

Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 138/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards regional economic accounts for agriculture - EAA amendment regulation

COM (2021) 54 final, 2021/0031 (COD)

PROGRESS REPORT

STAGES IN THE PROCEDURE

European Commission

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| Adoption | 12.02.2021 |
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Council of the European Union

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| Proposal received | 12.02.2021 |
| Council Working Party Meetings | 19.02.2021 (presentation) 21.04.2021 |

European Parliament

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| Proposal received | 12.02.2021 |
| Committee responsible | AGRI |
| Rapporteur | Petros KOKKALIS (GUE/NGL) |
| Committee draft report | 18.06.2021 (PE692.589) |

Summary

This proposal is part of the strategy for agricultural statistics for 2020 and beyond, a programme to modernise European Union agricultural statistics. Besides this proposal, the strategy comprises the framework Regulation (EU) 2018/1091 on Integrated Farm Statistics and the proposal for a regulation on statistics on agricultural input and output (SAIO), presently in the legislative process.

The proposal amends regulation No 138/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Economic Accounts for Agriculture (EAA), by including regional level accounts and quality reporting requirements, in line with the recommendations of the European Court of Auditors in its Special Report SR 01/2016. Additionally, the proposal foresees the relaxation of the second estimate deadlines for EAA by two months to allow for better quality.

On 18 February 2021 the Portuguese Presidency launched a written consultation on the EAA amendment proposal, with deadline on 11 March. The compilation of the comments received was published in the delegates portal as document WK 4057/2021 REV 1.

In the 1st meeting of the CWPS under the Portuguese Presidency, held in virtual format, on 19 February, the Commission presented the EAA amendment proposal and an initial exchange of views with Member States took place.

At the informal videoconference of the CWPS on 21 April the examination of the full EAA amendment proposal took place, guided by the Presidency informal document WK 5089/2021.

Member States expressed general support to the proposal, but concerns were expressed by a number of MS in relation to the transmission programme for the regional economic accounts for agriculture, due to the quality of the data for some of the variables. According to those MS, the programme should be reviewed providing for a distinction between mandatory and voluntary variables. The limited period for derogations is also a concern for some MS.

Following a round of bilateral formal meetings with Member States, the Presidency issued its proposal for a compromise text as WK 7658/2021, of 10 June, within a written procedure with a view to the adoption of a Council negotiating mandate with the European Parliament.

The PT Presidency compromise text keeps the transmission programme of data fully mandatory but foresees a longer period for derogations and the postponement of the 1st reference year of the regional accounts for the year in which the regulation comes into force (and not 2020, as proposed by the Commission). The deadline for the transmission of the regional accounts is changed from June to September year n+2.

The written procedure ended on 14 June with a qualified majority in favour and the mandate for the negotiations with the European Parliament was adopted by the Special Committee on Agriculture, on 21 June (ST 9917/21 +ADD 1).

The state-of-play of the EAA amendment proposal is foreseen as an information point under AoB of the last PT Presidency AGRIFISH Council, on 28-29 June.