



Council of the  
European Union

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**NOTE**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Delegations

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Subject: Issues related to the implementation of additional measures on the dairy market  
- Request from the Polish delegation

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Delegations will find in Annex a document submitted by the Polish delegation to be presented under "Any other business" at the Council ("Agriculture and Fisheries") at its session on 15-16 December 2014.

**Issues related to the implementation of additional measures on the dairy market**

Witnessing the increase in negative price trends on the dairy market, Poland believes that making an immediate decision on additional actions supporting the milk producers is necessary.

In the opinion of Poland, the measures targeted on the dairy sector, including private storage aid for butter and skimmed milk-powder and certain cheese types as well as extending the public intervention period for butter and skimmed milk-powder, already implemented by the European Commission, failed to mitigate difficult situation on the market and eliminate negative effects of the Russian embargo on dairy products. Downward trend in milk product prices observable since the early 2014, increased additionally in the half of the year, resulted in rapid drop of milk purchase prices and real financial losses suffered by the producers. Milk purchase prices in Poland decreased by approx. 17% from the beginning of 2014. Further drops are forecasted throughout the year.

The drops in milk purchase prices are being observed at the final stage of phasing-out of the milk quota system. Abandonment of the system is accompanied by definitely insufficient 'soft landing' measures, therefore minimization of financial burdens due to levies for exceeding milk quotas is the key.

With regard to the above, Poland once again requests for adjustment of fat correction coefficients in the milk quota system. This solution would be feasible in a short time perspective, require no introduction of additional administrative burdens and bring immediate effects.

Furthermore, in the opinion of Poland, it should be allowed to pay the levy for exceeding milk quota in 2014/2015 quota year in non-interest instalments, which would actually improve difficult situation of the milk producers.

Submitting the above, Poland deeply believes that these issues will be considered when assessing difficult situation on the dairy market and result in adoption of relevant solutions at the EU level compensating the losses suffered by the producers. Poland hopes for support of the other Member States and reaching a consensus in the issues presented in this request.