EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Directorate G. Markets and Observatories **The Director**

Brussels, AGRI.DDG2.D/EP/KF/D (2020) 8483625

SUMMARY RECORD

Committee for Direct Payments

11 December 2020

Chair: Bruno Chauvin

Delegations present: All Member States were present.

1. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS –ECO-SCHEME (ART 28 –SPR)

The Commission has briefly presented a Questions and Answers (Q/A) document on Eco-schemes. This gathers the main questions already raised by Members States at different level.

Many Member States took the floor to thank the Commission for this set of replies, and raised additional questions for clarification or confirmation especially on the possibilities for targeting Eco-schemes, on WTO rules and incentive payments and on the possibility to implement multi-annual commitments.

The Commission explained the relevant WTO Green Box criteria as regards the classification of the subsidies. As soon as a scheme targets a land use type for example permanent grasslands management or catch crops on arable lands only a compensation will be possible.

The Commission recalled that Green Box criteria are only one of the elements framing these interventions and that the primary aim should be to ensure environmental performance to respond to Green Deal challenges. Based on the needs identified by Member states and depending on the features of the holding or the parcel (e.g. slope intensity), different types of Eco-schemes can be envisaged. The Commission further confirmed that Member States have the possibility to design multi-annual schemes, but this is not an obligation.

Due to the high interest of Member States, the Commission considered that further exchanges are needed. Commission offered to update the Q/A document based on additional issues raised and further exchange sessions in expert group or management committee may be planned. Member States were invited to send their written question after the meeting.

2. ISSUE ON GAEC 2 IMPLEMENTATION (IDENTIFICATION AND MAPPING

JRC explained that several instruments have already passed the CDP and allow to start with simple, but extendible, methods to ingest data (e.g. soil data) as they exist now. Together with some Member States, JRC currently investigates pragmatic methods to offer solutions. These solutions will be fully compatible with further simplification of the IACS control mechanisms, such as checks by monitoring

Some MS exposed their concerns as regards difficulties and obstacles, but showed readiness to work with AGRI and the JRC.

JRC suggested starting to work with some MS depending on their existing mapping availability located for example in Baltic and Scandinavia area. Candidate MS are welcomed.

3. MODIFICATION OF ARTICLES 12 AND 13 OF COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) N° 2020/532

The Commission informed the Member States of its intention to align the derogations granted under Articles 12 and 13 of Commission Implementing Regulation (UE) N° 2020/532 (POSEI and SAI) to those set for direct payments and market expenditures.

It will propose the extension of the derogations — with retroactive effect - to allow the Member States concerned to use alternative evidence and to adapt the timing of on the spot checks in POSEI/SAI, provided that these could serve to verify the correct implementation of the measures while maintaining an appropriate level of assurance.

4. AOB

Following several request from Member States concerning the extension on control derogations also in 2021, the Commission informed that is reflecting on the potential of alternative control methods that could be considered also in 2021, and will come back to Member States at the next Committee.

(e-signed) Pierre BASCOU

List of participants—Summary Record Committee for Direct Payments 11 December 2020

MEMBER STATE	Ministry or Organisation	NUMBER OF PERSONS
BE	Service Public de Wallonie	2
	Vlaamse Overheid, Departement Landbouw en Visserij	1
BG	Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry	1
	State fund Agriculture	1
CZ	Ministry of Agriculture	4
DK	Landbrugsstyrelsen	1
DE	Bundesminiterium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft	3
	Ministerium für Wirtschaft, Verkehr, Landwirtschaft und Weinbau Rheinland-Pfalz	1
EE	ARIB	3
	Agricultural Register and Information Board	1
	Ministry of Rural Affairs	4
IE	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine	3
EL	Hellenic Paying Agency	3
	Ministry of Rural Development and Food	2
	RDP Managing Authority	1
ES	Departament d'Agricultura, Ramaderioa, Pesca y Alimentacio	7
	Fondo Espanol de Garantia Agraria	4
	Permanent Representation	1
FR	Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Alimentation	3
HR	Paying Agency in Agriculture	2
IT	AGEA Coorinamento – Ufficio di Bruxelles	1
	Ministry of Agriculture	2
CY	Agricultural Payments Organisation	3
	Departement of Agriculture	2
LV	Ministry of Agriculture	4
	Paying Agency – Rural Support Service	4
LT	Ministry of Agriculture	5
	National Payment Agency	2
	Rural Information and business Center	1
LU	Administration des services techniques de l'Agriculture	2

	Service d'économie rural	2
HU	Ministry of Agriculture	5
MT	Agriculture and Rural Payments Agency	5
NL	Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality	1
AT	Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Regions and Tourism	2
	AMA	1
PL	MARD	3
PT	GPP	3
	IFAP	3
RO	Ministry of Agriculture	1
	Permanent Representation	1
SI	Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry and Food	2
	Permanent Representation	1
SK	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	2
FI	Paying Agency	2
	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	2
SE	Swedish Board of Agriculture	3
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