

## Newsletter

### 9th legislature - Issue No 8/2020

Wednesday 22 January 2020

9.00 – 12.30 and 14.30 – 18.30

Thursday 23 January

9.00 – 13.00

Brussels

Room Paul-Henri Spaak (1A002)



## Highlights

### **Exchange of views with Ms Marija Vučković, Minister of Agriculture, on the priorities of the Croatian Presidency of the Council of the European Union in the field of agriculture**



Ms Marija Vučković, Minister of Agriculture, will attend the AGRI committee to deliver a presentation on the priorities of the Croatian Presidency of the Council of the European Union in the field of agriculture.

### **Presentation by the European Commission (DG AGRI) of Delegated Act on flexibility package for wine promotion programmes**



A representative from DG AGRI will present the reaction of the European Commission to the unfair measures taken by the United States against the European wine

### **Animal Health Law Regulation delegated acts presentation**



At the request from Ms Anne Sander (FR, EPP) the coordinators decided to invite the Commission to present a package of four draft delegated acts that are part of a series of delegated acts establishing the framework for implementation of the Animal Health Law Regulation adopted in March 2016. The delegated acts provide additional rules regarding prevention, control, surveillance and eradication of certain listed diseases, and health requirements for movements within the Union of terrestrial animals and germinal products.

### **Presentation of the report on the AGRI mission to France, 28-30 October 2019**



The agenda of the next AGRI Committee meetings foresees a timeslot for a presentation of the report from the mission to France. At the end of October last year Members went for a short visit to France. They met representatives of different sectors (beef, pork, wine and cheese, amongst others) in the Burgundy Franche Comté and Alsace Regions. The Chair of the mission, Herbert Dorfmann, will present the outcomes of this visit.

### **Exchange of views with Commissioner Janusz Wojciechowski, responsible for agriculture**



The Commissioner for agriculture, Janusz Wojciechowski, will attend the first AGRI meeting of 2020 on Wednesday 23 January at 9:00. The Commissioner is expected to give a presentation on the activities of DG AGRI as well as an overview of ongoing files.

### **Exchange of views with representatives of National Management Authorities in the framework of the New Delivery Model**



On 23 January, the AGRI Committee will hold an exchange of views with representatives of four National Management Authorities, representing countries and regions with different features. This debate takes place in the context of the current work on the Common Agricultural Policy beyond 2020. It will provide an opportunity to learn from these agencies (who are responsible for the management and control of EAGF and EAFRD) what the implementation of the New Delivery Model would entail from their perspective and the time needed to adapt.

## Votes

### **Conclusion of the Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community**



On 22 January, the Committee will vote on an opinion on the AFCO recommendation on regarding the conclusion of the Agreement on the withdrawal of the UK from the EU. The opinion stresses a few essential points concerning the impact of Brexit on agriculture and the solutions proposed in the Withdrawal Agreement and the Political Declaration. The opinion was already unanimously endorsed by AGRI coordinators last December.

### **Competition policy – annual report 2019**



In December the AGRI Rapporteur, Ms Isabel Carvalhais (S&D, PT), presented her draft report to the ECON (INI Report on the Commission's annual report on the competition policy of the EU.) The Rapporteur touched upon various issues of importance for the agriculture sector. In the past, this annual exercise has already paved the way for AGRI's contribution to several essential files such as the Omnibus Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2017/2393) and the Unfair Trading Practices Directive. This time, the Rapporteur with cooperation with Shadows made links with issues related to the FTAs and the future reform of the CAP. Members tabled over 120 amendments and the Rapporteurs negotiated 18 compromises.

### **2018 discharge: General budget of the EU - European Commission**



Today, Members will vote on the opinion to the CONT Committee on the discharge for the financial year 2018. Given that agriculture represents a large share of the EU budget, it is appropriate that our committee closely scrutinises how these funds are spent. The AGRI drafts person for the 2018 Commission discharge is Mr Attila Ara-Kovács (S&D, HU). 55 amendments were tabled and from these 10 compromise amendments were negotiated.

## Works in progress

### Transitional regulation



Members are going to exchange views on the Commission's proposal for the Transitional provisions of the CAP. The AGRI Rapporteur on the file is Ms Elsi Katainen (FI, Renew). The aim of the proposal is to ensure a continuation of the current CAP until the reform process is successfully concluded.

### Recent outbreaks of African Swine Fever



Members will hear a presentation by DG SANTE's Director for "Crisis management in food, animals and plants", Mr Van Goethem, on the current state of play regarding African Swine Fever (ASF). An exchange of views will follow. There are recent reports about repeated outbreaks of ASF in several Member States, most recently in Bulgaria (where it is reported that 24,000 pigs have been culled), Romania, Lithuania and Poland. After outbreaks of ASF were reported in Poland close to the Polish-German border, Germany announced early December that it was stepping up measures to prevent an outbreak of ASF.

### The European Forest Strategy - The Way Forward



The INI report on the implementation of the EU Forest Strategy (Rapporteur P. Sarvamaa FI EPP) will be introduced via the occasion of an exchange of views. It will focus on the status of European forests and forestry while evaluating the successes and challenges that have emerged from implementation of the present EU Forest Strategy, notably with a view to the fact that this strategy runs out at the end of 2020. The report itself will be presented at the AGRI Committee meeting on 18/19<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

## Next committee meetings

17 February 2020, 15h00 – 18h30

18 February 2020, 09.00 - 12.30 and 14h30 – 18h30 (Brussels)

## Useful links

[AGRI website](#)

[Webstreaming](#)

[Meeting documents](#)

[Calendar of AGRI meetings](#)

[EP Press releases on agriculture](#)

[Minutes of previous meetings](#)

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