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#### NOTE

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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Results of and follow up to the high-level meeting on the use of the Agricultural Reserve - Information from the Commission - Exchange of views

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With a view to the meeting of the Special Committee on Agriculture on 9 October 2023, delegations will find in the Annex a Commission note on the above-mentioned subject.

**Results of and follow up to the high-level meeting on the use of the Agricultural Reserve**

The agricultural reserve is established in Article 16 of the Horizontal Regulation with a minimum annual budget of EUR 450 million. It is used to cover market measures pursuant to Articles 8 to 21 (public intervention and private storage aid) and exceptional measures pursuant to Articles 219 to 221 of the CMO Regulation.

Financial year 2023 (16 October 2022 – 15 October 2023) was the first year of implementation for the agricultural reserve.

Five CMO exceptional measures have been adopted in the course of financial year 2023<sup>1</sup>, which has been marked by a large diversity of challenges for EU agricultural markets and EU farmers, such as adverse weather events (in some cases of extreme magnitude), the fall-out of general macroeconomic conditions (price spikes of energy and other agricultural inputs, inflation), the consequences of the war in Ukraine on EU agricultural markets as well as the spread of animal diseases. Various agricultural sectors have been affected to varying degrees in different Member States.

To exchange on the lessons learnt after this first year of implementation of the agricultural reserve, the Commission convened a meeting on 19 September 2023 with the Directors-General of the Member States.

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<sup>1</sup> Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2022/2406 of 8 December 2022 on exceptional market support measures for the eggs and poultrymeat sectors in Poland; Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/834 of 18 April 2023 on exceptional market support measures for the eggs and poultrymeat sectors in Italy; Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/739 of 4 April 2023 providing for an emergency support measure for the cereal and oilseed sectors in Bulgaria, Poland and Romania; Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/1343 of 30 June 2023 providing for an emergency support measure for the cereal and oilseed sectors in Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia; and Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/1465 of 14 July 2023 providing for emergency financial support for the agricultural sectors affected by specific problems impacting on the economic viability of agricultural producers.

On that occasion, Member States representatives were invited to express their opinions on the questions relating to:

- The types of crises covered by CMO exceptional measures and financed by the agricultural reserve;
- How best to ensure solidarity amongst Member States when making use of the agricultural reserve;
- Policy effectiveness and coherence;
- Financial and budgetary management.

Member States and DG AGRI services exchanged on their experience and challenges in assessing the impacts of the crises on the farming sector, in adopting CMO exceptional measures for different types of crises and in making an efficient use of the agricultural reserve throughout the financial year.

The Commission will report on the conclusions of the meeting in the SCA meeting of 9 October 2023.

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