



15.3.2018

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Budgets

for the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

on the future of food and farming
(2018/2037(INI))

Rapporteur for opinion: Nedzhmi Ali

SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Budgets calls on the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

- A. whereas the common agricultural policy (CAP) is the most integrated policy in the Union, and has successfully fulfilled its original objectives by supporting European farmers and responding to citizens' demands regarding food security and safety, and quality and sustainability;
 - B. whereas it is necessary to ensure support for genuine farmers, and to give priority to small farms; whereas it is essential to ensure a fair standard of living across regions and Member States;
 - C. whereas in the light of the excessive administrative burden of the greening measures, the control and audit system, and the growing number of overlaps between pillars I and II, it is important to reduce the overall burden of the CAP, to improve its value for money and to achieve simplification and transparency;
 - D. whereas as outlined in the Commission communication on the future of food and farming, the future CAP will have common objectives and the Member States, whether at national or regional level, will need to pick from those options in order to achieve the goals set at EU level;
1. Emphasises that the CAP can deliver its objectives if sufficiently funded; calls, therefore, for the CAP budget to be maintained at an adequate level in the next MFF;
 2. Draws attention to the intention to simplify and modernise the CAP, but calls on the Commission to ensure that financial and performance control and audit functions are performed to the same standard and under the same criteria across all Member States;
 3. Calls for a fair distribution of direct payments between the Member States, so that the gaps between the different regions of the Union can be closed sooner;
 4. Supports the move towards increased efficiency of farming and EU added value.