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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Special Committee on Agriculture / Council

No. Cion doc.: 10133/16

Subject: Proposal for a COUNCIL REGULATION amending Regulation (EU) No 1370/2013 determining measures on fixing certain aids and refunds related to the common organisation of the markets in agricultural products, as regards the applicable quantitative limitation for buying-in skimmed milk powder
– Adoption

1. On 10 June 2016 the Commission submitted the above proposal, based on Article 43(3) TFEU, to the Council.
2. At its meeting on 13 June 2016 the Special Committee on Agriculture broadly endorsed the above mentioned proposal with no delegation intending to vote against.
3. In light of the above, the Special Committee on Agriculture is invited to recommend that the Council:
 - approve the draft Council Regulation as set out in document 10166/16 at its coming meeting.
 - enter the Italian declaration set out in Annex to this note in the minutes of that meeting.

ITALIAN DECLARATION

According to the serious situation of the milk crisis and in the spirit of cooperation, Italy does not oppose the decision regarding the increase in the applicable quantitative limitation for buying in skimmed milk powder.

However, Italy deems that this is not the right solution to be followed for solving the crisis in the milk sector.

Since September 2015, the implemented measures, in particular those aimed at the public intervention, have not been effective.

Indeed, the increasing in the quantitative limitation for buying in skimmed milk powder has been very expensive, moreover it has increased the quantities under storage and has reached no results in terms of increasing in the milk prices.

The real problem remains the imbalance between demand and offer of milk within the Union.

Therefore, it is important to activate, immediately, proper voluntary measures aimed at supporting the reduction of milk production; moreover, the financial resources of the EU Budget should be dedicated to this priority.
