



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 24 May 2016
(OR. en)

9062/16

CRS CSA 7

SUMMARY RECORD

Subject: 1527th meeting of the Special Committee on Agriculture (SCA) held in
Brussels on 10th May 2016

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1. **Adoption of the agenda**
8597/1/16 REV 1 OJ CSA 7

The agenda was adopted.

I

2. **Summary record of the 1526th meeting of the SCA**
8078/16 CRS CSA 6

The SCA approved the summary record.

II

3. **Market situation and support measures**
– Update from the Commission

The SCA took note of the update by the Commission on the latest market developments notably in the dairy, pigmeat and fruit and vegetables sectors, and on the implementation of the March package of support measures, of delegations' questions of clarification, and of the Commission's reaction.

4. **Simplification of the Common Agricultural Policy**
– Information on state of play and next steps

The SCA took note of the information provided by the Commission representative on the state of play of, and future plans for the simplification exercise, including forthcoming delegated acts, of delegations' comments, and of the Commission's reaction.

The SCA also noted that the simplification item at the May "Agriculture and Fisheries" Council will focus on direct payments and other support measures.

5. **Agriculture and climate**

- Information from the Presidency, from the Commission and from the Danish and Irish delegations
- Exchange of views
8534/16 AGRI 218 CLIMA 38 ENV 258
7362/16 AGRI 152 CLIMA 29 ENV 184

The SCA took note of the information from the Presidency, the Commission and the Danish and Irish delegations, as well as of the views expressed by a number of delegations. The exchange of views served the purpose to prepare an exchange of views on agriculture and climate at the Council level.

6. **The European Court of Auditors (ECA) - three special reports (12/2015, 20/2015, 25/2015)**

- Exchange of views
8422/16 FIN 269 AGRI 216 AGRIFIN 43 AGRISTR 17

The SCA discussed the three recent ECA reports, particularly with regard to administrative burden and simplification, and is of the view that an appropriate balance should be found between safeguarding the EU's financial interests versus avoiding an increase of the Member States' administrative burden.

7. **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on organic production and labelling of organic products, amending Regulation (EU) No XXX/XXX of the European Parliament and of the Council [Official controls Regulation] and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007**

- Information from the Presidency on the outcome of the trilogues
- Request for a revised mandate
8222/16 AGRILEG 51 CODEC 514

The SCA discussed the outcome of the ongoing negotiations that took place with the European Parliament and gave political orientations to the Presidency on this file.

In general, delegations welcomed the work already undertaken by the Presidency although some of them underlined the importance to favour quality over speed.

In particular, delegations expressed their views on the sensitive issues which were raised by the Presidency in document 8222/16.

The Presidency informed delegations that it has duly taken note of their remarks and will take them into account during the forthcoming negotiations.

The Presidency also informed delegations that it may come back to the SCA after the next trilogue, depending on the achievements reached during the negotiations.

8. **G20 Agriculture Ministerial**

- Approval of the revised Guidelines for the EU position at the G20
7953/1/16 REV1 AGRI 187 WTO 90 DEVGEN 50 ENV 222 ONU 38

The SCA endorsed the draft updated EU Guidelines for the G20 Agriculture Ministerial meeting in China as set out in doc. 7953/1/16 REV 1, which will be submitted to Council for endorsement on 17 May as an "A" item.

9. **OECD Agriculture Ministerial**

- Declaration adopted at the OECD Agriculture Ministerial
- = Information from the Commission and next steps
8636/16 AGRI 234 WTO 119 DEVGEN 81 ENV 269 ONU 50

The SCA took note of:

- the information provided by the Commission on the OECD Declaration adopted at the Agriculture Ministerial as well as of its position according to which the present OECD declaration being in line with well-established EU positions no formal prior Council authorisation is needed for the Commission to sign the declaration on behalf of the EU;
- the position of the representative of the Council Legal Service, stating that the procedure outlined in paragraph 3 of doc. 8636/16 is in line with the Council's established procedures.

Noting the scrutiny reservation entered by the German delegation, the SCA could then agree to the signature by the Commission, on behalf of the EU, of the OECD Declaration, subject to the completion of the EU internal authorisation procedure. An "A" item note stating that the Council authorise the signature will be submitted to the "Agriculture and Fisheries" Council for approval.

10. **Any other business**

- **AU-EU Investing in a Food Secure Future
(6-8 June, Noordwijk, the Netherlands)**
 - Information from the Presidency

The SCA took note of the information provided by the Presidency on the abovementioned Conference.

- **G7 Agriculture Ministers' Meeting
(23-24 April, Niigata, Japan)**
 - Information from the Commission
8660/16 AGRI 237 WTO 123 DEVGEN 83 ENV 272 ONU 52

The SCA took note of the information provided by the Commission on the outcome of the recent G7 Agriculture Ministers' Meeting.

11. **Organization of future work**

The Presidency informed the SCA on the preparation of the next SCA meetings as well as on the organisation of the "Agriculture and Fisheries" Council meeting on 17 May.