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WORKING DOCUMENT

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Antici Group (Simplification)

Subject: Explanatory note – Omnibus III (CAP)

Delegations will find attached the explanatory note for the second presidency compromise text on Omnibus III (CAP), in preparation for the meeting of the Antici Group (Simplification) on 23 July 2025.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

CAP SIMPLIFICATION-Revised Presidency compromise

Antici Group (Simplification) (AGS)

23 July 2025

The purpose of this explanatory note is to provide delegations with information, clarifications and reasoning for the amendments proposed by the Presidency in the revised compromise text.

The explanatory note follows the order of the relevant articles and points of the proposal. The recitals have been updated in accordance with the proposed changes to the articles. Below is a brief overview of the changes to the articles.

The process

The Commission's simplification proposal on agriculture (Omnibus III) has been discussed at six meetings in the Antici Group (Simplification). The Member States have had the opportunity to submit written questions and comments, and the Commission has presented its Q/A on 2nd July 2025.

Further, the Presidency presented its first compromise text (doc. 11509/25) in the Antici Group (Simplification) on 15th July 2025 and the delegations had the opportunity to comment on the text.

The next phase is presentation of a revised compromise text (doc. 11755 /25) with a view to taking the proposal forward. When preparing the revised text, the Presidency has based the work on the examination in the group on 15th July and the written comments received from Member States after the meeting.

The drafting has been done with an aim to maintain the momentum on simplification by swiftly agreeing on this CAP Simplification proposal (Omnibus III) to let farmers and Member States benefit from this simplification as soon as possible. Within this aim, it has not been possible to accommodate all amendments proposed by the Member States.

This document is for reference only.

Point	REASONING
Article 1, point (5)	<p>In the Presidency's compromise text which was presented in the Antici Group on Simplification on 15 July 2025, it was proposed that those production units of the holding, which are certified in accordance with the regulation on organic farming be considered by definition to meet the GAEC standards listed in the provision.</p> <p>Several Member States have supported this amendment, while other Member States have expressed the point of view that only farmers whose entire holding is certified organic in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/848 shall be deemed to comply with GAEC standards 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7.</p> <p>In response to this, the Presidency has proposed that Member States have the flexibility to decide whether the presumption rule shall apply to the production units or to the entire holding certified in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/848.</p> <p>The corresponding recital has been adapted accordingly.</p>
Article 1, point (8)	<p>Some Member States have expressed the point of view that under certain circumstances it may be complicated to determine precisely which farmer or crop may benefit or not from risk management tools, and hence simplest to assign up to 3% of direct payments to be paid to farmers as a contribution to a risk management tool.</p> <p>In response to this, the Presidency has proposed that the current rule Article 19 of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 concerning the farmer's contribution to a risk management tool is maintained, while at the same time giving Member States an option to retain contributions only from those farmers for whom risk management schemes exist in a given year.</p>

	The corresponding recital has been adapted accordingly.
Article 2, point (9a)	<p>Several Member States have expressed the point of view that the percentage rate for advance payments in the form of direct payments and rural development interventions should be increased corresponding to the increased rate that has been applied in each of the years 2023, 2024 and 2025 in the current programming period, as the reasons for these derogations in previous years are unlikely to be resolved in the years 2026 or 2027.</p> <p>In response to this, the Presidency has proposed that the percentage rate for advance payments for direct payments and certain other measures is increased from 50 % to 75 %, and for rural development interventions is increased from 75 % to 85 %.</p> <p>A corresponding recital (63a) has been added.</p>
Article 1, point (36)	The deletion of the last sentence of the footnote to GAEC 7 is a consequence of the proposal to amend Article 13(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 according to which farmers whose organic production units are deemed to comply with GAEC standards 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7.
Recital (80)	The deletion of recital (80) is a consequence of the proposal to delete the amendment to Article 16(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/2116 regarding the scope of application of the agricultural reserve.