



Council of the
European Union

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NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations

Subject: State of play on the European Union Platform on Animal welfare
- Oral information from the Commission, requested by the Belgian, Danish, German, the Netherlands and Swedish delegations

Delegations will find in Annex a joint request from Belgium, Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands and Sweden on the above mentioned subject to be dealt with under "Any other business" at the meeting of the Council ("Agriculture and Fisheries") on 14-15 November 2016.

State of play of the European Union (EU) Platform on Animal Welfare

During the Agriculture and Fisheries Council meeting on 15 February 2016, Germany, Denmark, Sweden and the Netherlands presented their position paper with suggestions for the European Commission on the establishment of an EU Platform on Animal Welfare. The Council expressed broad support for the establishment of such an EU Platform, as did EU stakeholders on 23 February 2016 during a meeting, organised by the Commission.

At the Council meeting of 17 May 2016, broad support was again given for the Platform and Commissioner Andriukaitis expressed willingness to establish it. The Netherlands Presidency then collected an extensive list of topics suggested by Member States for discussion in the EU Platform. This list was sent to Commissioner Andriukaitis on 30 June 2016 (ST 10845/16).

To follow up the above mentioned discussions on the establishment of an EU Platform on Animal Welfare, the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, Belgium and Germany ask the Commission to inform the Council on the state of play regarding the establishment of the Platform.

More specifically, the Commission is requested to address the following questions:

- How does the Commission intend to organise the Platform, in terms of structure, role and input of Member States and stakeholders?
- How does the Commission intend to accommodate the list of issues suggested by the Member States and stakeholders to be discussed in the Platform?
- When does the Commission foresee the Platform to be set up and running?