



BACKGROUND¹ Luxembourg, 13 June 2022

Agriculture and Fisheries Council

Luxembourg, 13 June

The Agriculture and Fisheries Council will be held on **Monday 13 June**, starting at **11 a.m**. in Luxembourg. The session will be chaired by the French Minister for Agriculture and Food Sovereignty, **Marc Fesneau**. The European Commission will be represented by the Commissioner for Environment, Oceans and Fisheries, **Virginijus Sinkevičius**, the Commissioner for Agriculture, **Janusz Wojciechowski**, and the Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, **Stella Kyriakides**.

The session will start with the adoption of "A" items and will continue with a discussion on the information received by the Commission on the state of implementation of the **Common Fisheries Policy**, as well as on the consultation for **fishing opportunities for 2023**.

After lunch, ministers will discuss the **situation of agricultural markets**, following the Russian aggression in Ukraine. They will also exchange views on the Commission's report on the application of **EU health and environmental standards to imported agricultural and agri-food products**.

During the session, under "Other business", the Presidency will inform the ministers of the state of progress of the regulation on geographical indications. They will also receive information from the Commission on the programming process for the European Maritime Affairs, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMAFA). They will also be informed about the weather conditions in Croatia and their impact on the agricultural sector in that country.

A press conference will be held at the end of the session.

Agriculture and Fisheries Council - Meetings page

Press conferences and public events by video transmission

Video transmission, downloadable in "broadcast" format (MPEG4), and photo gallery

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¹ This note was written under the responsibility of the press office.

Fisheries

Fishing opportunities for 2023

Ministers will be briefed by the Commission on its communication on the state of implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy, with the aim of moving towards more sustainable fisheries in the EU. They will also be informed about the launch of the public consultation on fishing opportunities for 2023. The discussion is likely to focus on the state of stocks, the balance between fishing capacity and fishing opportunities, the capacity of the EU fishing fleet, the implementation of the landing obligation and quota management, as well as the impact of Russia's military aggression against Ukraine on fisheries.

Common Fisheries Policy (CFP)

Fishing opportunities in the EU

Agriculture

Discussion on the market situation, especially following the invasion of Ukraine by Russia

Ministers will receive the latest information from the Commission and member states on the current situation in agricultural markets, with a particular focus on the impact of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. While countries have gradually lifted the COVID-19 containment measures in the first quarter of 2022, the Russian invasion of Ukraine has brought new shocks and uncertainties to global markets, with the EU particularly exposed to the conflict due to its proximity and trade relations with Russia and Ukraine. Ministers will discuss the short- and medium-term impacts for producers and consumers, in particular, the increasing pressure on farmers' profit margins, as price increases often do not compensate for rising costs. They will also address the issue of the drought affecting some Member States, which is expected to lead to a drop in estimated harvests, particularly for cereals. In this context, ministers are expected to exchange views on the latest extraordinary support measures under the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) Rural Development Fund. Finally, they should take the opportunity to comment on the European Council conclusions adopted on 31 May, which provide guidance on the global food security situation, underline the importance of the CAP in the EU's contribution to global food security and call for the rapid adoption of the CAP strategic plans.

Situation on the agricultural markets, particularly following the invasion of Ukraine

European Council conclusions, 30-31 May 2022

Common Agricultural Policy

How Russia's war in Ukraine has impacted markets

Agricultural imports

Ministers will exchange views on the Commission's report on the application of EU health and environmental standards to imported agricultural and agri-food products, published on 3 June and agreed as part of the June 2021 CAP agreement. In the context of the European "Green Deal", the "Fit for 55" package and the "farm to fork" strategy, these standards would aim to reduce imports of agricultural products from third countries that are less ambitious in terms of environmental or health protection. This exchange is also in line with previous Council conclusions on the ambitious need for the EU to give greater prominence to sustainability considerations in the context of food safety standards for international trade, and to strengthen the coherence between the European Green Programme, the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and the Common Trade Policy in order to support the transition towards sustainable food systems. This session will be held in public.

Report on the application of EU health and environmental standards to imported agricultural and food products (in French)

<u>Imports of agricultural and food products - application of EU health and environmental standards (report)</u>

Strengthening coherence between the Green Deal, the CAP and trade policy to support the transition to sustainable food systems

Council calls for greater emphasis on sustainability in international food standards

Conclusions on the EU's commitment to an ambitious Codex Alimentarius fit to the challenges of today and tomorrow

Other business

Geographical Indications

Ministers will be briefed on the progress of the geographical indications (GI) regulation. The EU's system of geographical indications protects the names of products that originate in specific regions and have particular qualities or a reputation linked to the territory of production. In March 2021, the Commission adopted a proposal to revise the GI system for wine, spirits and agricultural products, with the aim of increasing the use of GIs throughout the Union for the benefit of the rural economy, preserving high quality and achieving a higher level of protection, including online. This session will be public.

Proposal for the revision of the geographical indications (GI) system

Quality schemes explained

Fisheries and Aquaculture

The Commission will inform the ministers of the programming process of the European Fund for Maritime Affairs, Fisheries and Aquaculture (FEAMPA), which entered into force on 14 July 2021. This fund for EU maritime affairs and fisheries policies covers the period from 2021 to 2027. It supports fishermen in the transition to sustainable fisheries, helps coastal communities diversify their economic activities, finances projects to create jobs and improve the quality of life along Europe's coastline, and supports the sustainable development of aquaculture and the implementation of maritime policy.

European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF)

Meteorological conditions

The Croatian delegation will inform ministers about the impact of thunderstorms and hail on its agricultural sector.