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**NOTE**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Council

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Subject: Statement by the Ministers of Agriculture of Austria, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Hungary, Greece, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Spain calling for the CAP budget to meet the new challenges faced by European agriculture and forestry

*- Information from the French delegation on behalf of the Austrian, Bulgarian, Cyprus, Czech, Estonian, French, Hungarian, Greek, Irish, Latvian, Lithuanian, Luxembourg, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak and Spanish delegations*

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Delegations will find in the [Annex](#) a statement by the Ministers of Agriculture of Austria, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Hungary, Greece, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Spain on the CAP budget, to be dealt with under "Any other business" at the "Agriculture and Fisheries" Council on 14-15 October 2019.

**Statement by the Ministers of Agriculture of Austria, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Hungary, Greece, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Spain calling for the CAP budget to meet the new challenges faced by European agriculture and forestry**

- In June 2018, the European Commission published legislative proposals on the new Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) for the next programming period 2021-2027. These proposals confirm the essential role of this policy in responding to the challenges of European food security, ensuring high standards of food safety and quality for all consumers in the European Union and improving the standard of living of agricultural and rural populations.
- The Commission's proposals for the next programming period emphasize the urgent need to take action to meet the climate challenge. Since then, many voices in civil society and in the European Parliament have confirmed that the CAP must be an instrument for the transition towards more sustainable systems.
- During the Council of Agriculture Ministers on 18 June 2018, many Member States supported the statement launched on 31 May 2018, in Madrid by Spain, Finland, France, Greece, Ireland and Portugal to maintain the CAP budget under the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) for the period 2021-2027.
- More than ever, to meet the expectations of the citizens of the European Union, the CAP budget must be up to the new challenges. That is why, the Agriculture Ministers from Austria, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Hungary, Greece, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Ireland, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Spain ask for the CAP budget for the next programming period to be maintained , in current prices, at the current EU-27 level.