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WORKING PAPER

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INFORMATION

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Working Party on Agricultural Products on 13 March 2020 - Annotated agenda

Delegations will find attached the annotated agenda for the meeting of the Working Party on Agricultural Products on 13 March 2020.

Working Party on Agricultural Products

Friday, 13 March 2020

ANNOTATED AGENDA

The Working Party on Agricultural Products will meet on 13 March to consider the Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Regulations (EU) No 1308/2013 establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products, (EU) No 1151/2012 on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs, (EU) No 251/2014 on the definition, description, presentation, labelling and the protection of geographical indications of aromatised wine products, (EU) No 228/2013 laying down specific measures for agriculture in the outermost regions of the Union and (EU) No 229/2013 laying down specific measures for agriculture in favour of the smaller Aegean islands ("Amending Regulation") (doc. 9556/18 + REV 1 + COR 1).

The latest version of the text is in document 14535/19 (reflecting the suggestions made by the AT, RO and FI Presidencies).

The Presidency's objective for this meeting is to consider the following pending issues with a view to making progress on them (the numbering follows that of the provisional agenda set out in doc. CM 1739/20):

(2)(a) Relationship between the Amending Regulation and the Transitional Regulation

(i) Planting rights

Some delegations have requested the inclusion of an amendment to Article 68 of Regulation 1308/2013 in the Transitional Regulation, fearing that the Amending Regulation will not be adopted in time to modify the current end date of 31 December 2020 other than retroactively, creating a legal vacuum in the interim. The Presidency will invite the Commission to explain how this might be avoided.

(ii) Amendments to Regulations 228 and 229/2013

Both the Amending Regulation and the Transitional Regulation contain the same amendments to Regulations 228 and 229/2013. Since the Transitional Regulation will be agreed and adopted first, the corresponding amendments can be deleted from the Amending Regulation. The title, recitals and legal basis of the Amending Regulation would need to be adjusted accordingly.

(2)(b) Presidency drafting suggestions on Regulation 1308/2013

(i) Article 149 of Regulation 1308/2013

Following the UK's departure from the EU, the curly brackets can be removed from around the provisions concerning the maximum percentage of EU raw milk production that can be covered in a contract negotiated by a producer organisation (recital (23a) and Article 1(22a)).

(ii) Appendix I to Annex VII to Regulation 1308/2013

The list of Member States in point 1(c) needs to be updated to remove the reference to the UK.

In addition, the Presidency will invite the LT delegation to present its request for Lithuania to be added to the list, and the Commission to reply.

(iii) Other references to the UK

There are also references to the UK in Article 218(2), Annex VII, Part I, point III, and Annex VIII, Part II, point B.3 that might need to be removed. (The other existing references are in provisions that will be deleted and replaced by new provisions in the Strategic Plans Regulation.)

(iv) Annex I

Some delegations have suggested changes to the list of agricultural products. To reflect that, the Presidency suggests:

- deleting sweetcorn from Part I (Cereals) and deleting the current exclusions in Part IX (Fruit and vegetables) and in Part X (Processed fruit and vegetable products);
- deleting Jerusalem artichokes from Part I (Cereals) and adding them to Part IX (Fruit and vegetables);
- adding swede to Part IX (Fruit and vegetables) together with other edible roots (CN code 0706).

(2)(c) Issues concerning Producer Organisations

Some delegations have suggested changes to provisions of Regulation 1308/2013 concerning producer organisations. The Presidency discussion paper (WK 2595/2020 - to be issued shortly) highlights certain issues and sets out questions to steer the debate.

(3) Report on the study – ‘Improving Crisis Prevention and Management Criteria and Strategies in the Agricultural Sector’

The Presidency will invite the Commission to present the [report¹](#).

The Presidency would welcome delegations' views on the study. However, the discussion should not enter into the policy issues that Ministers will debate in the AGRIFISH Council on 23 March 2020.

¹ <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/89d71bfa-43e1-11ea-b81b-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>