



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The Director-General

Brussels,  
R4 – Ares(2014)2596788

**DECISION ON THE COMPOSITION OF THE CIVIL DIALOGUE GROUPS DEALING WITH MATTERS COVERED BY THE COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY**

HAVING REGARD to Article 4(1) and (3) of the Commission Decision of 16 December 2013 setting up a framework for civil dialogue in matters covered by the common agricultural policy and repealing Decision 2004/391/EC (Decision 2013/767/EU)<sup>1</sup>, hereafter referred as the Civil Dialogue Groups Decision,

**WHEREAS:**

Commission Decision 2013/761/EU sets up a framework for civil dialogue groups dealing with matters covered by the common agricultural policy. In accordance with its Article 4(1) and (3) the Director General for Agriculture and Rural Development shall decide on the composition of these civil dialogue groups and on its number.

Calls for applications for non-governmental organisations' membership in 14 civil dialogue groups dealing with matters covered by the common agricultural policy were published on the internet site [http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/civil-dialogue-groups/calls-for-applications/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/civil-dialogue-groups/calls-for-applications/index_en.htm) . Within the timeframe set up by the calls for application 103 organisations applied for the allocation of seats.

14 selection panels were set up with a view to assess the applications received and to provide the Director General for Agriculture and Rural Development with recommendations on the composition of the 14 civil dialogue groups. The selection panels assessed the applications on the basis of the requirements and conditions set out in the Commission Decision, point 3 of the relevant call for applications and the related internal guidelines.

Applying organisations that complied with the requirements of point 3 of the call for proposals were allocated at least one seat in the relevant group. When organisations applied for more seats in a group, further seats were allocated taking into account the availability of further seats; the geographical representation (organisations with members in more than 20 member States could receive one geographical top-up seat) and the existence of a proven need for the organisation to represent a diversity of voices.

In the case of the call for proposals for a group on women in rural areas only 13 applications were received. Furthermore, the selection panel assessed 8 of the received

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 338, 17.12.2013, p.115

applications ineligible for not complying with the requirements of point 3.1 of the call for application. Civil dialogue groups have to fulfil a role of assistance to the Commission in a regular dialogue by bringing about an exchange of experiences and good practise, advising on policy and monitoring policy development. Fulfilling such role requires a forum for discussion of a minimum critical size. For this reason no seats should be allocated for a group on women in rural areas, while the relevant interests and concerns should be addressed by the other civil dialogue groups and in particular by the groups on CAP and on rural development.

On the basis of the recommendations from the panels and the fact that civil dialogue groups should assist the Commission in a regular dialogue on all matters relating to the common agricultural policy and should bring about an exchange of experience and good practise, advise on policy and monitor policy developments,

I HEREBY DECIDE THAT:

1. The organisations in the Annex are appointed for a period of 7 years as members of the civil dialogue groups and with the seats as reflected in that Annex.
2. No seats shall be allocated for a group on women in rural areas.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'J. Plewa', written in a cursive style.

Jerzy PLEWA

Enclosure:            Annex: List of organisations having been allocated seats in a Civil Dialogue Group.