

AGRI NEWS

European Parliament Committee on
Agriculture and Rural Development
Newsletter

8th legislature - Issue No 4/2015

Meeting of 14 April 2015

9:00 - 12:30 (ASP 3E2)

15:00 - 18:30 (JAN 2Q2) and

16 April 9:00 - 12:30 (JAN 4Q2)



Highlights

Cloning of animals for farming purposes: presentation of draft report



The AGRI and ENVI committees will jointly debate the draft report on animal cloning for farming purposes prepared by Giulia Moi (AGRI rapporteur, EFDD, IT) and Renate Sommer (ENVI rapporteur, EPP, DE). The Commission proposal aims to suspend the use of the cloning technique in the EU for farm animals, the placing on the market of live animal clones and embryo clones and (in an accompanying proposal for a Council Directive) the marketing of food, such as meat and milk, from animal clones. The co-rapporteurs suggest to also prohibit the import and the placing on the market of the descendants of animal clones, and of the reproductive material and of the food coming from animal clones and their descendants and would like to extend the scope to all species of farmed animals (16 April at 11.00 room JAN 4Q2).

Apiculture - debate with Slovenian Minister Dejan Židan and experts on beekeeping



Beekeeping issues are one of the main concerns for a sustainable and healthy agriculture. Slovenian Agriculture Minister Dejan Zidan has been invited to the AGRI Committee to present and discuss with Members a project for saving bees. Members will then debate with the Director of the French Office of Apidology, Thierry Dufresne, and a Bee-Life representative, Noa Simon Delso (presentations and debates: 16 April at 09.00 room JAN 4 Q2).



Commission presentation on rural development policy implementation



The Commission will update Members on the implementation of the new rural development policy agreed upon during the CAP reform and the subsequent rural development programmes which are being set up by Member States. This presentation will be based on data submitted by Member States and regions up to 13 February 2015 (14 April in the morning, room ASP 3E2).

Draft competition guidelines for the agricultural sector: Commission presentation



As part of the CAP reform the Parliament asked the Commission to establish guidelines for the implementation of competition rules applicable to the agricultural sector with a view to ensuring a uniform application of these rules across Member States. As a result, the Commission has published draft guidelines on 15 January and launched a public consultation on these. On 14 April, Commission representatives will present these guidelines to the AGRI Committee and answer Members' questions (14 April in the morning, room ASP 3E2).

Work in progress

European Parliament scrutiny on delegated act on ethyl alcohol



Members from different groups have expressed their intention to object to a delegated act on ethyl alcohol (ethanol). The Committee has therefore decided to invite the Commission to discuss this delegated act in view of organising a vote on a motion for resolution objecting to this act at a next meeting. The delegated act aims to remove obligations for Member States to communicate detailed information on ethanol production, for the Commission to publish an annual balance sheet, and for importers to present an import licence (14 April at 09.00, room ASP 3E2).

Veterinary medicinal products: presentation of draft opinion



Marit Paulsen (ALDE, SE) will present her draft opinion on the proposed new Regulation on veterinary medicinal products. The Commission seeks to put in place a legislation tailored to the specificities of the sector in order to increase the availability of veterinary medicines, reduce administrative burdens, stimulate innovation and address the health risk of antimicrobial resistance. ENVI, the Committee on environment, public health and food safety, is the lead committee (14 April in the afternoon after the votes, room JAN 2Q2).

Authorisation of medicinal products - European Medicines Agency



The AGRI Committee will discuss the draft opinion by Stanislav Polcak (EPP, CZ) on the Commission proposal to amend the 2004 Regulation on the authorisation of medicines and establishing a European Medicines Agency (in line with its proposal on veterinary medicinal products – see above Paulsen report). ENVI is the lead committee for this file (14 April in the afternoon after the votes, room JAN 2Q2).

Medicated feed: exchange of views



The Committee will hold its second exchange on the medicated feed file, after the Commission made a presentation of its proposal in January. Rapporteur Clara Aguilera Garcia (S&D, ES) will outline the approach she will take in the draft report she is preparing for early May. Medicated feed means compound feed mixed with veterinary medicines. It is therefore simply one form of administering medicine to groups of sick animals (Last item on 14 April in the afternoon, room JAN 2Q2).

Votes on 14 April

School schemes: vote on legislative report



366 amendments have been tabled to the Commission proposal on the aid scheme for the supply of fruit and vegetables and milk in schools, including 29 by the rapporteur Marc Tarabella (S&D, BE). 6 compromise amendments have been negotiated with a view to ensuring a coherent position and simplify the vote (14 April at 15.00, room JAN 2Q2).



Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership negotiations: vote on AGRI opinion



Members will vote on the opinion that co-rapporteurs Paolo de Castro (S&D, IT) and James Nicholson (ECR, UK) have prepared to the own initiative report drawn up by the Committee on International Trade (INTA) containing Parliament's recommendations to the Commission on the negotiations for the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP). 227 amendments have been presented, and the co-rapporteurs have proposed 10 compromise amendments (14 April in the afternoon, room JAN 2Q2).

European Fund for Strategic Investments: vote on AGRI opinion



145 amendments have been tabled to the draft opinion by Albert Dess (EPP, DE) on the Commission proposal to set up a European Fund for Strategic Investment (EFSI). The AGRI Committee opinion aims at ensuring that agriculture and rural development, which play a crucial role in bringing growth and employment to rural areas, are part of the Juncker investment plan (14 April in the afternoon, room JAN 2Q2).

Next committee meeting

Monday 4 May 2015,
15.00-18.30

Tuesday 5 May 2015,
9.00-12.30 and 15.00-18.30

Room: JAN 6Q2

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