

Brussels, 28 March 2025
(OR. en)

7379/25
PV CONS 16
AGRI 115
PECHE 74
PARLNAT

DRAFT MINUTES
COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
(Agriculture and Fisheries)
25 March 2025

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Council adopted the agenda set out in document 7157/25.

2. Approval of "A" items

a) Non-legislative list

7217/25

The Council adopted all "A" items listed in the document above including all linguistic COR and REV documents presented for adoption.

Statements on these items are set out in the Addendum.

b) Legislative list (Public deliberation in accordance with Article 16(8) of the Treaty on European Union)

7218/25

Economic and Financial Affairs

1. Benchmarks Regulation



6780/25

Adoption of the Council's position at first reading and of the statement of the Council's reasons
approved by Coreper, Part 1, on 19.03.2025

5123/25 + ADD 1
+ ADD 1 COR 1
EF

The Council approved its position at first reading, in accordance with Article 294(5) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and the statement of the Council's reasons (legal basis: Article 114 TFEU).

Employment and Social Policy

2. Regulation on European Union labour market statistics on businesses



6930/25

Adoption of the Council's position at first reading and of the statement of the Council's reasons
approved by Coreper, Part 1, on 19.03.2025

17082/24 + COR 1
(ro) + ADD 1
SOC

The Council approved its position at first reading, in accordance with Article 294(5) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and the statement of the Council's reasons (legal basis: Article 338(1) TFEU).

General Affairs

3. Regulation on a Border Regions' instrument for development and growth (BRIDGEforEU)

Adoption of the Council's position at first reading and of the statement of the Council's reasons
approved by Coreper, Part 1, on 19.03.2025

1C 6785/25 + COR 1
+ ADD 1 + ADD 1
COR 1 (sl)
+ ADD 1 COR 2
(bg)
17102/24 + ADD 1
COH

The Council approved its position at first reading, in accordance with Article 294(5) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and the statement of the Council's reasons, with Czechia abstaining (legal basis: Article 175 TFEU). Statements on this item are set out in the Annex.

AGRICULTURE

Non-legislative activities

3. Communication on a Vision for Agriculture and Food *Policy debate*

2 6895/25
6385/25

The Council took note of the information provided by the Commission, and of the comments of the delegations and of the Commission's response.

Any other business

4. Agriculture

a) High-level conference "Common Agricultural Policy for food security" (Warsaw, 5 March 2025) *Information from the Presidency*

2 6852/25

The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency on the Conference "Common Agriculture Policy for food security" and of the comments made by delegations and by the Commission.

- b) **Amending Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 to include the purchase of breeding animals as eligible EAFRD expenditure**
Information from Romania

 7242/25

The Council took note of the information provided by Romania. It also took note of the Commission's and delegations' reactions.

Fisheries

- c) **Implementation of the provisions of Article 14 of the Fisheries Control regulation for permitted margin of tolerance (MOT) applied in small pelagic fishery landed unsorted**
Information from Latvia and Lithuania

 7122/25

The Council took note of the information provided by Latvia and Lithuania on the implementation of the provisions of Article 14 of the fisheries control regulation for the permitted margin of tolerance applied in the small pelagic fishery landed unsorted in the Baltic Sea, as well as of the comments made by delegations and the Commission.

- d) **Future support to EU fisheries**
Information from the Netherlands, supported by Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Portugal, Romania and Spain

 7123/25

The Council took note of the information provided by the Netherlands, and supported by Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Portugal, Romania and Spain, on the future support to EU fisheries. The Council also took note of the comments by delegations and the Commission.

- e) **EU aquaculture campaign: an important EU sector, working with passion**
Information from the Commission

 7124/25

The Council took note of the information provided by the Commission on the upcoming comprehensive communication campaign to promote EU sustainable aquaculture, as well as of the comments made by delegations.

Agriculture

f) Outbreak of foot and mouth disease (FMD) in Hungary

 7274/25

Information from Hungary

The Council took note of the information provided by Hungary concerning the outbreak of foot and mouth disease in Hungary, as well as of the support of Slovakia due to its similar epidemiological situation.

The Council also took note of the comments made by delegations on this subject, as well as of the intervention by the Commission.



First reading



Public debate proposed by the Presidency (Article 8(2) of the Council's Rules of Procedure)



Item based on a Commission proposal

Statements to the legislative "A" items set out in doc. 7218/25

Ad "A" item 3: **Regulation on a Border Regions' instrument for development and growth (BRIDGEforEU)**
Adoption of the Council's position at first reading and of the statement of the Council's reasons

STATEMENT BY GERMANY

“Germany is of the opinion that maritime borders within the meaning of Article 2(1) of the draft Regulation (*‘This Regulation applies to cross-border obstacles in land or maritime border regions of neighbouring Member States’*) concern only the German maritime borders with the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the Kingdom of Denmark and the Republic of Poland.”

STATEMENT BY THE COMMISSION

“The Commission draws attention to the fact that the co-legislators’ amendment to its amended proposal which removes the obligation to set up national public registers on cross-border files and maintains a single register at EU level has budgetary and human resources implications for the Commission. These are described in the Legislative Financial and Digital Statement presented to the co-legislators.”
