



Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

AGRI_PV(2024)1212_1

MINUTES

Meeting of 12 December 2024, 10:30-12:30

BRUSSELS

With the Council and Commission

The meeting opened on Thursday 12 December 2024 at 10:51, with Daniel Buda (Vice-Chair) presiding followed by Veronika Vrecionová (Chair).

1. Adoption of agenda

AGRI(2024)1212_1

The draft agenda was adopted in the form shown in these minutes.

2. Chair's announcements

Interpretation was available in 17 languages: DE, EN, FR, IT, NL, EL, ES, PT, FI, SV, CS, LV, HU, PL, SK, RO and BG

3. Exchange of Views on Gender equality and diversity: "challenges for farming and food", organised in the framework of the Gender Equality Week 2024

Speakers: Daniel Buda, Faustine Bas-Defossez (European Environmental Bureau), Michaela Höfel (Member of DBV/COPA-COGECA), Maura Farrell (Lecturer at University of Galway), Maria Walsh, Christine Singer, Céline Imart, Dario Nardella, Mireia Borrás Pabón, Elsi Katainen, Luke Ming Flanagan, Cristina Maestre, Barry Cowen, Veronika Vrecionová, Luis-Vicențiu Lazarus, Paulo Do Nascimento Cabral, Mario Milouchev (DG AGRI)

4. Any other business

5. Date of next meeting

- 13 January 2025, 17.15 – 19.00 (Brussels)
- 29-30 January 2025 (Brussels)

The meeting closed at 12:07.

12 December 2024, 12.00 – 13.00 (coordinators' meeting)

***** *In camera* *****

6. Coordinators' meeting

Draft recommendations issued by Coordinators of Political Groups during their meeting of 12 December 2024.

1. OPINIONS

1.1. To FEMM - INI on “Women’s entrepreneurship in rural, insular areas and outermost regions”

Decision: opinion allocated to the Greens (for 1 point)

2. MISSIONS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS IN 2025

2.1. Missions and public hearings in 2025

Missions 2025

The majority of the Groups agreed, at technical level, on the dates for the 2025 missions (see Annexes I and II):

1. Ireland: 14 - 16 April
2. France (Angers - CPVO Agency): 23 -24 April
3. Finland: 26 - 28 May
4. Italy: 15 - 17 September
5. USA (ad hoc delegation): 27 - 30 October

* Regarding the places to visit, Political Groups agreed to decide on them when the offices of the members of the destination countries and the Secretariat meet, in order to establish the programme(s) of the visits.

Decision: Replace mission to USA by one or two Mercosur countries (Brazil and/or Argentina)

Mission to Azores to be organised in 2026

Hearings 2025

The Groups agreed, at technical level, on the revised title of the Hearing on the *international/trade aspect* of the EU agricultural policy, for 2025 (see Annex I)

1. The actors in the agricultural supply chain and their role in price formation: problems and perspectives;
2. What role should the EU agriculture play on the International forum? **replaced by** International trade rules and their impact on EU agricultural policies, what should be kept? What should be updated?
3. Promotion of EU farm products.

Decision: *The agreement found at technical level is endorsed.*

3. REQUESTS FOR ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN UPCOMING MEETING AGENDAS

3.1. Presentation of "The long-term vision for the EU's rural areas: key achievements and ways forward"

Decision: *invite the Commission for an exchange of views in a future ComAGRI meeting.*

3.2. Exchange on views on ways to strengthen social conditionality in EU agriculture

Decision: *no majority to organise this ad hoc hearing.*

3.3. Exchange of views with the Commission on the Mercosur agreement

Decision: *invite the Commission for an exchange of views on the agreement reached on 6th December.*

4. MISCELLEANEOUS DECISIONS

4.1. Standing rapporteur for AGRI-UK related matters

Decision: *groups are invited to nominate their candidate.*

5. PETITIONS

5.1. Petition 0832/2024 by A. L. (German) on regulating the transport of animals in high temperatures

5.2. Petition 0912/2024 by M. D. G. S. (Spanish), on behalf of "Plataforma 6F", on judicial independence of Spain and requesting absolution for fined farmers

5.3. Petition 0913/2024 by S. A-B. S. (Spanish), on behalf of "Por Una Justicia Independiente", on judicial independence of Spain and requesting absolution for fined farmers

5.4. Petition 0958/2024 by C. G. (Italian) on establishing a definition of intensive

farming in the EU

5.5. Petition 0971/2024 by Merel Dewitte (Belgian) on banning the sale of pets in pet stores across Europe

Decision: took note of the above-mentioned petitions and will inform the PETI Committee that we have done so.

6. OTHER DOCUMENTS FOR INFORMATION

Decision: no action with respect to any of the documents included in Annex IV.

7. FOR INFORMATION

7.1. Rural Pact declaration

In the Annex V, Coordinators may find the Declaration on the Future of Rural Areas and Rural Development Policy in the European Union, endorsed at Rural Pact Coordination Group (RPCG) level. This document will be officially presented during the Rural Pact Conference, scheduled for 8-9 April 2025.

7.2. Debate on wolves

On request of the PFE group, it was decided to invite the Commission to a forthcoming AGRI meeting for an exchange of views on the protection status of wolves.

This is the justification received from PFE for the requested debate:

"We would like to clarify our request on the subject of wolves: our intention was to propose an exchange of views with the Commission on the status of the wolf in the EU. Indeed, we think it would be of interest to add this topic to the agenda of a forthcoming COMAGRI in light of the Council's approval of the Commission's proposal to amend the Bern Convention to lower the protection status of the wolf in Europe from 'strictly protected' to 'protected'."

In the meantime, the Bern Convention decided indeed to downgrade the protection status of the wolf in Europe from 'strictly protected' to 'protected'. The Commission is expected, after this, to present a proposal to amend the relevant Annex to the Habitats directive.

The AGRI secretariat would like to point out that, given the competence of ENVI on the Habitats directive, it would be advisable to frame the debate in relation to the AGRI committee's competences, with a title such as this: "Exchange of views on wolf management and its impact on agriculture and rural development". (title suggested by Renew group).

Decision: agreed on the title "Exchange of views on wolf management and its impact on agriculture and rural development" and will organise the debate in a future Committee meeting, at the earliest opportunity.

7.3. Invitation from the Chair of the Committee on Agrarian Issues of the Mazhilis of

the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan, to AGRI Chair and Members of the AGRI Committee to visit Kazakhstan in 2025.

In Annex VI, Coordinators may find the letter of invitation received by the Chair.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) EPP and S&D: request to draft a letter concerning the European Board on Agriculture and Food

The COM announced the setting up of a European Board on Agriculture and Food by 8th January 2025. Coordinators agreed to send a letter to Commissioner Hansen before the January deadline to highlight some issues, such as participation of farmers in the board, include agricultural representation of MS, the Board should not replace the legislative process, constant information from the board to the committee, transparency regarding the meetings and documents, among others. Participation of the scientific community should also be addressed in the letter.

b) PoE: the coordinators' agenda to reach the groups earlier.

c) Greens: request to facilitate remote participation to MEP Guarda until mi-January.

d) S&D: INI report that has already been agreed on the position of farmers in the value chain of the agri-food sector might overlap with 2 recent COM proposals: one modifying the CMO and the other on unfair trading practices in business-to-business relationships in the agricultural and food supply chain. Coordinators agreed to modify the INI report title and have more time to start working on the INI report. The S&D will share with political groups an alternative title for their consideration in the coming weeks.

ANNEX IV

- 6.1. Report from the Commission on First Biennial Transparency Report from the European Union to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (required under the Enhanced Transparency Framework) - [COM\(2024\) 0552](#)**

- 6.2. Urgent resolution on Regional Emergency Support to Reconstruction (RESTORE) and EAFRD measures to provide assistance to member states affected by natural disasters, adopted at the COR plenary session on 21/11/2024**



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- 6.3. Adoption of the "Regulation establishing a Union certification framework for permanent carbon removals, carbon farming and carbon storage in products" (2022/0394 COD)**



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- 6.4. COM(2024)0554 Final - Proposal for a Council Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision (EU) (ST 10612/21, ST 10612/21 ADD 1) of 28 July 2021 on the approval of the assessment of the Recovery and Resilience Plan for Slovenia - [COM\(2024\) 0554](#)**

- 6.5. COM(2024)0557 Final - Proposal for a Council Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision (EU) (ST 7772/22 INIT; ST 7772/22 ADD 1) of 4 May 2022 on the approval of the assessment of the recovery and resilience plan for Sweden - [COM\(2024\) 0557](#)**

- 6.6. COM(2024)0555 Final - Proposal for a Council Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision (EU) (ST 10161/21 INIT; ST 10161/21 ADD1) of 13 July 2021 on the approval of the assessment of the recovery and resilience plan for Belgium - [COM\(2024\) 0555](#)**

- 6.7. Opinion of the EESC on the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EU) 2020/2220 as regards specific measures under the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) to provide additional assistance to Member States affected by natural disasters (COM(2024) 495 final - 2024/0274 (COD))**



Opinion EESC
EAFRDF.pdf

**ПРИСЪСТВЕН ЛИСТ/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/PREZENČNÍ LISTINA/DELTAGERLISTE/
 ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KOHALOLIJATE NIMEKIRI/KATASTAŞH PAPONTΩN/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/
 LISTE DE PRÉSENCE/POPIS NAZOČNIH/ELENCO DI PRESENZA/APMEKLĒJUMU REĢISTRS/DALVIŲ SĀRAŠAS/
 JELENLÉTI ÍV/REGISTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBECNOŚCI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/
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Veronika Vrecionová, Daniel Buda
Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Bouλευτές/Members/Députés/Zastupnici/Deputati/Deputāti/Nariai/Képviselők/Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputati/Jäsenet/Ledamöter
Arno Bausemer, Mireia Borrás Pabón, Gheorghe Cârciu, Barry Cowen, Carmen Crespo Díaz, Salvatore De Meo, Csaba Dömötör, Paulo Do Nascimento Cabral, Luke Ming Flanagan, Krzysztof Hetman, Céline Imart, Elsi Katainen, Stefan Köhler, Tomáš Kubín, Cristina Maestre, Dario Nardella, Maria Noichl, Gilles Pennelle, André Rodrigues, Katarína Roth Neved'aková, Bert Jan Ruijsen, Christine Singer, Raffaele Stancanelli, Anna Strolenberg, Maria Walsh
Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Zamjenici/Supplenti/Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantysnariai/Póttagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplementes/Supleanți/Náhradníci/Namestniki/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter
Alexander Bernhuber, Benoit Cassart, Ton Diepeveen, Emmanouil Frangos, Hélène Fritzon, Anja Hazekamp, Pär Holmgren, Luis-Vicențiu Lazarus, Gabriel Mato, Tilly Metz, Ciaran Mullooly, Stanislav Stoyanov

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PPE	Giuliano Da Cascina, Benjamin Descamps, Alwyn Strange
S&D	Cristina Martinez Perez, Maria Montanella, Valérie Piña
PfE	Philippe Chevallier-Chantepie, Elena Colferai, Filippo Pozzi
ECR	Martina Angelini, Jarka Chloupkova, Anita Gulam Lalic, Slawomir Miozga, Christine Van Dijk
Renew	Isak Engqvist, Francesca Sanna
Verts/ALE	Harriet Clayton, Juliette Leroux, Andrzej Nowakowski, Michael Schmitt
The Left	Georgios Karatsioubanis, Albert Klein, John McGilloway, Dominik Zganec
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NI	Antonio Anselmi

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DG EPRS	
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