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NOTE

from: Presidency

to: Council

No. Cion prop.: 15396/11 + REV 1, REV 2 (NL), REV 3 - COM(2011) 625 final/3
15397/2/11 REV 2 - COM(2011) 626 final/3, 14477/12 - COM(2012) 535 final
15425/11 + REV 1 (en, fr, de) - COM(2011) 627 final/2
15426/11 + REV 1 (en, fr, de) - COM(2011) 628 final/2

Subject: 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 policy (*CAP reform*)
Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products (Single CMO Regulation) (*CAP reform*)
Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural development (EAFRD) (*CAP reform*)
Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financing, management and monitoring of the common agricultural policy (the horizontal regulation) (*CAP reform*)
- *Political agreement on the CAP reform package*

1. On 12 October 2011, the Commission submitted the above legislative proposals to the Council and to the European Parliament.

2. These proposals were examined by the Council and its preparatory bodies under the Polish¹, Danish² and Cyprus Presidencies³.
3. The European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions delivered their opinions on 25 April 2012 and 4 May 2012 respectively.
4. On 13 March 2013 the European Parliament adopted its decision on the opening of, and mandate for, inter-institutional negotiations⁴.
5. At its session on 18-19 March 2013, the Council taking due account of the European Council conclusions of 7-8 February 2013 on the Multiannual Financial Framework⁵, reached a General Approach on the CAP reform package (Slovakia and Slovenia unable to support)⁶.
6. On 25 March 2013 the Special Committee on Agriculture ("SCA") confirmed the Presidency mandate to negotiate with the European Parliament⁷.
7. Since 11 April 2013 the Presidency, operating under the mandate from the SCA, has represented the Council in an intensive series of informal trilogues on each of the draft regulations⁸ with a view to reaching an agreement between the institutions at first reading. Delegations have been kept regularly informed of progress made: in the Council ("Agriculture and Fisheries") at its sessions on 22 April and 13-14 May 2013 and in the SCA. The Presidency has been further guided by delegations in the Council ("Agriculture and Fisheries") at its session on 13-14 May 2013, in the SCA at its meetings on 3, 10 and 17 June 2013, and at the meeting of Attachés on 21 June 2013.

¹ docs. 18176/11, 18205/11, 18358/11

² doc. 8949/12

³ doc. 17592/12

⁴ doc. PE-503.600

⁵ doc. EUCO 37/13.

⁶ doc. 7539/13 + ADD 1

⁷ CRS doc 7929/13

⁸ in accordance with paragraphs 16-18 of the Joint Declaration on Practical Arrangements for the Codecision Procedure OJ C 145, 30.6.2007, p.5.

8. The Presidency has been clear in its objective to reach a political agreement with the European Parliament in first reading by the end of June 2013. Delegations have been fully supportive of the Presidency's goals. This ambition is shared by the European Parliament and the Commission.
9. To this end the Presidency has prepared the draft consolidated regulations
- on Direct payments (doc 10730/13 + REV 1),
 - on the Single common market organisation (doc 10784/13 + REV 1),
 - on Rural development (doc 11102/13 + REV 1) and
 - on the "Horizontal provisions" (doc 11082/13 + REV 1).
- These texts reflect the state of play in the informal trilogues to date and include all the amendments for which the Presidency, the European Parliament and the Commission have supported *ad referendum*.
10. The Presidency has further prepared an issues paper identifying the outstanding political issues set out in Addendum 1 to this note.
11. In light of the above, the Council is invited at its session on 24-25 June 2013 to:
- consider and give guidance on the outstanding issues identified by the Presidency and set out in Addendum I,
 - endorse the consolidated draft regulations as set out in docs 10730/13 + REV 1, 10784/13 + REV 1, 11102/13 + REV 1, 11082/13 + REV 1 adjusted as necessary to reflect the outcome of the Council's position on the outstanding issues,
 - confirm that an agreement can be reached on the CAP reform package in the informal trilogues with the European Parliament and the Commission on this basis, subject to legal finalisation and legal linguistic revision.
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