



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Secretariat-General

Directorate D - Policy Co-ordination I
SG.D.3-Resource Efficiency

Brussels, 28 June 2017

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NOTE TO MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION

**Subject: Meeting of the Special Committee on Agriculture (SCA)
Brussels, 26 June 2017 - Summary record**

The SCA prepared the Council mandate in view of the 18th trilogue on organic farming, scheduled for 28 June. The mandate was supported by a narrow qualified majority (17 Member States), with north-south and east-west cleavages preventing a broader consensus in the Council. The incoming Estonian Presidency plans to debrief the SCA on the trilogue results on 10 July.

[signed]

Further information: [redacted]

1. Adoption of the agenda

I

2. Summary record of the 1553rd meeting of the SCA
10270/17 CRS CSA 13

II

3. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on organic production and labelling of organic products, amending Regulation (EU) No XXX/XXX of the European Parliament and of the Council [Official controls Regulation] and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007
Interinstitutional file: 2014/0100 (COD)
– Request for revised mandate for trilogue

Following the policy debate that took place during the AGRIFISH Council on 12 June 2017, the Presidency, assisted by the Commission, prepared a revised compromise text.

The Presidency sought to obtain a mandate from the SCA on the basis of this document (10460/17) with a view to reaching an agreement before the end of June.

The main points which remained open related to demarcated beds (greenhouses), seeds, databases, unauthorised substances and controls.

Following a first exchange of views on these points, new changes were proposed in a number of room documents which were issued during the meeting:

- Corrigendum on Art 35. (on extension of derogation for seeds)
- Room document 1 on Annex II, Part 1.1d (on demarcated beds)
- Room document 2 on Annex II, Part 1.1d (on demarcated beds)

Regarding the demarcated beds it has been agreed that *“by way of derogation, growing crops in demarcated beds shall only be allowed for the surfaces that have been certified as organic for this practice before 28 June (= date of the next Trilogue) in Finland, Sweden and Denmark.”* This derogation shall end 10 years from the date of application of the applicable Regulation. Five years after the date of application of the Regulation, the Commission will also present a report to the EP and CS on the use of demarcated beds in organic agriculture.

Following the discussion, the PRES invited the SCA to show its support to the revised compromise text (with inclusion of the two amendments) by a show of hands.

Results were as follow:

Against the compromise package: CZ, AT, CY, LT, DK, FI, SK

Abstention: PL, HU, BE, LV

In favour of the compromise package: all others

Based on this, the SCA **could endorse a revised mandate** and proceed on this basis with the Trilogue which has been scheduled for Wednesday 28 June.

Reporting: [REDACTED], DG AGRI, Unit I.5 Tel.: [REDACTED]

4. Organisation of future work

The next SCA (first one Presided by EE) will take place on 10 July and will include a debriefing on the outcome of the Trilogue. Depending on the outcome of this Trilogue, the PRES will inform the SCA on the next steps.

The next AGRIFISH Council meeting will take place on 17 July.

An AOB point was requested from PL: info note on the Meeting of the Ministers of agriculture of the Visegrad Group countries and Bulgaria, Romania and Slovenia held Nadarzyn near Warsaw, Poland, 2 June 2017 (where they adopted the conclusions and joint declarations on the CAP post 2020).

Reporting: [REDACTED], *DG AGRI, Unit I.5 Tel.:* [REDACTED]