



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 10 April 2014  
(OR. en)**

**8819/14**

**AGRI 308  
AGRIORG 74**

**NOTE**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Delegations

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Subject: Request for exceptional measures to be taken by the European Union to resolve specific problems in the sector of winter crops in Latvia  
- *Request from the Latvian delegation*

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Delegations will find in Annex a document submitted by the Latvian delegation to be presented under "Any other business" at the Council ("Agriculture and Fisheries") at its session on 14 April 2014.

**Request for exceptional measures to be taken by the European Union to resolve specific problems in the sector of winter crops in Latvia**

Latvia would like to draw attention to the fact that Latvian winter crops sector is currently facing unexpected critical situation due to the unfavourable climatic conditions.

Based on the currently available data obtained from farmers, Latvia states that due to the long and warm autumn followed by a black frost from January to March 50%-80% of area sown with winter crops is destroyed in all the territory of Latvia. Therefore a lot of farmers will require additional financial support for the purchase of spring crop seeds and for the re-sowing of the areas which were damaged by the unforeseen climatic conditions.

We consider that the financial support under EAGF must be activated for all farmers irrespectively of their involvement in the insurance schemes. Financial support is crucial for farmers who are continuing to produce despite the crisis situation as well as for ensuring the further economic activity of these affected farms.

**Therefore, Latvia invites the European Commission to undertake necessary exceptional measures under the Article 221 of the Regulation No 1308/2013 to resolve the specific problems resulting from the significant damages to the winter crops.**

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