

Newsletter 8th legislature - Issue No 16/2016

Meeting of:
28 November 2016
15.00 – 18.30 - room ASP 1G3
-
29 November 2016
9.00 – 11.30 - Room ASP 1G3
-
29 November 2016
15.00 – 19.00
Hemicycle



Highlights

Agriculture and trade negotiations: debate with Commissioners Hogan & Malmström



The Committees on Agriculture (AGRI) and on International Trade (INTA) will hold a joint meeting on 29 November from 17.00 to 19.00h in the Hemicycle with Commissioners Phil Hogan and Cecilia Malmström to discuss the effects for agriculture of ongoing and envisaged trade negotiations. This will be an occasion for Members to discuss the impact on European agriculture of the recent CETA agreement and ongoing negotiations with the US and Mercosur, among other trade talks in progress.

Hearing on “Resource efficient and innovative agriculture”



The AGRI Committee is organising a hearing on “Resource efficient and innovative agriculture - EU and global best practice” on 28 November from 15.00 to 17.30h (ASP 1G3). Feeding the world with less resources is one of the main challenges in the coming decades. Experts from the Renewable Energy Platform (Hungary), the Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium), the Saclay University (France), the Agricultural Research Organisation/Volcani Center (Israel) and the World Agroforestry Centre (Belgium) will update Members and answer their questions on latest technology developments and best practices in the EU and in third countries as regards resource efficiency and innovation in agriculture.

What perspectives after milk quotas in the EU dairy sector?: presentation of a study



Aurélien Trouvé, Professor at AgroParis Tech will present and discuss with Members the findings of a “Study of measures against market imbalance: What perspectives after milk quotas in the European dairy sector?”. This study compares the situation of the dairy market in several EU Member States (Germany, Netherlands, Ireland, Poland and France) and analyses of the instruments used to regulate dairy markets in third countries such as the US, Switzerland and New Zealand. It also draws some recommendations for a new EU policy for the dairy sector.

The future policy of rural development: debate with Members of the CoR



AGRI Members will have an exchange views with their counterparts of the Committee of Natural Resources (NAT) of the Committee of the Regions (CoR) on the future of rural development policy.

Work in progress

Discharge 2015: consideration of draft opinion



The annual discharge procedure is an important aspect of the Parliament's work. The agricultural budget is the biggest portion of the EU budget and it is of utmost importance for the AGRI Committee to ensure that agricultural funds are spent properly. This year's rapporteur for the 2015 discharge is Peter Jahr (EPP, DE) and he will have a first exchange of views with Members on his draft opinion.

Working conditions and precarious employment: consideration of draft opinion



Viorica Dăncilă (S&D, RO) will present a draft opinion to the Committee on Employment (EMPL) drawing attention to the higher exposure of farmers and farm workers to precarious employment than other workers in other sectors. The draft underlines that this is especially true in case of seasonal workers and calls for a legal status and social security cover for those. The draftswoman also points out that young people and women have particular difficulty in finding jobs in rural areas or starting a farm of their own and that special support should be provided for those categories.

Report back from the AGRI mission to Slovenia



A delegation of Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development of the European Parliament visited Slovenia from 21 to 23 September 2016. This delegation was led by our first Vice-Chair, Eric Andrieu. Franc Bogovic will report on the outcome of this delegation.

Votes on 29 November at 9.00

Annual Report on EU Competition Policy: adoption of draft opinion



128 amendments have been tabled to the draft opinion by Michel Dantin (EPP, FR) on the Annual Report on EU Competition Policy to be submitted to ECON, the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs. 15 compromise amendments have been negotiated among the groups to ease the vote. The vote in ECON is expected to take place on 5 December.

Pest of plants: adoption of motion for a resolution



AGRI will vote on a draft resolution proposing modifications to the draft "Commission Implementing Directive amending Annexes I to V to Council Directive 2000/29/EC on protective measures against the introduction into the Community of organisms harmful to plants or plant products and against their spread within the Community".

Next committee meeting

5 December 2016 (15.00-18.30)

9 January 2017 (15.00-18.30)

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