



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 12 December 2013  
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**"I/A" ITEM NOTE**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: SCA/Council

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Subject: Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down certain transitional provisions on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), amending Regulation (EU) No .../2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards resources and their distribution in respect of the year 2014 and amending Council Regulation (EC) No 73/2009 and Regulations (EU) No .../2013, (EU) No .../2013 and (EU) No .../2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards their application in the year 2014 (**first reading**)  
- Adoption of the legislative act (**LA + S**)  
= Statement

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**Statement by the Commission on rural development**

The Commission declares that it will cooperate constructively with the Member States in the preparation and approval of the new rural development programmes with a view to ensuring a smooth transition to the new programming period also for measures not covered by Article 1 of the Transitional Regulation.

The Commission encourages Member States which will use the possibility under Article 1 of the Transitional Regulation to undertake new legal commitments for irrigation operations to do so in compliance with the conditions set out for such operations in Article 46(3) of the new Rural Development Regulation for the programming period 2014-2020.

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