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European Union

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DRAFT MINUTES
COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
(Agriculture and Fisheries)
22 and 23 March 2021

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MEETING ON MONDAY 22 MARCH 2021

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Council adopted the agenda set out in 6866/21.

2. Approval of "A" items

a) Non-legislative list

6973/21

The Council adopted the "A" items listed in 6973/21 including COR and REV documents presented for adoption. Statements to 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)

7101/21

Economic and Financial Affairs

Council Directive amending Directive 2011/16/EU on administrative cooperation in the field of taxation
Adoption of the legislative act
approved by Coreper, Part 2, on 17.03.2021



7005/21
12908/20
FISC

The Council adopted the Council Directive amending Directive 2011/16/EU on administrative cooperation in the field of taxation, set out in doc. 12908/20 (+REV1(fi)) (Legal basis: Articles 113 and 115 TFEU).

Non-legislative activities

FISHERIES

3. **Council Regulation amending Regulation (EU) 2021/92 as regards certain fishing opportunities for 2021 in Union and non-Union waters**



6765/21 + ADD 1

(Legal basis proposed by the Commission: Art. 43(3) TFEU)
Political agreement

The Council reached a political agreement on the amendment of Council Regulation (EU) 2021/92 as regards certain fishing opportunities for 2021 in Union and non-Union waters. Several statements were presented to be included in the minutes, as set out in the Addendum.

AGRICULTURE

4. **Preparedness of phytosanitary measures to protect against plant pests threatening agriculture** [2] 6639/21
Exchange of views

Based on a background note and the questions prepared by the Presidency in doc. 6639/21 the Council held an exchange of views on the preparedness of phytosanitary measures to protect against plant pests threatening agriculture. The Council took note of the views expressed by delegations and the Commission.

5. **Use of biological control agents (macro-organisms) against plant pests** [2] 6645/21
Policy debate

The Council held a debate on biological control agents on the basis of a background document and the questions prepared by the Presidency set out in doc. 6645/21. The Council took note of the views expressed by delegations and the Commission and of the Presidency's initiative regarding a proposal for a Council decision requesting the Commission to submit a study on the Union's situation and options regarding the import, evaluation, production and marketing of biological control agents within the territory of the Union and a proposal, if appropriate in view of the outcome of the study.

6. **Preparation of CAP Strategic Plans** [2] 6785/21
Exchange of views

The Council exchanged views on the Commission's recommendations to Member States as regards their CAP Strategic Plans, on the basis of the Presidency paper set out in doc. 6785/21.

Any other business

7. Agriculture

Challenges and priorities in preparation of the EU Forest Strategy post-2020

 6644/1/21 REV 1

Information from the Austrian delegation on behalf of the Austrian, Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Estonian, Finnish, Hungarian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish and Slovak delegations

The Council took note of the information provided by the Austrian delegation on the upcoming post-2020 EU Forest Strategy on behalf of the Austrian, Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Estonian, Finnish, Hungarian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish and Slovak delegations. The Council also took note of the comments made by several delegations and by the Commission.

MEETING ON TUESDAY 23 MARCH 2021

Non-legislative activities

FISHERIES

3. (continuation) Council Regulation amending Regulation (EU) 2021/92 as regards certain fishing opportunities for 2021 in Union and non-Union waters

 6765/21 + ADD 1

(Legal basis proposed by the Commission: Art. 43(3) TFEU)
Political agreement

See above (item 3, on page 3).

Legislative deliberations

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

AGRICULTURE

8. Post 2020 CAP reform package



- | | |
|---|---------|
| a) Regulation on CAP Strategic Plans | 6680/21 |
| b) Regulation on financing, management and monitoring of the CAP | 6919/21 |
| c) Regulation on common market organisation (CMO) of agricultural products | 6900/21 |

Policy debate

- The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency on the ongoing inter-institutional negotiations on the CAP Strategic Plans Regulation on the basis of doc. 6680/21.

The Council exchanged views on the main open issues, particularly on targeting of support. The Presidency would take into account the comments from delegations and the Commission in the continuation of negotiations on this dossier. The Presidency also took note of the broad support from delegations for the intention to conclude negotiations on the CAP reform as soon as possible.

- The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency on the ongoing inter-institutional negotiations on the Horizontal Regulation on the basis of doc. 6919/21.

The Council exchanged views on the Presidency compromise suggestions for a number of issues related to conditionality, transparency and the protection of the EU financial interests and of the comments of delegations and of the Commission. The Presidency would take into account the comments from delegations and the Commission in the continuation of negotiations on this dossier.

- The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency on the on-going inter-institutional negotiations on the CMO Regulation on the basis of doc. 6900/21. The Council exchanged views on the state of play of the negotiations with the European Parliament and the way forward in particular on EP amendments under Blocks 1 and 3. The Presidency would take into account the comments from delegations and the Commission in the continuation of negotiations on this dossier.
- The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency on the ongoing inter-institutional negotiations on the new delivery model on the basis of documents 6680/21 and 6919/21. The Council exchanged views on the main open issues on this subject. The Presidency would take into account the comments from delegations and the Commission in the continuation of negotiations on this dossier.

Any other business

9. Agriculture

- a) **Current legislative proposals**
(Public deliberation in accordance with Article 16(8) of the Treaty on European Union)

Post 2020 CAP reform package:

 7087/21

Proposals to make CAP implementation simpler

Information from the French delegation, on behalf of the Austrian, Cyprus, Czech, Danish, Finnish, French, Greek, Hungarian, Irish, Italian, Luxembourg, Polish, Romanian and Spanish delegations

The Council took note of the information provided by the French delegation, on behalf of the Austrian, Cyprus, Czech, Danish, Finnish, French, Greek, Hungarian, Irish, Italian, Luxembourg, Polish, Romanian and Spanish delegations, on how to make the CAP implementation simpler, based on their non-paper under doc. 7087/21.

b) Need for additional funds to support the wine sector affected by the COVID-19 crisis and US tariffs

7048/21

Information from the Spanish delegation, on behalf of the Austrian, Bulgarian, Croatian, Cyprus, Czech, French, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Maltese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovenian and Spanish delegations



First reading



Item based on a Commission proposal



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