

AGRI NEWS

European Parliament Committee on
Agriculture and Rural Development
Newsletter

8th legislature - Issue No 2/2016

Meeting of Monday 25 January
15:00-18:30
ASP 3G3



Work in progress

Animal health: forthcoming vote to seal the second-reading agreement



In June 2015 the AGRI Committee approved the trilogue agreement reached with the Council on the animal health regulation in the form of a provisional text. As this agreement arrived at second-reading stage, the text had to be formally approved by the Council once finalised, before coming back to the Parliament for concluding the second-reading. In line with EP procedures, a deadline for amendments has to be opened and a formal vote will take place at the AGRI meeting of 22 February.

Technological solutions to sustainable EU agriculture: presentation of draft report



Anthea McIntyre (ECR, UK) will present her draft own-initiative report on technological solutions to sustainable agriculture in the EU. Her draft addresses research and development, including precision farming, precision breeding, plant protection, genetics, and knowledge and skills transfer. It also discusses funding priorities and efficient use of research financing in agriculture.

How can the CAP improve job creation in rural areas?: working document



Eric Andrieu (S&D, FR) will present a working document with a view to a future own-initiative report examining the role of the CAP in improving job creation in rural areas. Since 1962, the CAP has represented one of the main tools for EU action with an important impact on job creation in rural areas. Nevertheless, in many European countries, rural areas have become ever more depopulated, and employment has continued to decline.



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The New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition: presentation of draft opinion



Molly Scott Cato (Verts/ALE, UK) will present her draft opinion on the New Alliance for food security and nutrition, which was launched in May 2012 under the auspices of the G8. The aim of this alliance is to attract private investment in agriculture or to complement public investment to improve agricultural productivity, and to develop the agrifood sector. DEVE, the Committee on Development, is the lead Committee for this own-initiative report.

An EU strategy for the Alpine region: presentation of draft opinion



Ulrike Müller (ALDE, DE) will present her draft opinion on the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region, which aims to ensure that agriculture and the specific problems of farmers in that region are duly taken into account. In July 2015, the Commission had published a Communication and an Action Plan on the Strategy, which is the EU's fourth macro-regional strategy and will affect 80 million people living in seven countries. REGI, the Regional Affairs Committee is the lead Committee on that own-initiative report.

Votes

Budget discharge: vote on AGRI opinion



AGRI will vote on the draft opinion by Tibor Szanyi (S&D, HU) on the discharge for the EU 2014 budget. 86 amendments have been tabled to this draft. Since the largest share of the EU budget is still agriculture, it is in the interest of the AGRI Committee to monitor how agricultural monies have been spent and whether they have been spent properly.

Other activities

Geographical indications: exchange of views with the Commission



John Clarke, acting deputy director-general of DG AGRI, will make a presentation on geographical indications (GIs), which are of crucial importance for the offensive trade interests of the EU, and on efforts made to secure an appropriate protection of European GIs in multilateral and bilateral agreements, with a special focus on the TTIP negotiations. A debate with Members will follow this presentation.



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Next committee meeting

22 February (15.00-18.30) and 23 February (09.00-12.30 and 15.00-18.30) -Brussels

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