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**PV/CONS 19
AGRI 259
PECHE 162**

DRAFT MINUTES

Subject: **3307th** meeting of the Council of the European Union (**AGRICULTURE
AND FISHERIES**) held in Brussels on 24 March 2014

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¹ Deliberations on Union legislative acts (Article 16(8) of the Treaty on European Union), other deliberations open to the public and public debates (Article 8 of the Council's Rules of Procedure).

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LEGISLATIVE DELIBERATIONS

(Public deliberation in accordance with Article 16(8) of the Treaty on European Union)

"A" ITEMS

1. Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on periodic roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles and their trailers and repealing Directive 2009/40/EC [First reading] (LA+S)

PE-CONS 10/14 TRANS 17 CODEC 112

The Council approved the amendment set out in the European Parliament's position at first reading and adopted the proposed act amended accordingly, pursuant to Article 294(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. (Legal basis: Article 91 of the TFEU).

Statement by Latvia

"Latvia fully supports the Roadworthiness package that includes proposals to upgrade regulatory requirements for periodic technical inspections and roadside inspections as well as vehicle registrations.

Throughout negotiations Latvia has maintained its concerns regarding the deletion of vehicle category N1 from the scope of the proposal on the technical roadside inspection of the roadworthiness of commercial vehicles circulating in the Union and repealing Directive 2000/30/EC as participation of unsafe and dangerous motor vehicles in road traffic may pose a significant threat to road safety which is in contradiction with not only the national, but also EU level goals in the context of road safety.

Latvia expresses its disappointment with the final arrangements for frequency of testing N1 category vehicles set in the proposal on periodic roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles and their trailers and repealing Directive 2009/40/EC.

In this regard Latvia is of the same opinion as the European Commission that stated in its impact assessment accompanying the proposals of the Roadworthiness package that minimum frequency of testing for different categories of vehicles which includes also category N1 as defined in Annex I of Directive 2009/40/EC is too low to ensure optimal levels of roadworthiness of vehicles in use.

While maintaining the opinion on elements outlined above, Latvia can support the adoption of all three legislative acts forming the Roadworthiness package."

2. Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Directive 1999/37/EC on the registration documents for vehicles [First reading] (LA+S)

PE-CONS 11/14 TRANS 18 CODEC 113

The Council approved the amendment set out in the European Parliament's position at first reading and adopted the proposed act amended accordingly, pursuant to Article 294(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. (Legal basis: Article 91 of the TFEU).

Statement by Latvia

"Latvia fully supports the Roadworthiness package that includes proposals to upgrade regulatory requirements for periodic technical inspections and roadside inspections as well as vehicle registrations.

Throughout negotiations Latvia has maintained its concerns regarding the deletion of vehicle category N1 from the scope of the proposal on the technical roadside inspection of the roadworthiness of commercial vehicles circulating in the Union and repealing Directive 2000/30/EC as participation of unsafe and dangerous motor vehicles in road traffic may pose a significant threat to road safety which is in contradiction with not only the national, but also EU level goals in the context of road safety.

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While maintaining the opinion on elements outlined above, Latvia can support the adoption of all three legislative acts forming the Roadworthiness package."

3. Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the technical roadside inspection of the roadworthiness of commercial vehicles circulating in the Union and repealing Directive 2000/30/EC [First reading] (LA+S)

PE-CONS 12/14 TRANS 19 CODEC 114

The Council approved the amendment set out in the European Parliament's position at first reading and adopted the proposed act amended accordingly, with the German delegation voting against, pursuant to Article 294(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. (Legal basis: Article 91 of the TFEU).

Statement by Latvia

"Latvia fully supports the Roadworthiness package that includes proposals to upgrade regulatory requirements for periodic technical inspections and roadside inspections as well as vehicle registrations.

Throughout negotiations Latvia has maintained its concerns regarding the deletion of vehicle category N1 from the scope of the proposal on the technical roadside inspection of the roadworthiness of commercial vehicles circulating in the Union and repealing Directive 2000/30/EC as participation of unsafe and dangerous motor vehicles in road traffic may pose a significant threat to road safety which is in contradiction with not only the national, but also EU level goals in the context of road safety.

Latvia expresses its disappointment with the final arrangements for frequency of testing N1 category vehicles set in the proposal on periodic roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles and their trailers and repealing Directive 2009/40/EC.

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While maintaining the opinion on elements outlined above, Latvia can support the adoption of all three legislative acts forming the Roadworthiness package."

4. Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a Union action for the European Capitals of Culture for the years 2020 to 2033
[First reading] (LA)

- Adoption
 - a) of the Council's position at first reading
 - b) of the statement of the Council's reasons
 - 7581/14 CODEC 754 CULT 36
 - 5793/14 CULT 10 CODEC 201
 - + ADD 1
- approved by Coreper, Part 1, on 19.03.2014

The Council approved its position at first reading, in accordance with Article 294(5) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. (Legal basis: Article 167(5) of the TFEU)

5. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the establishment of rules and procedures with regard to the introduction of noise-related operating restrictions at Union airports within a Balanced Approach and repealing Directive 2002/30/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council
[First reading] (LA+S)

- Adoption
 - a) of the Council's position at first reading
 - b) of the statement of the Council's reasons
 - 7583/1/14 REV 1 CODEC 755 AVIATION 74 ENV 262
 - 7583/14 ADD 1
 - 5560/14 AVIATION 15 ENV 52 CODEC 149
 - + REV 1 (fi)
 - + ADD 1
- approved by Coreper, Part 1, on 19.03.2014

The Council approved its position at first reading, in accordance with Article 294(5) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. (Legal basis: Article 100(2) of the TFEU)

Statement by the Commission
on the revision of Directive 2002/49/EC

"The Commission is discussing with the Member States Annex II to Directive 2002/49/EC (noise calculation methods) with a view to adopting it in the coming months.

Based on work the WHO is currently undertaking regarding the methodology to assess health implications of the noise impact, the Commission intends to revise Annex III to Directive 2002/49/ EC (estimation of health impact, dose response curves)."

6. Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 1166/2008 as regards the financial framework for the period 2014-2018 [First reading] (LA)

PE-CONS 46/14 STATIS 28 AGRI 144 CODEC 568

The Council approved the amendment set out in the European Parliament's position at first reading and adopted the proposed act amended accordingly, pursuant to Article 294(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. (Legal basis: Article 338(1) of the TFEU).

7. Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Copernicus Programme and repealing Regulation (EU) No 911/2010 [First reading] (LA+S)

PE-CONS 144/13 ESPACE 116 COMPET 942 RECH 614 IND 384

TRANS 690 MI 1195 ENER 597 ENV 1232 COSDP 1160 CSC 198

TELECOM 365 CODEC 3082

+ REV 1 (cs)

The Council approved the amendment set out in the European Parliament's position at first reading and adopted the proposed act amended accordingly, pursuant to Article 294(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. (Legal basis: Article 189(2) of the TFEU).

Statement by the Commission

"Following the agreement by the European Parliament and the Council to include Copernicus in the MFF as a European Union programme, the financial management of this programme is now subject to the provisions of Article 317 of TFEU according to which the Commission has the obligation to implement the budget under its own responsibility. The Commission, in executing such an obligation, is accountable to the European Parliament and to the Council.

The budget of Copernicus will, *inter alia*, be devoted to the procurement and purchase of the satellites for the space component, their launching into orbit, costs related to maintaining them in operation as well as expenditure related to enabling the provision of services. The implementation of the budget will therefore involve a large number of contracts, contract change notices and work orders with a high degree of technical and project management complexity. In order to make the best use of available technical expertise and experience in the relevant areas, particularly in relation to procuring the space component, the Commission will conclude delegation agreements with ESA and EUMETSAT, as foreseen by the Regulation. The Commission intends to entrust ESA and EUMETSAT with the role of contracting authority for the majority of the contracts, including developmental, operational and co-funded activities. Thus, ESA and EUMETSAT will be provided with the necessary flexibility to implement Copernicus and the ability to effectively conduct day-to-day contract management.

The Commission will only remain contracting authority where it deems this to be essential for the fulfilment of its basic obligations under the Treaty, the Copernicus Regulation and the Financial Regulation.

The Commission recalls that the EU Member States will be fully involved before the final decision on the delegation agreements is taken."

- 8. Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a Union programme to support specific activities in the field of financial reporting and auditing for the period of 2014-2020 and repealing Decision N° 716/2009/EC [First reading] (LA)**
PE-CONS 134/13 ECOFIN 1168 EF 273 SURE 29 DRS 224 CODEC 2994
+ REV 1 (el)

The Council approved the amendment set out in the European Parliament's position at first reading and adopted the proposed act amended accordingly, pursuant to Article 294(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. (Legal basis: Article 114 of the TFEU).

- 9. Council Directive amending Directive 2003/48/EC on taxation of savings income in the form of interest payments (LA+S)**
17162/13 FISC 244
+ COR 1

The Council adopted the above Directive. (Legal basis: Article 115 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union)

Statement by the Commission

"The Commission confirms that if the conditions laid down in Art 10 paragraph 2 of the Savings Directive are not fulfilled before 1 January 2015, the transitional period provided for in that article shall not end before 31 December 2016."

"B" ITEMS

4. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on information provision and promotion measures for agricultural products on the internal market and in third countries [First reading]

Interinstitutional file: 2013/0398 (COD)

– Policy debate

7831/14 AGRI 222 AGRIFIN 42 AGRIORG 49 CODEC 801

The Council took note of the Commission representative's and delegations' comments and agreed on Articles 8(3), 12, 12a, 15 and 18 of the draft Regulation.

5. 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 [First reading]

Interinstitutional file: 2014/0100 (COD)

– Presentation by the Commission

The Commission representative presented the new Regulation on organic production and labelling of organic products. He explained that, although the current Regulation on organic farming was recently adopted, there was a need to improve the current legislation on organic production with the objective of removing obstacles to the sustainable development of organic production, guaranteeing fair competition for farmers, maintaining consumer confidence in organic products and prevent frauds. He indicated that the sector was growing very fast with increasing demand and trade. Therefore, organic products should no longer be considered as a niche market.

The Commission representative stressed that the modernisation of legislation on organic products and the European organic action plan was the result of an impact assessment and an intense dialogue with Member States, the private sector and citizens (through a public consultation).

The Presidency informed the Council about its readiness to start the examination of this new piece of legislation without delay.

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES - PUBLIC DEBATES

[In accordance with Article 8(2) of the Council's Rules of Procedure (proposed by the French delegation)]

7. Report from the Commission regarding the mandatory indication of the country of origin or place of provenance for meat used as an ingredient

- Presentation by the Commission and exchange of views

18148/13 DENLEG 162 AGRI 880 CONSOM 226 SAN 551

Following the presentation by the Commission representative of the report regarding the mandatory indication of the country of origin or place of provenance for meat used as an ingredient (18148/13), a number of delegations expressed their views on the conclusions of the report, in particular on the 3 scenarios outlined by the Commission.
