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European Union

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SUMMARY RECORD
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
26 March 2018

SUMMARY

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1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Non-discussion items (I)

2. Summary record of the 1569th meeting of the SCA

7109/18

The SCA approved the summary record.

Discussion items (II)

3. Food losses and food waste: assessment of progress made on the implementation of June 2016 Council conclusions

6453/18

*Information from the Presidency and the Commission
Exchange of views*

The SCA took note of the Presidency's background document (6453/18) and of the information provided by the Presidency, held a preliminary exchange of views on the question prepared for the ministerial discussion and agreed to forward this question to Ministers in view of the "Agriculture and Fisheries" Council meeting on 16 April 2018. The SCA also took note of information from the Commission and comments by the Delegations.

4. Regulation on spirit drinks



7214/18

Guidance for future work

7215/18

The SCA, on the basis of the questionnaire set out in doc. 7214/18, gave guidance for future work and took note in this context:

- of delegations' broad support for the suggested Presidency compromise text on the possible derogation from the labelling rules for *brandies* produced with the dynamic ageing system, as well as for the suggestion to retain the *status quo* regarding the maximum hydrocyanic acid content of certain spirit drinks as long as an updated EFSA opinion was not available; and
- that, while most delegations could support the principle of setting maximum sugar content for all categories of spirit drinks by taking into account the existing upper limits as regulated under national law, divergent views were expressed on the appropriate levels for *brandy*, vodka and flavoured vodka, which would need to be analysed further by the Presidency.

Furthermore, the SCA took note of additional comments made by delegations on the draft consolidated text set out in doc. 7215/18 and of the clarification provided by the Commission and the Council Legal Service.

The SCA also took note of the Presidency's intention to seek a mandate, at the SCA's meeting on 23 April, to open the negotiations with the European Parliament, subject to the finalisation of the draft Council text which was under review by the Presidency.

Any other business

5. The recovery of food waste (the experience of Italy) WK 3775/18
Information from the Italian delegation

The SCA took note of information provided by the Italian delegation (WK 3775/18).

6. Organisation of future work

The Presidency informed the SCA about the "Agriculture and Fisheries" Council on 16 April 2018 and about the next SCA meeting on 23 April 2018. The Presidency also confirmed the cancellation of both the SCA meeting, initially planned on 10 April 2018, and the "Agriculture and Fisheries" Council, initially planned on 14 May 2018

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- First reading
 Item based on a Commission proposal
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