

AGRI NEWS

European Parliament Committee on
Agriculture and Rural Development
Newsletter

8th legislature - Issue No 6/2015

Meeting of 26 May

10:00 - 12:30 – 15:00 - 18:30

Room: PSH 1A002

and 28 May 2015

9:00 – 12:30 - Room: ASP 3G-3



Highlights

Brazilian Agriculture Minister to debate with AGRI Members



Brazilian Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Supply, Kátia Abreu will address Members of the AGRI Committee on the occasion of her first official visit to the European Parliament since taking office on 1 January 2015. Brazil is one of the EU's strategic partners and one of the world's biggest agricultural powers. The Minister intends to debate with Members on experiences and best practices in agriculture and rural development and in particular, in setting and implementing sustainable policies (Tuesday 26 May at 15.00h).

Commissioner Hogan to visit AGRI as part of structured dialogue



Agriculture Commissioner Phil Hogan will be invited for an exchange of views with the AGRI Committee Members in the context of the so-called "structured dialogue" foreseen in the Framework Agreement on relations between the European Parliament and the Commission. The topics for discussion will include the 2015 Commission Work Programme and the priorities for 2016.

Commission update on the Russian import ban



Members of the AGRI Committee will be updated by the Commission on the situation regarding the Russian import ban on EU food products and its impact on European producers, especially in the fruit and vegetable sectors. Other markets such as the dairy and meat sectors have been affected by the ban put into place last summer as a retaliation against measures taken by the EU against Russia as a result of the Ukrainian crisis (Tuesday 26 May, morning).

Work in progress

Organic farming: presentation of draft report



Martin Hausling (Greens, DE) will present his draft report on the Commission proposal for a new Regulation on organic farming. He is suggesting a number of significant changes to the proposed text, such as reintegrating control provisions relating to organic production into the regulation, introducing measures to support the development of organic seeds and breeds, putting into place precautionary measures to avoid contamination with unauthorised substances and setting up an EU Organic Agency (Tuesday 26 May afternoon).

Cloning: joint debate on amendments with ENVI Members



ENVI and AGRI Members will jointly debate the 172 amendments tabled to the Commission proposals aimed at banning the use of the cloning technique in the EU for farm animals and the placing on the market of live animal and embryo clones and the marketing of food derived from animal clones. 36 amendments have been tabled by the co-rapporteurs, Renate Sommer (ENVI) and Giulia Moi (AGRI) (Tuesday 26 May at 17:30 in JAN 4Q2).

Implementing the EU/ Moldova and EU/Georgia Association Agreements



The Commission will present two proposals for regulations incorporating into EU law safeguard clauses and anti-circumvention mechanisms allowing, under certain conditions, the temporary suspension of tariff preferences under the Association Agreements between the EU and Moldova on the one hand and the EU and Georgia on the other. AGRI will prepare two opinions for the attention of INTA, the lead Committee.

Votes on 28 May 2015

Financial discipline: vote on Commission proposal



No amendments have been tabled to the Commission proposal setting the rate of financial discipline for 2015 as foreseen under the Horizontal Regulation of the CAP in order to set up the agricultural crisis reserve. The proposal will therefore be the subject of a single vote of approval (Rapporteur: AGRI Chair Czeslaw Adam Siekierski, EPP, PL).

2016 budget: draft opinion



77 amendments have been submitted to the draft opinion by Jean-Paul Denant (S&D, FR), draftsman for the AGRI Committee, in view of the Parliament's political resolution on the 2016 budget (mandate for the trilogue). BUDG, the Committee on Budgets, is the lead Committee.



Pilot projects for 2015 and 2016



Within the annual budgetary procedure, Members, committees and political groups can submit proposals for new pilot projects and preparatory actions or proposals for prolongation of existing ones for pre-assessment to the Commission. 10 proposals have been submitted to the AGRI Committee in this context and will be put to the vote.



Trade in seal products: draft opinion



56 amendments have been tabled to the Commission proposal to amend Regulation (EC) No 1007/2009 on trade in seals products, including 5 by the AGRI draftsman, Janusz Wojciechowski (ECR, PL). IMCO, the Committee on internal market and consumer protection, is the lead Committee on this file.

Atmospheric pollutants: draft opinion



232 amendments have been tabled to the Commission proposal related to the reduction of national emissions of certain atmospheric pollutants, including 22 from the draftsman

for the AGRI opinion Jan Huitema (ALDE/NL). 4 compromise amendments have been negotiated in view of the vote. ENVI, the Committee on environment, health and food safety, is the lead Committee on this file.

Next committee meeting

Monday 8 June 2015

19.00-22.00

Room: to be confirmed (Strasbourg)



Useful links

[AGRI website](#)

[Webstreaming](#)

[Meeting documents](#)

[Calendar of AGRI meetings](#)

[EP Press releases on agriculture and rural development](#)

[Minutes of previous meetings](#)