

DRAFT

**MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF THE COPA-
COGECA WORKING PARTY ON ENVIRONMENT
ON 23RD MAY 2013**

PRESENT: Basto, Bauer, Bulhao Martins, Dzelzkaleja, Eksvård, Fernandez, Francois, Godinho, Kiciński, Kingston, Koskull, Längauer, Le Corre-Gabens, Macijauskas, Martin, Mesa, Mitchell, Montaigu, Nørring, Pantano, Pinggen, Prieto, Ryan, Stéphani, Tiainen, Tobias, Valero, Vieuxtemps, Vondráková, Wells.

SECRETARIAT: Andúgar, Azevedo, Matthews, Neagu, Petit, Runge

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Items 1 and 2: Agenda (EN(13)2973) and draft minutes EN(13)646; list of documents EN(13)3038

→ The agenda and the draft minutes of the previous meeting were adopted.

Item 3: Working Party working method – discussion

→ Members discussed and accepted the *Rules of Procedure for the “Task Forces” of the Working Party on Environment* (EN(13)4740). A general discussion about the working method and involvement and participation of Copa-Cogeca in experts groups and public consultations took place. Members asked for a third annual meeting due to the complexity and high number of issues to tackle. The Secretariat will ask the members for topics for a third meeting to take place after the summer break (without reimbursement) and willingness to participate.

Item 4: CAP 2013

→ Update on the trilogue by Ms Matthews – the agreement of the CAP is due by the end of June. Ms Neagu presented the transitional arrangements and the agri-environment climate measure (DR(13)4308).

→ Eligibility rules: follow-up to the discussions held at the Advisory Group meetings in 2011 and discussion on the questions prepared by Birdlife (EN(13)3599) – members prepared a series of common messages which will be passed on to the Commission.

→ New monitoring and evaluation framework – members prepared a series of common messages which will be passed on to the Commission.

→ Exchange of views on the Farm advisory services (FAS and advice under Rural Development) with focus on resources efficiency and environmental measures.

Item 5 : International commercial agreements (multilateral and bilateral) and possible inclusions of “non-trade issues” with focus on environmental aspects

→ Ms Matthews explained that there aren't questions related to environmental aspects which are agreed upon in the framework of the WTO, nor in the bilateral agreements. Members concluded in the necessity to pay more attention to this issue and their intention to consider a joint common proposal drafted by the Advisory Group.

Item 6 : Biodiversity

- Update on the Commission's activities related to the implementation of the Biodiversity 2020 Strategy about previous meetings of the Stakeholder Expert Group – EN(13)4263 .
- Members were informed about the ongoing work on Natura 2000 and agriculture.

Item 7 : Water

- Ms Runge presented the draft Common Implementation Strategy of the WFD 2013-2015, and gave an update on the Commission's activities related to water and agriculture.
- Ms Stéphani from DBV gave a debriefing on the Workshop on Water Framework Directive and Rural Development Programmes on 19 April 2013.

Item 8 : Revision of the EU Air Quality policy – EN(213)4278

- Ms Andúgar explained the state of play of the revision of the air package, further to the Stakeholder Expert Group meeting on 3rd April – EN(13)2913. She also explained the preparations for the Copa-Cogeca stand at the Green Week 2013.

Item 9 : EU Strategy on Climate change adaptation package – EN(213)4278

- Ms Andúgar explained the main relevant elements for the farming sector of the EU strategy on climate change adaptation, launched by the Commission on 29th April.

Item 10: Recent developments related to neonicotinoids

- Mr Petit explained the state of play.

Item 11 : Genetic Modified Organisms

- Mr Petit explained the state of play. LRF presented their views on a framework for “sustainable agriculture” (environmentally, socially and economically) – EN(13)4391.

Item 12 : JRC GGLES (GHG emissions from livestock)

- LRF presented their report drafted in cooperation with the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences – EN(13)4390. Main weak point of the JRC GGLES study is that the results often only include parts of the food chain so outcomes are uncertain – therefore, outcomes should be presented with uncertainties.

Item 13: Update by the Secretariat– EN(13)4278

- Ms Andúgar and Ms Runge **provided information about the last developments of a series of relevant questions**, clarifications and steps forward: waste, climate change related public consultations, LULUCF, 7th EAP, Food SCP, European Innovation Partnerships.
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