Dear Article4(1)b

Europe’s agri-food sector plays a crucial role in the European – and even global - economy. It has shown remarkable resilience throughout a pandemic, an energy crisis and high inflation, while at the same time making a tremendous contribution to our collective green and digital transitions. But the entire food system is also confronted with several serious challenges, such as climate change and a very competitive global market, with a huge impact on the entire sector, and notably our farmers and the rural areas.


I would like to extend a personal, non-transferable invitation to you to nominate one participant in this Dialogue, possibly representing the Nordic countries for reasons of geographical balance of participants.

The Dialogue will allow to listen to the concerns from across the agri-food chain, the environment and rural areas. It will address pertinent issues such as:

- How can we give our farmers, and the rural communities they live in, a better perspective, including a fair standard of living?
- How can we support agriculture within the boundaries of our planet and its ecosystem?
- How can we make better use of the immense opportunities offered by knowledge and technological innovation?
- How can we promote a bright and thriving future for Europe’s food system in a competitive world?

By combining different perspectives from various actors, the Dialogue aims to bring about new solutions and to cultivate a common vision for the future of agriculture in Europe. We look forward to hearing your views in Brussels.

The first meeting will take place in a plenary format on 25 January 2024 starting at 9 am. It will begin with an opening session, in which I will launch our work and introduce the Chair of the Dialogue, Professor Peter Strohschneider. I also have the pleasure to invite you to an informal dinner the evening before, at 19h30, to get to know the other members of the Dialogue.

.../...
Further dates of meetings under the Dialogue will be fixed over the coming months.

I would be grateful if you could confirm your availability by 19 January 2024 via email SG-AGRI-DIALOGUE@ec.europa.eu. My team stands ready to answer any questions you might have.

Yours sincerely,

Ursula von der Leyen