

Opinion on “Common Agricultural Policy: Financial discipline as from financial year 2021 and flexibility between pillars in respect of calendar year 2020 (COM(2019)580 final)”.

The EU Policies Committee of the Chamber of Deputies,

having examined the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 regarding financial discipline as from financial year 2021 and Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013 regarding flexibility between pillars for the calendar year 2020;

considering that in May 2019 the European Commission presented a proposal for the European Union's Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) for the 2021-2027 programming period and, in the ensuing month of June, presented a package of legislative proposals for the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) relative to the same period;

taking note that, pending the definition of the EU budget 2021-2027 and an agreement on CAP reform, there must be certainty and continuity in CAP payments for the calendar year 2020, which will have an impact on the 2021 accounts, the first year of the new programming period;

cognisant that the purpose of the Proposal under examination is to introduce a transitional regime that ensures the continuity of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) pending its subsequent reform at the conclusion of the ongoing negotiations on the new Multiannual Financial Framework;

considering that in this respect the Proposal for the amendment of Regulations (EU) No 1306/2013 and No 1307/2013 propounds a number of changes to financial discipline, net expenditure ceilings and flexibility between the pillars, to which end it lays down rules for the allocation of resources from the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) relating to 2020, with financial consequences for 2021;

taking note that both in the hearings before this Committee and in the report submitted to the Government under article 6. Paragraph 4, of Law 234 of 24 December 2012, it was observed that the Proposal in question contemplates only provisions of a strictly technical nature with no material effects on the overall regulatory framework of the CAP, as it limits itself to amending provisions already contained in the aforementioned regulations with a view to maintaining the continuity of certain financial elements during the transition from the programming period of 2014-2020 to the following period;

conscious that in the course of the ongoing negotiations on the Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027, every possible effort must be made to ensure that adequate funds are allocated to the Common Agricultural Policy,

expresses

A FAVOURABLE OPINION