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**NOTE**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council

To: Special Committee on Agriculture

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No. Cion doc.: 15344/18

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Subject: Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Regulations (EU) No 1305/2013 and (EU) No 1307/2013 as regards certain rules on direct payments and support for rural development in respect of the years 2019 and 2020  
- Confirmation of the final compromise text with a view to agreement

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1. On 7 December 2018, the Commission submitted to the Council and the European Parliament the abovementioned proposal that seeks to ensure the continuity of the current rules in the final years of the programming period and a smooth transition to the next programming period by amending certain provisions on direct payments and rural development in 2019 and 2020.
2. The Commission proposal was presented to the Special Committee on Agriculture on 10 December 2018 and the "Agriculture and Fisheries" Council on 17 December 2018.
3. The proposed Regulation would need to be adopted by March 2019 to deploy all of its useful effects.

4. In informal contacts with the Presidency the European Parliament has made it clear that it is ready to adopt its position in the form set out in the Commission proposal, provided that the Council commits to approve the Parliament's position.
  
  5. In light of the above, the Special Committee on Agriculture is invited to recommend that the Council approve the proposed Regulation, as it appears in document 15344/18 after legal/linguistic finalisation.
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