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## NOTE

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| From:    | General Secretariat of the Council                                                                                                  |
| To:      | Delegations                                                                                                                         |
| Subject: | Regulation establishing the conditions for the implementation of Union support under the CAP<br>- Preparation of the Council debate |

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## Background

On 16 July 2025, the Commission presented its proposals for the post-2027 framework for the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), including the regulation establishing the conditions for the implementation of the Union support to the Common Agriculture Policy for the period from 2028 to 2034, “the CAP post-2027 Regulation” (11733/25). The CAP post-2027 Regulation aims to provide a simpler and more flexible framework, seeking to secure farmers’ incomes, to improve the targeting and fairness of payments, to strengthen generational renewal, to support risk management and resilience, and to promote a better balance between common rules and incentives for climate, environment and animal welfare. The Commission proposals also integrated the CAP within the framework of the National and Regional Partnership Plans (NRPPs), with the aim of enabling stronger synergies with other Union funds, and a more efficient and flexible allocation of funding across different policy areas.

Work on the CAP post-2027 Regulation progressed under the Danish and Cyprus Presidencies, with detailed technical examinations, as well as consideration of the CAP-specific provisions transferred from the NRPP Regulation. The Cyprus Presidency provided a progress report at the June Council (doc. 10721/26).

Following bilateral consultations with Member States, the Irish Presidency undertook further examination of the redrafted provisions that were part of the original CAP Regulation, as well as drafting work with the Commission. A revised compromise text on those provisions belonging to blocks 1–6 (doc. 12033/26) was circulated to Member States and discussed at the working party on horizontal agricultural questions (WP HAQ) on 2–3 September.

The Presidency has now identified the following issues concerning blocks 1-6 where further political guidance from Member States would assist in progressing the text towards a Partial General Approach. The provisions containing the provisions transferred from the NRPP Regulation, block 7, are still being discussed in the WP HAQ.

### **Guiding Questions**

- **Transition Action Plans – Article 10**

The Commission proposal provides for transition action plans to support the transition towards resilient production systems. Several Member States requested greater flexibility regarding the requirement for such plans.

In response, the Presidency suggests retaining the mandatory nature of transition actions but makes the transition action plan itself optional.

***Does the Presidency’s suggested text adequately address Member States’ requests for flexibility regarding transition action plans, while maintaining the environmental and climate ambition of the CAP?***

- **Social Conditionality – Article 3 and Annex I**

Following discussions at working party level, the Presidency removed the provisions on Social Conditionality from Farm Stewardship. During discussions some Member States expressed differing views on this issue, with some supporting its retention and others supporting its removal.

The Presidency invites Member States to express their views on this issue.

- **Payment for Small Farmers- Article 7**

The Commission proposal provides for a simplified intervention for small farmers, including an annual payment capped at EUR 3,000. Views of delegations vary on this amount, and the Presidency suggests to keep the amount as proposed by the Commission.

*Is the proposed EUR 3,000 annual ceiling for the small farmer intervention sufficient?*

*Should recipients of the support payment for small farmers benefit from the currently proposed flexibilities for Farm Stewardship and DNSH (do no significant harm)?*

- **Young Farmer Starter Pack – Article 16**

During discussions, a number of Member States raised concerns regarding the number of mandatory interventions that Member States would be required to include in their young farmer starter pack.

In the Presidency's suggested text, Member States would be required to include at least three interventions in their starter packages. The Presidency sees that this text provides an appropriate balance between the need to support generational renewal and the flexibility required by Member States to design starter packages suited to their national circumstances.

*Can your delegation support the Presidency's suggested text in this regard?*

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