthy eating habits, local food chains, organic farming, sustainable food production and consumption and combating food waste.
151	2. In addition to the products supplied and distributed as provided for in Article 28, Member States may provide for the tasting of other agricultural products listed in Annex I.
152	3. Member States shall ensure that all the children participating in the EU school scheme can take part in **accompanying** awareness-raising ~~interventions~~**activities**.
153	Member States may decide to take the regular school curriculum or other policies or programmes into account for the purpose of complying with the obligation laid down in the first subparagraph. However, no Union support shall be provided for those activities.
409	ANNEX I
446	(3) in Annex IV, Part B, Section IV, point 1 is replaced by the following:
447	‘ 1. The lean-meat content shall be assessed by means of grading methods authorised by Member States. Only statistically proven assessment methods based on the physical measurement of one or more anatomical

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	parts of the pig carcass may be authorised. Authorisation of grading methods shall be subject to compliance with a maximum tolerance for statistical error in assessment.; ,

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