Re: CAP post 2020 – the perspective of farmers and their cooperatives ahead of the first trilogue meeting

Dear Commissioner,

With the CAP decision-making process entering the trilogues I would like to welcome and recognise the immense work, on the three proposed regulations, carried out by the Council and the European Parliament built from the good basis proposed regulations presented by the European Commission in 2018.

In this context I would also like to bring to your attention some of the main messages from Copa and Cogeca ahead of the first trilogue meeting scheduled for next week.

For Copa and Cogeca the CAP is, and must continue to be, an important and strategic policy that supports European farmers in delivering an adequate supply of food as well public goods, thus generating benefits for citizens and consumers. As we see in this on-going coronavirus pandemic, European farmers continue to deliver food to our tables and ensure the consumers’ livelihood. In turn, the CAP must provide for the livelihood of farmers.

The CAP must therefore continue to support farmers in providing for food security, while at the same time meeting the high environmental and health standards that we have set out in European Union and that, according to the proposals and mandates from the co-legislators will be further developed. However, with this reform the co-legislators must strive to deliver a policy that is simpler for farmers to use and for Member States to administer. In this regard no additional reporting or control requirements that would represent more red-tape and administrative burden for farmers and/or EU or Member State administrations should be introduced.

Further to the work already carried out by the co-legislators, the compromise deal emerging as an outcome from the trilogues must constitute a good basis for a post 2020 CAP. One that farmers and their cooperatives can use in a simpler manner to deliver a more sustainable sector whilst improving their competitiveness.
I would be happy to exchange with you on these issues at your convenience.

Yours faithfully,

Encl.: Note Background note on Copa and Cogeca position regarding CAP post 2020 in view of first trilogue meeting

CC : Mr Wolfgang Burtscher, Director-General of DG Agri