



Council of the
European Union

018492/EU XXVII. GP
Eingelangt am 23/04/20

Brussels, 23 April 2020
(OR. en)

7198/20
CRS CSA 5

SUMMARY RECORD
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
6 April 2020

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1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Non-discussion items (I)

2. Summary record of the 1616th meeting of the SCA

6695/20

The SCA approved the summary record.

Discussion items (II)

3. Regulation on CAP transitional rules



7032/20

Partial mandate for negotiations with the European Parliament

The SCA:

- noted there was a qualified majority of delegations who supported the Presidency suggestions;
- therefore gave the Presidency a partial negotiating mandate on the basis of the Presidency text set out in document 7032/20;
- noted that two delegations (Czech Republic and Lithuania) could not agree to give a partial mandate to open the negotiations on that basis;
- noted the reply from the Commission to a question on Article 6, in relation to new legal commitments (overbooking), confirming that Member States may continue to undertake new legal commitments even after the financial resources of the 2014-2020 programming period have been used up;
- took note of the Commission position; and
- agreed to enter the Council statement on the duration of the transitional period in the summary record of the meeting¹.

¹ See statement in [Annex](#).

4. Update on measures taken and planned under the CAP to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic

Information from the Commission

The SCA took note of the information provided by the Commission on the measures taken and planned under the CAP to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and of the questions and comments from delegations.

The SCA will continue to monitor the situation to verify that the measures taken are proving effective in protecting the farming community and ensuring food security for consumers.

Any other business

5. Organisation of future work

The Presidency informed the SCA about the possible SCA meeting on 21 April 2020 and about the "Agriculture and Fisheries" Council meeting which was scheduled for 27-28 April 2020, but may be replaced by a High-Level videoconference of Ministers of Agriculture.



First reading



Item based on a Commission proposal

Statement by the Council on the duration of the transitional period

In its proposal, the Commission puts forward a transitional period of one year, i.e. until the end of 2021. In order to avoid prejudging the results of the on-going negotiations on the Multiannual Financial Framework for 2021-2027, the Council can basically accept a one-year transitional period for the time being. However, the Council considers that a one year-transition will most likely not be sufficient, given the state of play of both the MFF negotiations and the legislative procedure on the CAP reform. In addition, the complexity of the structure of the future CAP will necessarily require sufficient preparation before the new system can be successfully implemented. Therefore, in the light of further developments, the need to extend the transitional period until the end of 2022 is very likely to emerge. This is important in order to maintain the continuity of the CAP especially for a responsible transition to the New Delivery Model, assuring a higher contribution to environmental and climate protection. The Council notes that the European Parliament seems to share the Council's concerns. The Council will follow developments closely and will revert to this issue for a final decision on it at a later stage.