



Brussels,  
AGRI.DDG2.D/PB/LN(2021) 7028673

## MINUTES

### Meeting of the Civil Dialogue Group Direct Payments and Greening 8 October 2021

Chair: Pierre BASCOU

Organisations present: All Organisations were present, except Bee Life, ECPA, EMB, Greenpeace and SACAR.

I. **Nature of the meeting** (The meeting was non-public)

II. **List of points discussed**

1. **Approval of the agenda and of the new Rules of procedure**

2. **Information point regarding the political agreement on the future Common Agricultural Policy**

a) **Introduction and key elements (definitions; direct payments schemes; conditionality)**

b) **Specific focus on:**

- **Fairer and better targeted distribution of income support**
- **Ecoscheme (options, rate of support, ring-fencing mechanism)**
- **Gaec 7 & 8**

The Commission representatives made presentations focusing on the main changes introduced through the political agreement in the Commission proposal. Most questions raised by participants concerned the conditionality (including the social conditionality) and the eco-schemes.

- As regards GAEC, some questions were raised on GAEC 8 and the options to be activated, as well as the level of requirement in relation with GAEC 7 on crop rotation.
- As regards Eco-scheme, the number of hectares to be covered at the holding level while all area of the holding cannot be engaged under the greening.

- Social conditionality:
  - One participant considered that social conditionality scope should have been broader, covering additional EU and national legislation, ILO conventions, and other EU and international charters and conventions. The Commission representative pointed out that the introduction of a social dimension in the CAP was a major development but that it would not have been possible to commence with all employment and social legislation. To reach a compromise, a choice was made of selected legislation which it was considered would have a significant positive impact on workers conditions. The Commission will examine if further legislation can be introduced into the scope of the social conditionality mechanism.
  - Pan Europe representative asked would the European Commission check protection of workers from pesticide spraying.
  - The Commission representative replied that competence for enforcing employment and health and safety legislation lies with Member States. While the legislation which will be within the scope of social conditionality does not make specific provision for pesticides, it does provide that employers have to ensure their employees are protected from risks associated with their work. Where it is found that CAP beneficiaries do not respect the rules in this respect, their CAP payments will be reduced.

### **3. Information regarding state of play of secondary legislation on reform (delegated and implementing acts)**

The Commission representatives made a presentation that is available on CircaBc reminding the main steps in the process of finalisation of the basic act and the corresponding secondary legislation. No questions were raised by the participants.

With regard to IACS, the Commission representative explained that the secondary legislation will include one Delegated Act and one Implementing Act, whose adoption is planned for the first quarter of 2022. Work on all necessary texts has already started and discussions are taking place with the MS in the relevant committees and expert groups.

A question was raised concerning the consistent monitoring of “non-productive features” such as landscape features in LPIS/IACS across MS. Commission representative indicated that in case landscape features are relevant for interventions, then they should be registered and managed in LPIS/IACS while the discussion is ongoing for conditionality requirements.

Another question focused on the digital recording of the use of plant protection products and how this is linked to the CAP payments and relevant to IACS. Commission replied by reminding that the collection and recording of data is already mandatory and there is a need to take advantage of systems already in place to move towards the digital recording.

**4. Information derogations on controls and advance payments granted during 2021 linked to disruptions due to the covid-19 pandemic.**

The Commission gave a brief presentation on the flexibilities in the framework of controls and as regards advance payments in order to mitigate the impact of the difficulties arising from the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021. No questions were raised on this topic.

**5. Main achievements of the ongoing research project NIVA – New IACS Vision in Action - (project coordinator – Wageningen University)**

The coordinator of the NIVA (New IACS Vision in Action) project presented the objectives of the project (absorbing innovation to simplify governance, reducing socio-economic and administrative burden to farmers and reducing the gap between IACS data use and potential broader uses), its approach and several examples of NIVA pilots. The project started in June 2019 with end date November of 2022. Several Member States participate in this project and are responsible for different use cases, which include monitoring, pre-filled application, farm registry, self-certification and seamless claim. Key findings of the project until now were presented as well as the next steps until its finalization.

During the discussion that followed, one point focused on the data to be shared and used. Commission representative explained that currently data sharing concerns geospatial and non-personal data from IACS to INSPIRE geoportals (<https://inspire-geoportal.ec.europa.eu/overview.html?view=themeOverview&theme=lc>) and more recently in the DG AGRI “agri-food data portal”, under the section *geoportals* (<https://agridata.ec.europa.eu/extensions/DataPortal/home.html>).

**6. From coupled support to ecoschemes: is there a better way to support livestock farmers in Wallonia? (Presentation by WWF)**

Mrs Schuster made a presentation that is available on CircaBc. Time available did not allow for questions and discussions amongst the participants.

**7. AOB**

**III. Conclusions/recommendations/opinions (N/A)**

**IV. Next steps (N/A)**

**V. Next meeting**

Next meetings are foreseen on Friday 18 March and Friday 7 October 2022.

**VI. List of participants - Annex**

List of participants– Minutes  
**Civil Dialogue Group Direct Payments and Greening**  
**8 October 2021**

MEMBER ORGANISATION	NUMBER OF PERSONS
Bee Life-European Beekeeping Coordination (Bee Life)	---
Stichting BirdLife Europe (BirdLife Europe)	1
European Liaison Committee for Agriculture and agri-food trade (CELCAA)	3
European agri-cooperatives (COGECA)	13
European Coordination Via Campesina (ECVC)	3
European Crop Protection Association (ECPA)	---
European Council of Young Farmers (CEJA)	4
Confédération Européenne de la Production de Maïs (C.E.P.M)	2
European farmers (COPA)	14
European Environmental Bureau (EEB)	1
European Federation of Food, Agriculture and Tourism Trade Unions (EFFAT)	1
European Forum on Nature Conservation and Pastoralism (EFNCP)	1
European Landowners' Organization asbl (ELO asbl)	3
European Milk Board (EMB)	---
European Agroforestry Federation (EURAF)	1
Fertilizers Europe	1
FoodDrinkEurope	3
Greenpeace European Unit	---
International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements EU Regional Group (IFOAM EU Group)	3
Pesticide Action Network Europe (PAN Europe)	1
SACAR - Secrétariat des Associations du Commerce Agricole Réunies / Joint Secretariat of Agricultural Trade Associations (SACAR)	---
WWF European Policy Programme (WWF EPO)	1
Additional private experts	2