

## copa\*cogeca

european farmers

european agri-cooperatives



CC(13)4145:1 - FB/mvs





TO: Ad hoc network on Economic Analysis All Commodities and Trade Working Parties Ad hoc Working Party on Research

**COPY: National Offices** 

Brussels, 15<sup>th</sup> July 2013

## Re: Invitation to the workshop on "Productivity and Growth in European Agriculture", Brussels, 25<sup>th</sup> September 2013

Dear Sir or Madam,

Copa-Cogeca, the European Crop Protection Association (ECPA), the European Agricultural Machinery Association (CEMA), the European Seed Association (ESA) and Fertilizers Europe have great pleasure in inviting you to attend the fourth workshop on the outlook for EU agriculture, which will take place on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Copa-Cogeca Secretariat, 61 rue de Trèves, Brussels.

Given the challenges and opportunities that European agriculture will be facing in the coming decades, it is necessary to develop a strong framework to incentivise productivity growth, in a way which also has an environmental benefit. To do so, we need to identify the current constraints to productivity growth and establish a strategic agenda on actions which might have the greatest potential to increase productivity, for instance through efficiency improvements and technical changes, also taking into account the possible impact on the environment. For the full effect and benefit of improvements in productivity to be seen, everyone from the upstream sector to the farm gate needs to demonstrate their commitment, in the context of a supportive policy and sound scientific research. Complex and extensive discussions are required to agree on this common strategic agenda.

This event presents a unique opportunity for farmers and their cooperatives, agricultural input suppliers, credit institutions and academics to come together in order to discuss productivity growth in European agriculture. It will also be of interest to the European Commission, the European Parliament and other EU institutions.

We look forward to seeing you at the workshop. Members of your organisation are most welcome to attend so we would be grateful if you could pass on this message to them.

Yours faithfully,

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Friedhelm Schmider Director General of ECPA

Garlich Von Essen Secretary General of ESA

Ulrich Adam Secretary General of CEMA

Enc:

- Programme [<u>ECON(13)829 (rev.2)</u>]
- Registration form [ECON(13)4149 (rev.1)]

Pekka Pesonen Secretary General of Copa-Cogeca

Jacob B Hansen Director General of Fertilizers Europe