

Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on statistics on agricultural input and output and repealing Regulations (EC) No 1165/2008, (EC) No 543/2009, (EC) No 1185/2009 and Council Directive 96/16/EC - SAIO Regulation

COM (2021) 37, 2021/0020 (COD)

PROGRESS REPORT

STAGES IN THE PROCEDURE

European Commission

Adoption	02.02.2021
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Council of the European Union

Proposal received	02.02.2021
Council Working Party Meetings	19.02.2021 (presentation) 17.03.2021 21.04.2021

European Parliament

Proposal received	02.02.2021
Committee responsible	AGRI
Rapporteur	Petros KOKKALIS (GUE/NGL)

Summary

This proposal is the second framework regulation envisaged within the strategy on agricultural statistics for 2020 and beyond, endorsed by the European

Statistical System Committee in November 2015, complementing the framework Regulation (EU) 2018/1091 on Integrated Farm Statistics.

The proposal establishes a common framework for aggregated European statistics related to the inputs and outputs of agricultural activities, as well as the intermediate use of such output within agriculture and its collection and industrial processing. It covers agricultural production (crops and animals) as well as organic farming, agri-environmental statistics on issues such as fertilizers, nutrient balances and plant protection products, and agricultural prices.

The main aim of the Commission's initiative is to monitor and evaluate the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and other important EU policies, and to support policymaking. This proposal also aims to streamline and update agricultural statistics legislation, to reduce the burden to provide data by using various sources of information and modern technology, to take account of new data needs and to ensure better comparability of collected data.

On 3 February 2021 the Portuguese Presidency launched a written consultation on the SAIO proposal, with deadline on 24 February. The compilation of the comments received was published in the delegates portal as document WK 3137/2021 REV 1.

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

Member States in general welcomed the SAIO proposal as a step forward in the modernisation and streamlining of the European agriculture statistics, recognising the importance of its data requirements for the EU policies, namely for the CAP and for the European Green Deal with the underlying farm to fork and biodiversity strategies.

MS however expressed concerns, mainly related to: i) the additional burden and costs for MS and respondents, since the proposal introduces new data collections; ii) the lack of appropriate co-financing from the Union; iii) the broad empowerment given to the Commission, claiming the need for safeguard clauses

to avoid substantial increase of the burden on the agriculture sector and of the production costs for MS; iv) the availability of data sources for some of the new data requirements in connection with the frequency foreseen for the provision of the data; v) the limited period for derogations.

Based on the written comments from Member States and the Commission's technical clarifications in document WK 3545/2021, of 12 March, the CWPS started the examination of the articles of the SAIO file in the informal videoconference of 17 March, guided by the Presidency non-paper WK 3712/2021.

The examination of the SAIO articles was concluded at the informal videoconference of the CWPS of 21 April, for which the Presidency also prepared an informal document WK 5226/2021 to guide the discussion.

It is clear from the discussions that there is a need to seek compromise solutions for most articles. The Presidency will work on them in close cooperation with CWPS members.

The discussion on this file should continue at the CWPS informal videoconference of 26 May.