21/10/2020

Statement on the future of CAP

The European Parliament, followed by the European Council, decided today to go forward and continue working on the key policy for our farming community, the CAP – EU's Common Agriculture Policy. This decision allows for the three years of work to continue on the future CAP, at an absolutely crucial moment when the agricultural sector is faced with COVID crisis, market disruptions and uncertainty over Brexit.

The CAP proposed by the European Commission in 2018 and up for vote by European Parliament these days is not perfect, but it is a compromise that can allow farmers and cooperatives to move forward, to invest into their production and to get greener. It took almost three years for this CAP proposal to reach the Parliament plenary vote and the Council negotiation table. Yet numerous votes will take place this week and a comprehensive analysis can only be made after the final vote in Parliament on Friday.

MEPs took a responsible decision and said, with a clear majority of 503 votes, that agriculture should not be a question of ideology or of revolution but a work of adaptation and transition. Copa and Cogeca welcome the work conducted by the CAP rapporteurs and COM AGRI MEPs who worked tirelessly despite the conditions imposed by COVID. The same holds true for the German presidency of the Council that put substantive work and effort into reaching an agreement on a common position among all Member States. European farmers and agri-cooperatives understand the signal sent this morning and we will be at work to deliver on the key objectives of the future CAP. Farmers need and count on this process to continue in a collaborative spirit during trialogue negotiations.

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Translations in DE, ES ,FR, IT, PL will soon be available on the Copa-Cogeca website.

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