

German Bundestag

19th electoral term

Decision

At its 171st sitting, held on 3 July 2020, the German Bundestag, acting on the basis of Bundestag printed paper 19/20617, adopted the following decision:

Consistent implementation of the recommendations of the Competence Network on Livestock Husbandry and creation of future prospects for animal husbandry in Germany

I. The German Bundestag welcomes

1. the livestock strategy presented by the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL); part of this strategy is the Competence Network on Livestock Husbandry, which as an advisory body led by former Federal Minister Jochen Borchert has submitted far-reaching recommendations for the long-term transformation of livestock husbandry in Germany;
2. in particular the Network's approach of actively shaping the transformation process society has called for in agricultural livestock husbandry in Germany, instead of reacting to court rulings;
3. the Network's approach of developing an ambitious timetable for the further development of livestock husbandry for the next 20 years, in order to create planning security for agricultural businesses;
4. the proposed approach for covering the additional costs using a combination of state investment support, animal welfare premiums and greater consumer responsibility for appropriate market prices.

II. The German Bundestag calls on the Federal Government, within the budget available and the responsibility of the Federation,

1. to take up the recommendations of the Competence Network on Livestock Husbandry consistently and in their entirety and to use these as the basis for the future orientation of agricultural livestock husbandry;
2. to amend the necessary legal framework conditions required for implementation;
3. to guarantee the continuity of the working groups implemented by the Competence Network on Livestock Husbandry;
4. to present the German Bundestag with a short, medium and long-term strategy within this electoral term for transforming agricultural livestock husbandry, with specific recommendations for new constructions and development perspectives for existing livestock farming in terms of animal

welfare, environmental and climate protection and economical business operation, along with effective funding instruments that can be relied upon in the long term, such as investment support and animal welfare premiums; together with a feasibility study and impact assessment;

5. to develop proposals within this electoral term for the financing of the further development in livestock husbandry and to present these to the German Bundestag;
6. to work within the framework of the German Presidency of the Council of the EU towards the introduction of an EU-wide binding labels indicating rearing conditions and origin;
7. to start a dialogue on this basis between the various interest groups with the aim of achieving a broad societal consensus on the level of animal protection to be pursued and the financial remuneration required for this;
8. to strengthen training in green occupations, especially at vocational schools and technical colleges and in doing so take into greater consideration current developments in the digital transformation of the agricultural sector.