

Newsletter

8th legislature - Issue No 10/2017

Meeting of:

19 June 2017

15.00 - 18.30

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20 June 2017

9.00 - 12.30 – 15.00 - 18.30

Room: PHS 3C50



Highlights

Better functioning food supply chain: debate with Czech, Slovak & Slovene ministers



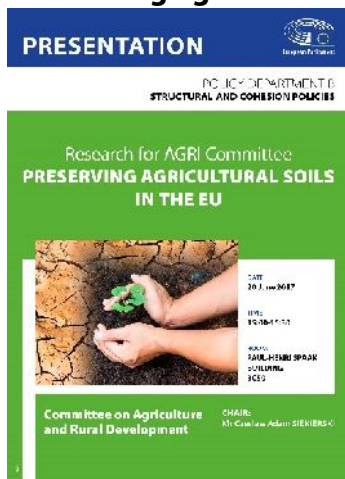
Ministers Gabriela Matečná (Slovak Minister for Agriculture), Marián Jurečka (Czech Minister for Agriculture) and Dejan Židan (Slovenian Minister for Agriculture) will present on 19 June at 15.00 their "non paper" on "Better functioning of the food supply chain: addressing unfair trading practices (UTPs) and improving the position of farmers". This non-paper aims at contributing to the establishment of an EU legislative framework to regulate UTPs and to define additional tools needed for strengthening the position of farmers in the food supply chain. ComAGRI has repeatedly called for action to address imbalances in the food supply chain.

Competition policy in agriculture: debate with Commissioners Hogan and Vestager



Competition Commissioner Margrethe Vestager and Agriculture Commissioner Phil Hogan are invited on 20 June at 16.30 for a second AGRI debate on the implementation of competition policy in the agriculture sector. Since the first debate held in June 2015, Members have called on several occasions for a clarification and improvement of such rules in order to ensure fair competition, fair trading practices and decent revenues for farmers in the food chain. A number of amendments adopted by the AGRI Committee in the context of the so called "Omnibus" go in that direction, as did the EP resolution of 14 February 2017 on the Annual report on EU competition policy (AGRI opinion by Michel Dantin, EPP, FR).

'Preserving agricultural soils in the EU': Presentation of study



Dr Ir Hein F.M. ten Berge & Dr J.J. Schröder from the Wageningen University Plant Research department (the Netherlands) will present on 20 June at 15.00 a study requested by the AGRI Committee on 'Preserving agricultural soils in the EU'. This study, written in cooperation with the Aarhus University (Denmark) and the Cordoba University (Spain) aims to explain how threats to soils are linked to agricultural soil management; - how these threats can be mitigated; and - which barriers could complicate these initiatives. The study also highlights trade-offs and synergies that exist between different interests affected by soil management (such as climate change mitigation, water and air quality, biodiversity, food security and farm incomes).

Work in progress

Alignment of older legal acts to Lisbon Treaty: draft opinion



Daniel Buda (EPP, RO) will present his draft opinion to the report by the Committee on Legal Affairs (JURI) on the so called "RPS alignment exercise". This report is aimed to respond to a Commission proposal to align a number of older legal acts with references to a pre-Lisbon procedure called Regulatory procedure with scrutiny to the new regime of Delegated and Implementing acts established by the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. The opinion will only focus on the alignment of the acts AGRI related to competence.

Protection of workers from risks related to exposure to carcinogens or mutagens



José Bové (Verts-ALE, FR) will present his draft opinion on the proposal for a directive amending Directive 2004/37/EC, for which the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL) is the lead committee. The rapporteur proposes several amendments intended to improve the protection of health and safety of workers, including farmers and agri-food workers, from risks related to exposure to carcinogens or mutagens at work.

Governance of the Energy Union: draft opinion



Jens Rohde (ALDE, DK), AGRI rapporteur, will discuss with Members his draft opinion on the legislative proposal to establish the regulatory framework for the Governance of the Energy Union. The proposal is meant to streamline existing planning, reporting and monitoring obligations in the energy and climate field, in order to reflect Better Regulation principles. The Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) and the Committee on Environment (ENVI) have the joint lead on this proposal (Rule 55).

Votes

EU/Chile agreement on trade in organic products: draft AGRI opinion



Members will vote on 20 June at 09.00 on the draft opinion by Clara Eugenia Aguilera García (S&D, ES) on the proposed agreement between the EU and the Republic of Chile on trade in organic products. The rapporteur invites the Committee to recommend that Parliament give its consent whereas two identical amendments have been tabled in order to reject this agreement.

Next committee meeting

10 July 2017 (15.00 - 18.30) Brussels

11 July 2017 (9.00 - 12.30 and 15.00 -18.30) Brussels

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