

SEIMAS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

RESOLUTION ON DISCRIMINATORY DIRECT PAYMENTS TO LITHUANIAN FARMERS PROVIDED FOR BY THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION DURING THE FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK FOR 2014-2020

22 November 2011 Vilnius

The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

expresses its concern over the European Commission's set of legal proposals for a reform of the Common Agricultural Policy during the period of 2014-2020. These proposals provide for granting to Lithuanian farmers the direct payments which are among the lowest in the European Union (EU) Member States. The amount of such payments to the Republic of Lithuania remains 2.5-3 times smaller than the amount of payments to be granted to the old EU Member States;

is of the opinion that the level of direct payments provided for by the European Commission to Lithuanian farmers does not meet the level of such payments to other EU Member States. Direct payments planned by the European Commission for Lithuanian farmers increase insignificantly until the year 2020 and do not reach the level of direct payments as provided for in the Treaty of Accession of the Republic of Lithuania to the European Union as well as the average of direct payments to the EU Member States. Such policy of the European Commission towards Lithuanian farmers should be seen as discriminatory. This will further increase the gap between the agricultural sectors of the Republic of Lithuania and other EU Member States, distort the competitive environment and reduce the competitiveness of Lithuanian farmers;

requests that the European Commission comply with the principles embedded in the Treaty of Accession of the Republic of Lithuania to the European Union and ensure the balancing of the direct payments to Lithuanian farmers, as provided for during the financial framework for 2014-2020, with respective payments in other EU Member States.