



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 20 January 2017
(OR. en)

5505/17

CRS CSA 1

SUMMARY RECORD

Subject: 1541st meeting of the Special Committee on Agriculture (SCA) held in
Brussels on 16th January 2017

SUMMARY

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1. **Adoption of the agenda**

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The agenda was adopted. At the request of the Belgian delegation, the SCA agreed to add an any other business item.

I

2. **Summary record of the 1540th meeting of the SCA**

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The SCA approved the summary record.

II

3. **Presentation of the Presidency Work Programme**

The SCA took note of the Presidency Work Programme (with a special emphasis being put on the foreseen schedules for the Organic and Omnibus dossiers), as well as of the comments made by delegations and the Commission.

4. **Market situation and the milk package report**

= Information from the Commission

In preparation of the Council discussion the SCA took note of:

- the update by the Commission on the latest market developments and on the implementation of support measures as well as the presentation of the milk package report;
- delegations' suggestions and comments, and the Commission's reaction;
- the questions tabled by the Presidency for the debate at Council.

5. **Delegated acts planned for the first half of 2017**

= Information from the Commission

The SCA took note of the information provided by the Commission representative and of delegations' comments about the delegated acts planned for the first half of 2017, on the basis of an indicative list set out in doc. WK 375/17. In the light of that information and some delegations' comments the Presidency may propose to include certain delegated acts on the agenda of the future SCA meetings for a more detailed presentation.

6. - **Proposal for a Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Chile on trade in organic products**
- **Proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Chile on trade in organic products**
= Presentation by the Commission
= Exchange of views
13158/16 AGRI 548 AGRILEG 145 COMER 107 + ADD 1
15292/16 AGRI 658 AGRILEG 193 COMER 130 + ADD 1

The SCA took note of the presentation provided by the Commission of two proposals for Council Decisions on the signing and conclusion of the EU/Chile trade agreement on organic products. Both texts, including the agreement itself, have received the support from the Member States, although a few delegations regretted not having been informed at an early stage of the negotiations. In order to streamline the procedure of adoption of these texts, the Presidency requested any linguistic remarks to be submitted before the end of the week and provided some information on the next steps.

7. **International Trade Issues**

- = State of play of the ongoing negotiations
= Information from the Commission

The SCA took note of the information provided by the Commission, as well as of the views expressed by delegations and of the question suggested by the Presidency for the debate at the "Agriculture and Fisheries" Council. The Presidency will regularly invite the Commission to update the SCA on developments in international agricultural trade negotiations.

Any other business

8. a) **Scope of the Commission's powers to adopt delegated acts for exceptions from the rules on protected designations of origin for wines**
= Request from the Slovenian delegation
5285/17 AGRI 16 AGRIORG 3

The SCA took note of the concerns expressed, of the Commission's and of delegations' comments. This item will appear as an AOB on the "Agriculture and Fisheries" Council agenda on 23 January next.

- b) **Import of organic salmon from Norway**
= Request from the Belgian delegation

The Belgian delegation reminded the SCA that Norway and Iceland did not agree to incorporate the EU legislation on organic aquaculture in the EEA agreement and that the transitional period has expired since 2015. As a consequence the certification of Norwegian/Iceland organic aquaculture products cannot be carried out in accordance with the relevant EU legislation.

It also informed the SCA that it had taken the necessary measures to prevent aquaculture products from Norway and Iceland from being put on the market as organic. Apparently, this is not the case in all Member States and this creates a distortion of the market which can be damageable for the Belgian operators. BE was supported by several delegations.

The Commission insisted on the fact that all EU competent authorities should adopt the same logic on this dossier and should ask their competent authorities to block the import of salmon from Norway and Iceland labelled as organic. The Commission also clarified that all organic aquaculture products are concerned by this measure.

9. **Organisation of future work**

The Presidency informed the SCA about the "Agriculture and Fisheries" Council of 23 January 2017. Some delegations (SK, SI and PL) confirmed or informed about AOB requests. The Presidency also informed the SCA about the next SCA meeting on 13 February 2017.
