Council of the European Union

Brussels, 23 September 2026
(OR. en)

13473/26

Interinstitutional File:
2025/0241 (COD)

AGRI 691
AGRIFIN 158
FIN 1336
CADREFIN 399
CODEC 1719
ENV 1114
FORETS 127

NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	AOB item for the meeting of the "Agriculture and Fisheries" Council on 28-29 September 2026: Request for the continuation of Transitional National Aid - Information from Romania, on behalf of Bulgaria, Cyprus, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia

The agricultural sector is currently facing persistent vulnerabilities, including volatile input and energy prices, adverse climatic events, animal disease outbreaks, market instability, disruptions to trade and growing pressure on farm incomes. These challenges are particularly acute in the livestock sector, where production cycles are long, fixed costs are high and farmers have limited capacity to adjust production rapidly in response to market shocks. Labour-intensive and structurally vulnerable sectors are therefore exposed to a heightened risk of loss of competitiveness, reduction or abandonment of production and further depopulation of rural areas.

In light of the current circumstances, **Transitional National Aid remains an essential and well-targeted instrument** for maintaining agricultural activity and preserving the productive capacity of vulnerable sectors, in the Member States concerned. Its continuation is necessary to prevent abrupt income losses, support the economic viability of farms, and safeguard employment, food production, as well as the economic and social fabric of rural areas. Its continued application is further justified by the persisting disparities in the levels of direct payments across Member States.

We therefore **call for a clear provision in CAP Regulation enabling Member States to continue granting Transitional National Aid throughout the financial programming period after 2027**, while retaining sufficient flexibility to target support in line with national structural needs and sector-specific vulnerabilities.

As Transitional National Aid is financed exclusively from national budgets, its continuation would have no impact on the Multiannual Financial Framework and would not reduce the resources available under the CAP or other Union policies.

In addition, no market distortion is expected, as the level of the payments have decreased significantly, **reaching 30% of the related 2013 envelopes**. The discontinuation of the phasing-out process would lead to a significant shock to these sectors.

At the same time, it would contribute directly to the achievement of the CAP objectives by supporting resilient agricultural production, food security and the long-term vitality of rural areas. It is also important to retain that TNA remains out of the Performance Framework, where no planning of outputs and results are requested.