



Malta-EU Steering & Action Committee

# AGRICULTURE & FISHERIES



11.12.09

## Agriculture and Rural Development

Commission launches new series to analyse the CAP - **10/12/2009**

The European Commission's Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development has launched a new product, "**Agricultural Policy Perspectives**" Briefs – [Click here](#) to view

The Briefs will discuss policy aspects of the CAP from an analytical angle, linking this to the discussions on the future of the Common Agricultural Policy. The first Brief, published today, covers the development of the CAP over the last two decades and considers the current position of the policy following recent reforms and how this will influence future policy changes.

This first Brief will then be followed by more in-depth Briefs focusing on different policy areas, such as direct payments, market support, and rural development.

Milk: Agreement reached on distribution of additional €300 million for dairy farmers - **04/12/2009**

Member States voted in favour of a Commission proposal to divide up an additional €300 million in aid for EU dairy farmers. The money will be distributed according to production within quota in the 2008/09 milk production season (April 2008-March 2009). The money will have to be allocated to individual farmers who are severely affected by the low dairy prices of this summer and who encounter liquidity problems. Member States will have to communicate before the end of February the objective criteria they will use to allocate the money to individual farmers. The money has to be paid before the end of June 2010. The money is divided up per member state (in million Euros): **Malta 0.08**. [Click here](#) for further info

New Insights into Mountain Farming in the European Union - **07/12/2009**



## Malta-EU Steering & Action Committee

The Commission staff working document "Peak performance" intends to provide an updated insight into the situation of mountain farming in the EU and to increase the visibility of the support tools available.

Agriculture and its related activities remain key components of the mountain rural economy and of land use in mountain areas. Whilst the analysis presented in this document focuses on the agricultural sector and does not bring forward specific policy options, the inter-linkage with non-agricultural sectors and with other EU funds is mentioned in the last chapter, together with an outline of possible avenues to be explored to make the EU support to mountain rural areas more effective.

The indications mentioned in the Commission's staff working document intend to make a contribution to the forthcoming discussions on the CAP after 2013 as well as to the wider debate on territorial cohesion. They could be better articulated when defining the policy options for the CAP architecture in a 2020 perspective. [Click here](#) to view the document.

### Fisheries

#### EU/Norway consultations for 2010 – a real missed opportunity – 09/12/2009

After several weeks of negotiations between the European Union and Norway on bilateral fisheries arrangements for 2010, including arrangements on mackerel, the two Parties, at their latest meeting in Bergen (Norway), were unable to agree mutually satisfactory arrangements for their fishermen. The Commission deeply regrets that, despite all the efforts made to reach agreement with Norway, the respective approaches of the two Parties at this stage have proved to be irreconcilable. [Click here](#) for more info

### Other Matters

#### Commission launches on-line vote for the new EU Organic Logo – 07/12/2009

The European Commission's Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development invites all Europeans to cast their vote in the final stage of the EU organic logo competition. The website <http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/logo/index.htm> will host the online vote where the three final logos will be displayed until 31 January. The new logo aims to enhance consumer protection and promote organic farming. Unlike the current logo, the winning entry will be obligatory for all pre-packaged organic products that derive from the 27 Member States and meet the labelling standards.



## Malta-EU Steering & Action Committee

EU Healthy Eating Campaign "The Tasty Bunch": The road shows draw to an end, but the campaign marches on – **04/12/2009**

The EU Healthy Eating Campaign, "The Tasty Bunch", visited 173 schools across Europe as road show busses brought quizzes and games into the playground to tell kids about the need to make wise food choices. Approximately 17 000 kids took part in the road shows which ran until the end of November, learning about the benefits of fruit, vegetables and dairy products. Thousands more are learning from "The Tasty Bunch" interactive website, now the focal point of the "Eat it, Drink it, Move it" campaign. [Click here](#) to view "The Tasty Bunch" website.

Pizza Napoletana registered as 'Traditional Speciality Guaranteed' - **10/12/2009**

Member States on Wednesday backed a proposal to register 'Pizza Napoletana' as a 'Traditional Speciality Guaranteed', under the European Union's quality labelling scheme. This means that producers who wish to use the EU's 'TSG' label on their pizzas must follow the precise specifications set out in the regulation. 'Traditional Speciality Guaranteed' means a traditional agricultural product or foodstuff with at least 25 years proven usage in the EU market and recognised by the EU for its specific character. This registration will not prevent other producers from using the name 'Pizza Napoletana', even if they do not follow the specifications approved on Wednesday. Producers making pizza to a different recipe would however not be allowed to use the 'TSG' label. The regulation will be formally adopted by the Commission in the coming weeks. [Click here](#) to view reference