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OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
On:	17 December 2024
To:	Delegations

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Subject:	Special Report No 20/2024 from the European Court of Auditors entitled: "Common Agricultural Policy Plans: Greener, but not matching the EU's ambitions for the climate and the environment" - <i>Council conclusions</i>
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Delegations will find in the annex the Council conclusions on:

European Court of Auditors special report 20/2024 entitled: "*Common Agricultural Policy Plans: Greener, but not matching the EU's ambitions for the climate and the environment*",

approved by the Council at its 4071st meeting held on 17 December 2024.

Council conclusions

European Court of Auditors Special Report 20/2024 entitled:

“Common Agricultural Policy Plans – Greener, but not matching the EU’s ambitions for the climate and the environment”

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

1. NOTES the Court's Special Report No 20/2024 entitled *“Common Agricultural Policy Plans – Greener, but not matching the EU’s ambitions for the climate and the environment”*, which assesses whether the 2023-2027 CAP strategic plans provide a sound basis for meeting the policy objectives of a greener CAP and the replies of the Commission to this report;
2. WELCOMES the Court's recommendation to the Commission to continue promoting the exchanges of “green” good practices, which the Commission accepts;
3. TAKES NOTE of the Court's recommendation to the Commission to estimate the CAP’s contribution to the Green Deal’s environmental and climate objectives and ACKNOWLEDGES the importance of the monitoring framework for the climate and environmental performance of the CAP;
4. Compared to the 2014-2022 period, WELCOMES the increased level of ambition in the CAP strategic plans as concerns environmental and climate aspects while ACKNOWLEDGING the differences that exist among Member States in terms of the most appropriate ways of attaining the Green Deal objectives;

5. RECALLS that one of the primary goals of the CAP is to ensure food security in the EU while, at the same time it contributes to the achievement of the EU's environmental and climate goals; however EMPHASIZES that CAP is only one of the tools for reaching Green Deal's objectives;
6. DRAWS ATTENTION to the EU Climate Action Progress Report 2024¹ which shows the current trend of reduction in EU emissions, expecting the agricultural sector to meet the emission cuts to be achieved by 2030;
7. RECALLS also that the implementation of CAP strategic plans only started in 2023 and that the recent period was a very challenging one for the European agricultural sector and it is therefore too early to be able to fully assess the impact of the new CAP towards EU's environmental and climate objectives;
8. UNDERLINES the need for stability and predictability in relation to the legal framework and CALLS for a simplified system of data collection satisfying various needs, which avoids the creation of unnecessary administrative burden for European farmers and Member States' competent authorities.

¹ EU Climate Action Progress Report 2024 (COM(2024) 498 final, 31/10/2024)