

## Newsletter 9th legislature - Issue No 09/2020

Monday 17 February 2020

15.00 – 18.30

Tuesday 18 February 2020

9.00 – 12.30 and 14.30 – 18.30

Brussels

Room: PHS 1A002



## Highlights

### **Presentation of scientific opinions on the health and welfare of rabbits, issued by EFSA on request of the Parliament**



EFSA experts will present two recently published scientific opinions on the health and welfare of rabbits in Europe. The first one provides updated scientific knowledge on the health and welfare of rabbits kept for meat production. The second describes the main stunning methods for the slaughter of rabbits. The mandate to prepare those opinions was given by Parliament on initiative of AGRI committee, which sets a precedent in terms of parliamentary practice. A third EFSA opinion, drawn up on request of the Commission, concerns methods for killing rabbits for other purposes than human consumption, such as for depopulation in case of disease control.



**Exchange of views with Bernhard Url, Executive Director of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)**



In the framework of regular exchanges between AGRI committee and EFSA, Members will hear a presentation on current activities and challenges by the Executive Director of the agency Dr Bernhard Url. Current plant health and animal health urgencies as well as the Green Deal are expected to be the focus of the ensuing debate with Members.

**Exchange of views with the Commission on the recently concluded EU-China Geographical Indications Agreement**



The Commission will present the expected impact of the bilateral agreement concluded on 6 November 2019 to protect 100 European Geographical Indications (GI) in China and 100 Chinese GI in the EU against imitations and usurpation.

**Exchange of views with the Commission on the recently concluded US-China Agreement and its impact upon agriculture**



On 15 January, US and China announced the conclusion of the first phase of their trade negotiations. A specific chapter of this agreement concerns agriculture. The potential negative impact on the EU agricultural sector is vast. Some aspects covered by the deal might be of crucial importance for the European agriculture sector. They may influence EU commercial relations with both the US and China, by setting new precedents in such essential topics as reduced tariff barriers or Geographical Indications.

## Public Hearing on “EU support for innovation in agriculture”



The hearing aims to provide information on promoting research and innovation to farmers and rural areas, in the wider context of the Common Agriculture Policy and notably, the role of the European Innovation Partnership (AGRI-EIP) and the future Mission “Soil Health Food”. It will also focus on the role of agriculture in the current and next EU Framework programme for Research and Innovation “Horizon Europe”. Four experts from Germany, Finland, Belgium and Greece will contribute.

## Vote

**Commission Delegated Regulation derogating from Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2016/1149 supplementing Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the national support programmes in the wine sector**



Members will vote on the draft recommendation for a decision pursuant to Rule 111(6) of the Rules of procedure to raise no objection to the draft delegated act on wine promotion programmes. A positive vote entails the Chair sending a letter asking the CCC to forward this recommendation to the Plenary for a final decision.

## Works in progress

**Transitional provisions for the support by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and by the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) in the year 2021**



Ms Elsi Katainen (FI, Renew) will present her draft report on the Transitional regulation. The main points of the report are: maintaining of the principle of “old rules new money”, the introduction of a possibility to prolong the transitional period should that be necessary and adaptation of the financing figures to the EP MFF position.

## Laying down the rules and general principles concerning mechanisms for control by Member States of the Commission's exercise of implementing powers



Bronis Ropé (Verts/ALE, LT) will present his draft opinion on Commission's proposal on so called "Comitology reform". The overall objective of this proposal is to prevent Member States from issuing a "no opinion" in the appeal committee and to ensure wider political accountability and ownership of politically sensitive implementing acts.

## Next committee meetings

18 March 2020, 09.00 - 12.30 and 14h30 – 18h30

19 March 2020, 09.00 - 12.30 (Brussels)

## Useful links

[AGRI website](#)

[Webstreaming](#)

[Meeting documents](#)

[Calendar of AGRI meetings](#)

[EP Press releases on agriculture](#)

[Minutes of previous meetings](#)

AGRI Newsletter - For further information and subscriptions, please contact the Secretariat of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (AGRI) at [agri-secretariat@ep.europa.eu](mailto:agri-secretariat@ep.europa.eu). The content of this newsletter is drafted under the sole responsibility of the AGRI Secretariat and for general information purposes only. The opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the official position of the European Parliament. The AGRI newsletter may contain links to websites from other organisations which do not necessarily endorse the views of the Parliament.