



European  
Commission

# **Simplification of the CAP**

## **State of play & next steps**

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# **Simplification is ...**

- ✓ **a key priority for Commissioner Hogan and the Commission as a whole**
- ✓ **timely because it comes after a comprehensive policy reform**
- ✓ **a shared responsibility of the EU institutions and Member States, notably in view of the flexibility enjoyed by Member States in the areas of direct payments and rural development**

## What has happened so far ?

- ✓ **DG AGRI has launched internal screening exercise of the entire agricultural *acquis* (conclusion phase)**
- ✓ **Commissioner Hogan's letters to Member States, Council and COMAGRI**
  - ✓ **27 Member States replied with 580 pages of ideas and proposals for simplifying the CAP**
  - ✓ **MEPs responded with 110 pages of simplification proposals**
- ✓ **First discussion in Council was held on 16 March. Next Council on May 11 - Council Conclusions.**
- ✓ **First discussion in COMAGRI was held on 24 March**
- ✓ **Discussions in Civil Dialogue Groups (on-going)**

# Guiding principles for simplification

- ✓ **The basic political decisions taken in the 2013 reform should be respected, so work to concentrate on elements which can be changed within the current policy framework**
- ✓ **Simplification proposals should not jeopardize the sound financial management of the CAP or make it more prone to errors**
- ✓ **Priority should be given to those areas which are of most concern to farmers and other beneficiaries and where there is the largest benefit from a reduction in administrative burden**

## **Next steps**

- ✓ **Analysis of Member States', MEP's and stakeholders proposals in the context of DG AGRI's screening exercise (ongoing)**
- ✓ **Commissioner Hogan's detailed simplification and subsidiarity intentions later this year**

# **Main sectors and their timeline**

- ✓ **Common Market Organisation**
  - ✓ New delegated and implementing acts throughout 2015-2016
- ✓ **Direct payments**
  - ✓ First-year review following Commission's commitment of 4/2014
  - ✓ Next steps remain to be decided
- ✓ **Rural development**
  - ✓ Work to start after the approval of Member States' programmes
- ✓ **Quality policy / Organic farming**

**Thank You**