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NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Special Committee on Agriculture

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Subject: Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL establishing rules on support for strategic plans to be drawn up by Member States under the Common agricultural policy (CAP Strategic Plans) and financed by the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) and by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council
- *Statements*

For information, the Annex to this document sets out the statements that are part of the political agreement.

Joint statement by the European Parliament and the Council on the social dimension

The Council and the European Parliament invite the Commission to monitor, via a study to be carried out two years after the first two years of application of social conditionality by all Member States, the impact of the mechanism on workers conditions and the functioning of the system of penalties and, where appropriate, to come forward with proposals to enhance the social dimension of the CAP.

By 2025, the Commission will assess the feasibility of including in Annex XX, Article 7(1) of Regulation 492/2011 on free movement of workers and where appropriate, come forward with proposals to that effect.

European Parliament statement on the role of the European Council

The European Parliament deplores the fact that the European Council took decisions, in its conclusions of 21 July 2020, on legislative elements of the common agricultural policy that should have been decided under the ordinary legislative procedure in accordance with the Treaties. The European Parliament considers those unilateral pre-emptive decisions to be unacceptable and that they impinge on the rights of the European Parliament as a co-legislator acting on an equal footing with the Council.

The European Parliament deplores the fact that the Council was therefore unwilling to enter into meaningful negotiations with the European Parliament concerning those elements on the grounds that they had already been decided by the European Council.

In particular, the European Parliament notes that the Council did not enter into meaningful negotiations on the capping and degressivity provisions laid down in Article 15 and the flexibility between direct payments allocations and EAFRD allocations laid down in Article 90, and considers the outcome of negotiations on those Articles to be unsatisfactory.

The European Parliament deeply regrets the Council's approach and considers that it undermines the proper functioning of the ordinary legislative procedure. The European Parliament therefore insists that this should not be repeated in any future negotiations in the context of the ordinary legislative procedure.

Commission statement on the possibility for Belgium to submit two CAP Strategic Plans

In view of the provisions of Article [91] of the CAP Strategic Plan Regulation agreed by the co-legislators and taking into account Belgium's particular constitutional framework, the Commission confirms that it will accept that Belgium submits a CAP Strategic Plan for each of its relevant federated entities. This does not affect or alter Belgium's legal obligations under the CAP Strategic Plan Regulation.
