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.

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