



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 19 December 2012

17989/12

**FIN 1073
AGRI 879
AGRIFIN 259**

NOTE

from:	General Secretariat
to:	Delegations
Subject:	Special report No 16/2012 from the European Court of Auditors entitled "The effectiveness of the Single Area Payment Scheme as a transitional system for supporting farmers in the new Member States" - <i>Council conclusions</i>

Delegations will find attached, in the Annex, the Council conclusions on the above subject as adopted on 18 December 2012.

COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS

on Special Report No 16/2012 from the European Court of Auditors entitled "The effectiveness of the Single Area Payment Scheme as a transitional system for supporting farmers in the new Member States"

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

- (1) WELCOMES Special Report No 16/2012 from the European Court of Auditors entitled "The effectiveness of the Single Area Payment Scheme as a transitional system for supporting farmers in the new Member States";
- (2) TAKES NOTE of the findings of the Court and underlines the views expressed by the Member states concerned that the application of the SAPS system as a whole, together with Complementary Direct Payments was a success, and that the possibility of a continuation of SAPS in the future should not be excluded. INVITES the Commission to support the Member States concerned in their preparation for the CAP reform;
- (3) RECALLS that on 12 October 2011, the Commission adopted a proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing rules for direct payments to farmers under support schemes within the framework of the common agricultural policy¹, which is currently being examined in Council and by the Council's preparatory bodies;
- (4) CONSIDERS, in this context, that the Court's recommendations and the views of the Member States could be taken into account in the proceedings on the above proposal.

¹ 15396/11 + REV 1 (en, fr, de).