



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 29.5.2018
C(2018) 3118 final*

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Senát for its Opinion on the Commission Communication on the future of food and farming {COM(2017) 713 final}.

The purpose of the Communication is to ensure that the Common Agricultural Policy, with simpler rules and a more flexible approach, delivers tangible results both in farmers supporting and in the sustainable development of European agriculture. Member States will enjoy greater responsibilities in choosing how and where to invest Common Agricultural Policy funding in order to meet ambitious common goals on environment, climate change and sustainability. Other priorities include the development of modern technologies to support farmers on the ground and greater attention to encourage young people to take up farming. The Commission is particularly pleased that the Senát shares the view that the generational renewal of farmers should be one of the priorities of the Common Agricultural Policy.

The Commission therefore welcomes the Senát's support for the objectives announced in the Communication, namely as regards greater subsidiarity, higher level of environmental protection and an emphasis on knowledge and innovation in the field of agriculture. The Commission appreciates the Senát's engagement and considers its Opinion as an important input into the policy-making process. In this context, the Commission is pleased to inform the Senát that it intends to submit its legislative proposals on the future Common Agricultural Policy to the European Parliament and the Council before the summer.

The Commission is looking forward to continuing the political dialogue with the Senát in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Phil Hogan
Member of the Commission*

*Mr Milan ŠTĚCH
President of the Senát
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