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## **MEETING DOCUMENT**

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WK 2355/2026 INIT

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WP HORIZONTAL AGRICULTURAL QUESTIONS

# Proposed amendments to the CAP articles related to Blocks I and IV

26<sup>th</sup> of February 2026

#cy2026eu



## WP HORIZONTAL AGRICULTURAL QUESTIONS

### Block 1: Introductory provisions and types of support

- Article 1
- Article 2
- Recital (4)
- Article 5





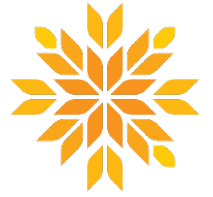
## WP HORIZONTAL AGRICULTURAL QUESTIONS

### Article 1

### Subject matter

*In order to ensure a strong, sustainable and resilient ~~common~~ **European** agricultural ~~policy~~ **sector**, Union food security, generational renewal and vibrant rural areas, [this Regulation lays down specific conditions for the implementation of the Union support for the common agricultural policy (CAP) in accordance with the general objective laid down in Article 2, point (c), of Regulation (EU) [...] [NRP].]*

*[This Union support shall be provided under the National and Regional Partnership Fund (the 'Fund') in accordance with the rules governing that Fund laid down in Regulation (EU) [...] [NRP]].*



Article 2

## CAP national recommendations and steering

1. *The Commission shall adopt CAP national recommendations providing guidance to each Member State for the implementation of the CAP-relevant specific objectives set out in Article 3, point (d), of Regulation (EU) [...] [NRP], within their NRP Plans in line with Article 22 of that Regulation in advance of the submission of the NRP Plans by the Member States. The CAP national recommendations shall be based on the following:*
  - a) *contribution to fair and sufficient income for farmers and their long-term competitiveness, including the farmers' position in the value chain;*
  - b) *improvement of attractiveness of the profession and foster generational renewal **including living and working conditions;***
  - c) *enhancing climate action, ecosystem services provision, circular solutions, the conservation of biodiversity and natural resources, sustainable farming and improve animal welfare;*
  - d) *improving resilience, farmers' preparedness and ability to cope with crises and risks;*
  - e) *enhancing the access to knowledge and accelerate innovation and the digital transition for a thriving agri-food sector.*

*The CAP national recommendations may be updated by the Commission, as appropriate.*

2. ...



## WP HORIZONTAL AGRICULTURAL QUESTIONS

### Recital (4)

*In order to ensure that the Union adequately addresses the most pressing challenges for the agricultural sector, it is appropriate to provide for a steering mechanism reflecting the orientations of the Vision for Agriculture and Food for a targeted policy. To advance towards a competitive, resilient and sustainable agricultural sector, in line with the outcome of the stakeholders' consultations, the CAP national recommendations should provide a sufficient level of policy steering at Union level, to guide Member States in the design of their NRP Plans as regards agriculture, defining the relevant interventions on the basis of their specific challenges and needs. **Taking into account the non - legally binding nature of these recommendations, their primary function is to facilitate Member States in addressing the key challenges in the agricultural sector and rural areas with the aim to achieve the CAP relevant specific objectives.***



Article 5

Types of **support interventions**

1. The following **types of** CAP interventions are set out:
  - a) *degressive area-based income support;*
  - b) *coupled income support;*
  - c) *crop specific payment for cotton;*
  - d) *payment for natural and other area specific constraints;*
  - e) *support for disadvantages resulting from certain mandatory requirements;*
  - f) *agri-environmental and climate actions;*
  - g) *payment for small farmers;*
  - h) *support for risk management tools;*
  - i) *support for investments for farmers and forest holders;*
  - j) *support for setting-up of young farmers, **or** or new farmers, rural business **and** start-ups, **farm household income diversification and business and** development of small farms;*
  - k) *support for farm relief services;*
  - l) **LEADER;**



Article 5

Types of **support interventions**

- m) support for knowledge sharing and innovation in agriculture, forestry and rural areas;*
  - n) territorial and local cooperation initiatives;*
  - o) interventions in outermost regions;*
  - p) interventions in smaller Aegean islands;*
  - q) EU school scheme referred to in Title I, Part II, Chapter IIa, **section 2**, of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council;*
  - r) interventions in certain sectors referred to in Title I, Part II, Chapter IIa, **section 3**, of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013;*
  - s) crisis payments for farmers.*
2. *Interventions referred to in paragraph 1, points (a) to (k), and interventions in certain sectors referred to in Title I, Part II, Chapter IIa, of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 shall be income support interventions to be financed from the Fund in accordance with Article 10(2), point (a), second subparagraph, of Regulation (EU) [...] [NRP].*
3. **Areas used for the** *production of hemp varieties with Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) content exceeding 0,3% shall not be eligible **for support hectares** under this Regulation.*



## WP HORIZONTAL AGRICULTURAL QUESTIONS

### Block 4:Generational renewal and young farmers and farm relief services

- Article 14
- Recital (6a)
- Article 15
- Article 16
- Article 17





Setting-up of young farmers **or new farmers**, rural business ~~start-up~~  
~~and start-ups~~, farm household income diversification and business  
development of small farms

1. Member States shall provide support ~~for the setting-up of young farmers and the start-up of rural businesses, including the setting-up of new farmers~~, under the conditions laid down in this Article and as further specified in their NRP Plans, **for:**
  - a) the setting-up of young farmers who fulfil the conditions provided for by Member States in their NRP Plans in accordance with Article 4(22), point (d), of Regulation (EU) [...] [NRP];
  - ~~b) the start-up of rural businesses linked to agriculture or forestry including the setting-up of new farmers, or farm household income diversification into non-agricultural activities;~~ **business start-ups.**



**Setting-up of young farmers or new farmers, rural business ~~start-up~~ and ~~start-ups~~, farm household income diversification and business development of small farms**

2. **Member States may provide support, under the conditions laid down in this Article and as further specified in their NRP Plans, for:**
  - ~~(c)-a)~~ **the ~~start-up of rural businesses~~ actions for farm household income diversification into non-agricultural activities;**
  - ~~(d)-b)~~ **the business development of small farms, as determined by Member States.;**
  - c) the setting-up of new farmers who fulfil the conditions provided for by Member States in their NRP Plans in accordance with Article 4(23), of Regulation (EU) [...] [NRP].**
3. *Member States shall set conditions for the submission and the content of a business plan which beneficiaries must provide in order to receive support under this Article.*
4. *Member States shall ...*



## WP HORIZONTAL AGRICULTURAL QUESTIONS

### Recital (6a)

**Women, and especially young women, face structural disadvantages in access to land, finance, training, advisory services or farm succession that constitute major barriers to entry in and development of farming businesses.**



## WP HORIZONTAL AGRICULTURAL QUESTIONS

### Article 15

## **Strategy on Generational Renewal strategy in Agriculture**

*Member States shall establish in their NRP Plan a Strategy on Generational Renewal in Agriculture to enhance the effectiveness and coherence of interventions targeting young farmers under this Regulation, and national initiatives. The Strategy shall include:*

- a) an assessment of the current demographic situation in the agricultural sector;*
- b) identification of entry barriers for young farmers and proposed national initiatives and measures **set out in the NRP plan** to overcome them;*
- c) description of how the Starter pack for young farmers referred to in Article 16 will be ~~utilized~~ **used** in the national context;*
- d) synergies between measures contributing to generational renewal set out in the NRP Plan.*



## WP HORIZONTAL AGRICULTURAL QUESTIONS

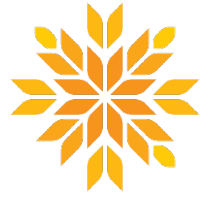
### Article 16

## Starter pack for young farmers

1. The **Member States shall establish a** Starter pack for young farmers ~~shall include a set of the following measures~~, in line with the Strategy on Generational Renewal in Agriculture referred to in Article 15~~;~~.

**1a. The Starter pack for young farmers shall include the following interventions:**

- a) support for setting-up of young farmers in accordance with Article ~~14~~ **14(1)(a)**;
- b) degressive area-based income support for young farmers in accordance with Article 6;
- ba) ~~(d)~~ investment support with higher aid intensity for young farmers; **in accordance with Article 13 of this Regulation and Article 35(4) second subparagraph of Regulation (EU) [...] [NRP].**



Article 16

Starter pack for young farmers

**1b. The Starter pack for young farmers may include the following measures:**

- a) ~~(e)~~ support for small farmers in accordance with Article 7 ~~targeting young farmers of this Regulation~~;
- b) ~~(e)~~ possibilities of financing investments implemented ~~by young farmers~~ through the financial instruments in accordance with Article 71 of Regulation (EU) [...] [NRP];
- c) ~~(f)~~ support for rural business start ups **in accordance with Article 14(1)(b) of this Regulation**;
- (ca) actions for farm household income diversification into non-agricultural activities in accordance with Article 14(2a)(a) of this Regulation**;
- d) ~~(g)~~ cooperation interventions facilitating access to innovation ~~through the projects of EIP-AGRI operational groups~~ in accordance with Article 19 of this Regulation and Article 74 of Regulation (EU) [...] [NRP];
- e) ~~(h)~~ cooperation interventions facilitating intergenerational cooperation including farm succession in accordance with Article 74 of Regulation (EU) [...] [NRP];
- f) ~~(i)~~ support for farm relief services in accordance with Article 17 **of this Regulation**;
- g) ~~(j)~~ access to advisory services and training programs ~~tailored to young farmers' needs~~, in accordance with Article 20 **of this Regulation**.



## WP HORIZONTAL AGRICULTURAL QUESTIONS

### Article 16

## Starter pack for young farmers

2. Member States shall ~~integrate in the~~ design ~~of~~ the **interventions and** measures referred to in paragraph 1 **[and 1a] taking into account the** links and synergies with other measures set out in their NRP Plans, in particular in respect to measures facilitating intergenerational succession and generational renewal, investments for rural business start-ups, or access to and use of financial instruments.
  
2. In order to facilitate access to the interventions **and measures** referred to in paragraph 1 **and 1a**, Member States shall ~~establish a~~ **have one or more national or regional** single ~~point~~ **points** of access ~~for young farmers which may provide~~ **inter alia to all** information on support opportunities and procedures ~~and facilitate~~, the entry **to** and the establishment in the agricultural sector, including **information on** submission of funding applications and guidance, **relevant for young farmers.**



## WP HORIZONTAL AGRICULTURAL QUESTIONS

### Article 17

### Farm relief services

1. Member States may provide support for the farm relief services, **allowing to replace** farmers ~~to take a~~ **when they take** leave for sickness, childbearing, care for children and other family members, holidays and similar ~~life events cases~~, as well as **for** participation in ~~trainings, as further specified training~~. **Member States shall specify the conditions for such support** in their NRP Plans.
2. This support shall be limited to the **costs of** setting up of farm relief services and to **the** costs of wages of the workers replacing the ~~farm holder farmer~~ during a limited period of time.



WP HORIZONTAL AGRICULTURAL  
QUESTIONS

Thank you for your  
attention