



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 123 of the Rules of Procedure

on the equitable distribution of agricultural subsidies between the new and old Member States

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Written declaration on the equitable distribution of agricultural subsidies between the new and old Member States

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 123 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas farmers across the EU must satisfy the same requirements with regard, inter alia, to food quality and hygiene, animal health and welfare and environmental protection, which call for high levels of investment;
- B. whereas the end of the traditional subsidies model has been announced;
- C. whereas, in the new Member States applying the single area payment scheme, a large proportion of farmers, especially in the stock-breeding sector, are not even entitled to direct payments because they do not own agricultural land;
- 1. Considers that the system of direct payments should ensure fair treatment for all farmers in the EU and equitable distribution of the funding, taking account of the specific needs and circumstances of the farming sector in the different regions of the Member States, avoid distorting market conditions and lead as quickly as possible to harmonisation of the aid received by farmers in the new and the old Member States;
- 2. Considers that, as of 1 January 2014, it will be necessary to set up a system enabling the transfer of funds from the second to the first pillar of the CAP so as to ensure better take-up of CAP funding, thus enabling a higher proportion of farmers in the new Member States, and especially small-scale family farmers, to benefit from the support measures and instruments;
- 3. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Commission and the Council.