

Newsletter 8th legislature - Issue No 8/2018

Meeting of:

Wednesday 20 June
9.00 – 12.30 and 14.30 – 18.30

Thursday 21 June
9.00 – 12.30

Room: PHS 1A002

Brussels



Highlights

Presentation of the report on the AGRI mission to Finland, 7 - 9 May 2018



A delegation of the AGRI Committee visited Finland from 7 to 9 May 2018. This mission focused on the Kainuu/Northern Savonia regions in North-East Finland. AGRI Members were able to learn more about the specifics of the Finnish agricultural system by visiting different kinds of farms, to see on the ground how farming is arranged in areas of natural constraints, to discover the local take on bio-economy and forestry as well as to see how the questions of food safety and animal welfare are being addressed.

Exchange of views with Vytenis Andriukaitis, European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety



In the context of the regular dialogue between Parliament and Commission, AGRI Members will have the opportunity to exchange views with Vytenis Andriukaitis, Commissioner for Health & Food Safety. The Commissioner will start with a presentation on current developments in his field of competence. Among the various issues expected to be discussed are animal health, including the Brazilian food safety system, plant health where the Commission is about to submit a new set of delegated acts, animal welfare, antimicrobial resistance, as well as New Breeding Techniques.

Exchange of views with Andrew McDowell, Vice-President of the European Investment Bank, on agriculture and bio-economy investments



Members will have an exchange of views with Andrew McDowell, Vice-President of the European Investment Bank (EIB) in charge of investments in agribusiness and bio-economy. In April this year, the EIB announced the launch of a new financing initiative that aims to unlock close to EUR 1bn of investment in the agriculture and bioeconomy sectors, operation which will be guaranteed by the EU budget under the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI).

Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture in the EU - Presentation by Dr Annette Piorr and Dr Ingo Zasada (Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research, ZALF(Germany)).



Dr Annette Piorr and Dr Ingo Zasada, from the Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research will present a study on the topic 'Urban and peri-urban agriculture in the EU' to the Members of the AGRI Committee.

The aim of the research is to provide information regarding the state of urban and peri-urban agriculture in the European Union. Using best practices examples, the study demonstrates the need for an improved integration of these agricultures into the policy agenda across sectors, domains and governance levels.

Votes

Implementation of the Plant Production Products Regulation EC/1107/2009



The voting session will start with the vote on the AGRI opinion on the ENVI report on the "Implementation of the Plant Protection Programme Regulation", prepared by the AGRI rapporteur Peter Jahr (EPP, DE). 169 amendments were tabled and the rapporteur has negotiated 15 compromise amendments in order to facilitate the vote.

Harnessing globalisation: trade aspects



Next will be the vote on the AGRI opinion to the INTA report on "Harnessing globalisation: trade aspects", prepared by the AGRI rapporteur Karin Kadenbach (S&D, AT). 127 amendments were tabled and the rapporteur has negotiated 14 compromise amendments in order to facilitate the vote.

2019 budget - trilogue mandate



Members will finish the votes by voting on the draft AGRI opinion on the mandate for this year's budgetary trilogue, prepared by the AGRI rapporteur for the 2019 budgetary procedure, Ramón Luis Valcárcel Siso (EPP, ES). They have tabled 44 amendments to this draft opinion. The rapporteur has negotiated 4 compromise amendments in order to facilitate the vote.

Work in progress

Manufacture, placing on the market and use of medicated feed



Clara Aguilera (SD, ES) will report from the second trilogue on the Medicated Feed file which this committee has been working on for some time. It is an important topic for farmers across the EU, but it is also quite a technical file.

The delay in this file is due to its close connection with the related Veterinary Medicine Products file which the ENVI Committee recently concluded in its last trilogue on 5 June. Cross links between both files are quite strong.

Transparency and sustainability of the EU risk assessment in the food chain



In its communication on the European Citizens' Initiative "Ban glyphosate and protect people and the environment from toxic pesticides", the Commission promised to come forward with a legislative proposal to amend the General Food Law regulation adopted in 2002. This proposal is now on the table and concerns essentially transparency in scientific assessments, decision-making and also governance of EFSA. ENVI is the lead committee and Karin Kadenbach (SD, AT) is the rapporteur for the AGRI opinion.

Implementation report as regards Regulation 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport within and outside the EU



AGRI Members will hold a first exchange of views on the implementation report by Jørn Dohrmann (ECR, DA) regarding Regulation 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport within and outside the EU. The report's purpose is to investigate alleged contraventions and maladministration in relation to the implementation and enforcement of that Regulation. ENVI and TRAN are associated to AGRI on this report. A representative of DG SANTE's Food and Veterinary Office, which is based in Ireland, will be present to offer information and discuss with Members.

Next committee meetings

9 July 2018, 15.00 – 18.30 (Brussels)

10 July 2018, 9.00 – 12.30 – 14.30 – 18.30 (Brussels)

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