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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 - Comments from Cyprus

Regulation amending Regulation (EU) 1308/2013 as regards the school scheme, sectoral interventions, the protein sector, hemp, marketing standards, import duties, the availability of supplies and securities

The Cypriot Delegation appreciates the opportunity given for presenting our comments in written. Following up the discussions in the F.8 Agriculture Product Questions Working Party concerning the Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 as regards the school fruit, vegetables and milk scheme ('EU school scheme'), sectoral interventions, the creation of a protein sector, requirements for hemp, the possibility for marketing standards for cheese, protein crops and meat, application of additional import duties, rules on the availability of supplies in time of emergencies and severe crisis and securities, please find below our comments on Blocks 3 and 4.

Support for interventions in certain sectors:

- We are concerned about the insertion of the provision about the mandatory national financing (art. 33, 3(c)), having in mind the differences in the budgetary situation of different Member States.
- Regarding the set out of maximum percentages of the operational fund which may be spent on any individual type of intervention (art. 33, 4), we consider that this provision is not applicable as of the numerous interventions. It could be more easily applied on the level of the objectives.
- It seems that the method for calculation of the value of the marketed production of fruit and vegetables intended for processing, which have been transformed into processed products, is missing from article 34.

Hemp (art. 147b-Production of hemp and art 147c-Marketing of hemp):

General comments:

- Cyprus can support the production and marketing of “all other parts of the hemp plant falling within CN code 12119086” but cannot support the uncontrolled production and marketing of hemp dried flowering tops with no labeling requirements as per its intended use. Having in mind the United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, this is a matter that requires further clarification as those hemp products (dried flowering tops) can be consider products obtained by all other parts of hemp plants.

Considering the risk to human health, we kindly ask the Commission to specify the “Scientific evidence suggesting that hemp products especially of those products obtained from the flowering tops of varieties containing a maximum THC content of 0.3 % are unlikely to pose a risk to human health” as mentioned in recital 22.