



Council of the
European Union

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PV CONS 44
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DRAFT MINUTES
COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
(Foreign Affairs)
22 July 2024

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Council adopted the agenda set out in document 12400/24.

2. Approval of "A" items

a) Non-legislative list

12055/24

The Council adopted all "A" items listed in the document above, including all linguistic COR and REV documents presented for adoption. Statements to these items are set out in the Addendum.

b) Legislative list (Public deliberation in accordance with Article 16(8) of the Treaty on European Union)

12056/24

Justice and Home Affairs

1. **Regulation amending Regulation (EU) 2018/1806 as regards holders of Serbian passports issued by the Serbian Coordination Directorate**
Adoption of the legislative act



12085/24
PE-CONS 81/24
VISA

The Council approved the European Parliament's position at first reading and the proposed act has been adopted pursuant to Article 294(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (legal basis: Article 77(2), point (a) TFEU). In accordance with the relevant Protocols annexed to the Treaties, Ireland did not participate in the vote.

Internal Market and Industry

2. **Regulation amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 as regards the digital labelling of EU fertilising products**
Adoption of the legislative act



12018/24 + ADD 1
PE-CONS 13/24
MI

The Council approved the European Parliament's position at first reading and the proposed act has been adopted pursuant to Article 294(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (legal basis: Article 114 TFEU). Statements to this item are set out in the Annex.

Fisheries

3. Regulation laying down conservation, management and control measures applicable in the area covered by the Convention on future multilateral cooperation in the North-East Atlantic fisheries



12019/24
PE-CONS 32/24
PECHE

Adoption of the legislative act

The Council approved the European Parliament's position at first reading and the proposed act has been adopted pursuant to Article 294(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (legal basis: Article 43(2) TFEU).

Non-legislative activities

3. Current affairs
 4. Russian aggression against Ukraine¹
Exchange of views
 5. Situation in the Middle East
Exchange of views
 6. Any other business
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¹ Including an informal exchange of views with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine (via videoconference)

Statements to the legislative "A" items set out in doc. 12056/24

Ad “A” item 2: **Regulation amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1009 as regards the digital labelling of EU fertilising products**
Adoption of the legislative act

STATEMENT BY ITALY

“The proposed Regulation for the digital labeling of EU fertilizer products is a tool that promotes the digitalization processes of the entire agricultural sector and will allow all industry operators to convey and manage information in an agile and efficient way. The proposal would appear to only partially support the evolution of the technological process - widely promoted by the entire agricultural sector - preventing the translocation of various information solely within the digital section. Furthermore, the use of this tool is currently under discussion also for other technical means for agriculture such as plant protection products, which are also fundamental to guarantee adequate agricultural production.

Therefore, considering that expanding the scope of digital labeling to all information other than safety requirements for human, animal, and environmental health would allow for better management of labels and packaging with a view to greater sustainability, it is hoped that the proposal can be subject to rapid updates to support the digital transition and to easily provide the farmer with complete and comprehensive technical information that is increasingly requested today.”

STATEMENT BY SLOVAKIA

“According to the Slovak Republic, the introduction of the digital labelling of fertilizers brings opportunities to improve the reporting of information on the label. It brings technological progress, as well as contributes to reducing costs for fertilizer producers and the entire supply chain. For this reason, we regret that the final agreement of the co-legislators did not result in a more ambitious proposal that would lead to a more significant reduction of costs for economic operators, rationalization of labelling, reduction of packaging waste, and ultimately to a better use of digital labelling by operators. That would bring more benefits to the economics and environment.”

STATEMENT BY THE COMMISSION

“The Commission expresses concern with the wording of the last sentence of recital 12 (*“It is recalled that it is also essential that the end-user has the necessary information referred to in Regulation 2023/988 to be able to identify and contact the responsible person for products placed on the Union market.”*).

The Commission considers that Article 16 of Regulation 2023/988 [on general product safety], which lays down the obligation of establishment of a ‘responsible person’ for products placed on the Union market, does not apply to products subject to Regulation (EU) 2019/1009.”
