



EU Agri-Food Chain Observatory (AFCO)

28 May 2024

Why the AFCO?

- One of the measures to strengthen the position of farmers in the food supply chain announced by the Commission on 15 March.
- Warmly welcomed by MS in AGRIFISH Council.
- Objectives:
 - Bring increased **transparency** on prices, structure of costs and distribution of margins and added value **in the food supply chain**, while respecting **confidentiality and competition rules**.
 - Build **trust** between all stakeholders active throughout the chain and public authorities to **lay the ground for a fair remuneration** of the contributions and work **of all actors** in the agri-food supply chain.

What is the AFCO?

- AFCO takes the form of an informal Expert group.
- It will gather up to 80 members, representing:
 - MS national authorities in charge of agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture or the food supply chain and national observatories or similar structures (wherever they exist).
 - Organisations representing stakeholders active in various stages of the chain - from farmers, input providers, food industry, traders, to transport, logistics, retail and consumers.
- Interested stakeholder organisations applied through an open call for applications which closed on 20 May. Selection is ongoing.

What will the AFCO do?

- Bring together the Commission, Member States and private actors along the food supply chain to exchange information based on **available data, evidence and facts**, establish a **common diagnosis of the situation**.
- Complement the work of the existing Market Observatories.
- Based on qualitative information, identify existing and emerging **trading practices** and contractual arrangements that may positively or negatively affect the functioning of the supply chain.

Next steps

- Meetings of the expert group will be organised on a regular basis, at least twice per year.
- The summary records of these exchanges will be made available to the public in the Register of Commission Expert groups.
- First meeting planned for mid-July.

Thank you



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