

JOINT DECLARATION ON THE FUTURE OF THE COMPLEMENTARY NATIONAL DIRECT PAYMENTS IN 2012

Complementary National Direct Payments may be complemented to a certain percentage of the level of direct payments in the Community as constituted on 30 April 2004 and the calculation of the national direct payments allows to pay up direct payments by the percentage amount determined for supplements which is reflected in the Treaties of Accession as well as the support of selected commodities by sector principle. According to the working document of the European Commission the New Member States can get into a situation, where they are unable to pay to applicants even ten percent of the potential resources available within the national envelope for direct payments, which guarantees aligning resources in support of the I. Pillar of the CAP.

Another question is an administrative factor of preparedness of the paying agencies, because this action will again require the adaptation of the information systems for 2012 and once again after the reform. These arrangements would require the usage of considerable financial resources and several months of intensive work and would represent substantial administrative burden.

Below signed countries have agreed on the following priority positions and ask the European Commission to take them into account when deciding on different policy actions.

The countries:

- Are highly concerned about the future implementation of the Complementary National Direct Payments in 2012,
- Consider the presented proposal on establishment of the Complementary National Direct Payments in 2012 not in accordance with the principle of equal treatment of European farmers and find the procedural handling by the Commission as not very appropriate,
- Underline that farmers in EU-12 would face further unequal treatment if the envisaged limitations of the Complementary National Direct Payments are applied,
- Remind that the modulated 10% of direct payments in 2012 in Old Member States are to be transferred and used in rural development, but some New Member States cannot do the same with their Complementary National Direct Payments,
- Require a revocation of the recently tabled proposal and to follow the approach agreed on in the Treaties of Accession also for 2012,
- Invite the Commission for consultations to take place in Poland in September in the margin of the Informal Council meeting.