

Brussels, 19<sup>th</sup> January 2021

**AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY COPA AND COGECA TO THE  
 EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT’S COMMITTEE ON THE  
 ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY AND  
 THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL  
 DEVELOPMENT**

**DRAFT REPORT  
 ON A FARM TO FORK STRATEGY FOR A FAIR, HEALTHY  
 AND ENVIRONMENTALLY-FRIENDLY FOOD SYSTEM**

**(Rapporteurs: Anja Hazekamp, Herbert Dorfmann)**

Draft Report	Amendments proposed
<p><b>Amendment 1</b></p> <p><b>B.</b></p> <p>whereas Europe’s food system should deliver food and nutrition security in a way that contributes to social well-being and maintains and restores ecosystem health; whereas currently, the food system is responsible for a range of impacts on human and animal health and on the environment, the climate and biodiversity; whereas the way in which we produce and consume food needs to transform in order to ensure coherence with the SDGs, the Paris Agreement, the Convention on Biological Diversity and EU policies, particularly in the areas of sustainability, the environment, climate, public health, animal welfare, food and economic sustainability for farmers;</p>	<p>whereas Europe’s food system should deliver food and nutrition security in a way that contributes to social well-being and maintains and restores ecosystem health; <del>whereas currently, the food system is responsible for a range of impacts on human and animal health and on the environment, the climate and biodiversity;</del> whereas the way in which we produce and consume food needs to <del>transform</del> <b>adapt</b> in order to ensure coherence with the SDGs, the Paris Agreement, the Convention on Biological Diversity and EU policies, particularly in the areas of sustainability, the environment, climate, public health, animal welfare, food and economic sustainability for farmers.</p>

<p><b>Amendment 2</b> New</p>	<p><i>whereas the Farm to Fork Strategy should reward farmers, agri-cooperatives and other operators in the food chain who have already undergone the transition to sustainable practices, enable the transition for the others, and create additional opportunities for their businesses;</i></p>
<p><b>Amendment 3</b> New</p>	<p><i>whereas it is fundamental that the policy formulation and implementation supports farmers and their cooperatives' economic sustainability, improves the functioning of the markets while contributing to a more economically, environmentally and socially sustainable agri-food sector; in addition, it must be recognised that there are numerous production methods which bring additional benefits from a sustainability point of view;</i></p>
<p><b>Amendment 4</b> New</p>	<p><i>whereas the Farm to Fork Strategy must take into account all three pillars of sustainability (economic, social and environmental) in this broader discussion; this is the only way to recognise the contribution of agriculture and of rural areas to food and feed production as well as biofuels, textiles and reforestation. Agriculture and forestry can provide long-term solutions;</i></p>
<p><b>Amendment 5</b> New</p>	<p><i>whereas it is necessary to ensure consistency and coherence between the measures envisaged by the Farm to Fork Strategy and the Common Agriculture and Fisheries Policies, the Trade Policy, the EU's Biodiversity Strategy for 2030, as well as other related EU Policies and Strategies;</i></p>
<p><b>Amendment 6</b> <i>Need for action</i> New Paragraph 2</p>	<p><i>Underlines that the Commission should base legislative proposals on scientifically-sound ex-ante impact assessments describing the methods of calculation of the targets and the baselines and reference periods of each individual target, after consultation with the Member States; the cumulative effects of the legislative proposals should be taken into account;</i></p>

**Amendment 7**

***Building the food chain that works for consumers, producers, climate and the environment***

Paragraph 3.

Welcomes the decision to revise the directive on the sustainable use of pesticides and the reduction targets for pesticides, fertilisers, and antibiotics; emphasises the importance of pursuing these targets through holistic and circular approaches, such as agroecological practices; insists that each Member State should establish robust quantitative reduction targets, accompanied by well-defined support measures ensuring accountability at all levels to help reach these targets; reiterates its call for the translation into legislation of the above targets and objectives and calls on the Commission to clarify how it will deal with individual Member States' contributions to Union-wide targets and to clarify the baselines for these targets;

Welcomes the decision to revise the directive on the sustainable use of pesticides and the reduction targets for pesticides, fertilisers, and antibiotics; emphasises the importance of pursuing these targets through holistic and circular approaches, such as agroecological practices; insists that each Member State should establish robust quantitative reduction targets, accompanied by well-defined support measures ensuring accountability at all levels to help reach these targets ***as well as support for implementation at farm level and further research and development for innovative farming solutions***; ~~reiterates its call for the translation into legislation of the above targets and objectives~~ ; ***acknowledges that these targets could have significant negative impact on the sustainability of the sector, farmers income and food security and should therefore be subject to an impact assessment prior to setting any targeted reduction***; and calls on the Commission to clarify how it will deal with individual Member States' contributions to Union-wide targets and to clarify the baselines for these targets;

***Calls the Commission to ensure that these targets are EU targets to which all Member States must contribute through action at national level; in this context, successes already achieved, as well as Member States' different starting points, circumstances and conditions shall be taken into account, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity***;

<p><b>Amendment 8</b></p> <p>Paragraph 4.</p> <p>Emphasises the importance of recognising the significant impact of agriculture and especially animal production on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and land use; stresses the need to enhance natural carbon sinks and reduce agricultural emissions of carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide, in particular in the feed and livestock sectors; calls for regulatory measures and targets to ensure progressive reductions in all GHG emissions in these sectors;</p>	<p><del>Emphasises the importance of recognising the significant impact of agriculture and especially animal production on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and land use; stresses the need to enhance natural carbon sinks and reduce agricultural emissions of carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide, in particular in the feed and livestock sectors; calls for regulatory measures and targets to ensure progressive reductions in all GHG emissions in these sectors;</del></p> <p><b><i>Emphasises that EU agriculture is the only major system in the world that reduced significantly greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions;</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Recalls that European agriculture and forestry plays a crucial role in addressing climate change adaptation and mitigation, as it has significant potential to reduce the emissions, to sequester carbon and to boost economies in a sustainable manner; that said, when addressing emissions stemming from agriculture, we must also recognise that these result from natural processes;</i></b></p>
<p><b>Amendment 9</b></p> <p>Paragraph 6.</p> <p>Welcomes the notion of rewarding carbon sequestration in soils; stresses, however, that intensive and industrial agriculture and farming models with negative impacts on biodiversity should not receive climate funding or be incentivised; calls for the proposals to be in line with the environmental objectives and the ‘do no harm’ principle of the Green Deal;</p>	<p>Welcomes the notion of rewarding carbon sequestration in soils; <del>stresses, however, that intensive and industrial agriculture and farming models with negative impacts on biodiversity should not receive climate funding or be incentivised;</del> calls for the proposals to be in line with the environmental objectives and the ‘do no harm’ principle of the Green Deal;</p> <p><b><i>Underlines, as for carbon sequestration, there are still emissions that cannot be avoided and that are part of a natural cycle, this must be taken into account when implementing the legislative instruments on climate; a carbon market place or crediting schemes should be part of the incentivising toolbox to deliver on climate objectives; more ambition with a diminished CAP budget will not deliver if the private sector is not properly involved.</i></b></p>

<p><b>Amendment 10</b></p> <p>Paragraph 12.</p> <p>New</p>	<p><i><b>Calls for cooperation between farmers to be supported by being more efficient and sustainable in many sub-systems (e.g. farming system, waste management system, input supply system, packaging, etc.);</b></i></p> <p><i><b>Underlines that cooperation is the tool allowing interactions with other key systems (e.g. energy system, manufacture system, transport systems etc.), and boosts the uptake of digital solutions and novel technologies in the primary production sector;</b></i></p> <p><i><b>Highlights that agri-cooperatives require in this respect a supportive legislative environment to further develop innovative business models that can deliver on the objectives of the Farm to Fork Strategy and contribute to the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals;</b></i></p>
<p><b>Amendment 11</b></p> <p>Paragraph 13.</p> <p>New</p>	<p><i><b>Points out that the EU code of conduct on responsible business and marketing practices shall promote farmers and their cooperatives' competitiveness, improves the functioning of the markets while contributing to a more economically, environmentally, and socially sustainable agri-food sector; it must be recognized that there are various production methods which bring additional benefits from a sustainability point of view;</b></i></p> <p><i><b>Underlines that ethical behaviour in business-to-business relations in the food supply chain, which are not covered by the Directive (EU) 2019/633 on unfair trading practices, should be a central aspect of the EU code of conduct on responsible business and marketing practices;</b></i></p> <p><i><b>Considers that this Code should only define certain principles, not specific requirements. It should be flexible so that operators can develop their own practices considering their specificities.</b></i></p>

<p><b>Amendment 12</b></p> <p>Paragraph 14.</p> <p>New</p>	<p><i><b>Calls for the EU Promotion Policy to include all agricultural products to ensure that they are all supported in becoming more sustainable and can all contribute to enhance global production and consumption sustainability;</b></i></p>
<p><b>Amendment 13</b></p> <p>Paragraph 16.</p> <p>Calls for measures to reduce the burden that highly processed foods with high salt, sugar and fat content place on public health; regrets that the introduction of nutrient profiles is greatly delayed and stresses that a robust set of nutrient profiles must be developed to restrict or prohibit the use of false nutritional claims on foods high in fats, sugars and/or salt; calls for a mandatory EU-wide front-of-pack nutrition labelling system based on independent science;</p>	<p><del>Calls for measures to reduce the burden that highly processed foods with high salt, sugar and fat content place on public health; regrets that the introduction of nutrient profiles is greatly delayed and stresses that a robust set of nutrient profiles must be developed to restrict or prohibit the use of false nutritional claims on foods high in fats, sugars and/or salt;</del></p> <p><i><b>Calls for an harmonised mandatory EU-wide front-of-pack nutrition labelling system based on independent science; and dietary guidelines that supports consumers to make healthier food choices and that provides them with better, more detailed and easier to understand but not over-simplistic information about the food they consume;</b></i></p>
<p><b>Amendment 14</b></p> <p>Paragraph 18.</p> <p>Welcomes the fact that the strategy rightly recognises the role and influence of the food environment in shaping consumption patterns and the need to make it easier for consumers to choose healthy and sustainable diets; reiterates the importance of promoting sustainable diets by raising consumer awareness of the impacts of consumption patterns and providing information on diets that are better for human health and have a lower environmental footprint; underlines that food prices must send the right signal to consumers; welcomes, therefore, the strategy’s objective that the healthy and sustainable choice should become the most affordable one;</p>	<p>Welcomes the fact that the strategy rightly recognises the role and influence of the food environment in shaping consumption patterns and the need to make it easier for consumers to choose healthy and <b>sustainability produced food</b> <del>sustainable diets; reiterates the importance of promoting sustainable diets by raising consumer awareness of the impacts of consumption patterns and providing information on diets that are better for human health and have a lower environmental footprint;</del> underlines that food prices must send the right signal to consumers; welcomes, therefore, the strategy’s objective that the healthy and sustainable choice should become the most affordable one;</p>

<p><b>Amendment 15</b></p> <p>Paragraph 19.</p> <p>Reaffirms its belief that policy measures that are dependent solely on consumer choice unduly shift the responsibility to purchase sustainable products to consumers; notes that third-party certification and labelling alone are not effective in ensuring sustainable production and consumption;</p>	<p><del>Reaffirms its belief that policy measures that are dependent solely on consumer choice unduly shift the responsibility to purchase sustainable products to consumers; notes that third-party certification and labelling alone are not effective in ensuring sustainable production and consumption;</del></p>
<p><b>Amendment 16</b></p> <p>Paragraph 20.</p> <p>Highlights the recognition in the strategy that Europeans’ diets are not in line with recommendations for healthy eating, and that a population-wide shift in consumption patterns is needed towards more healthy and plant-based foods and less red and processed meat, sugars, salt, and fats, which will also benefit the environment; emphasises that EU-wide guidelines for sustainable and healthy diets would bring clarity to consumers on what constitutes a healthy and sustainable diet and inform Member States’ own efforts to integrate sustainability elements in national dietary advice; calls on the Commission to develop such guidelines and specific actions to effectively promote healthy plant-based diets;</p>	<p>Highlights the recognition in the strategy that Europeans’ diets are not in line with recommendations for healthy eating, <del>and that a population-wide shift in consumption patterns is needed towards more healthy and plant-based foods and less red and processed meat, sugars, salt, and fats, which will also benefit the environment;</del> emphasises that EU-wide guidelines for <del>sustainable</del> <b>sustainably produced</b> and healthy <del>diets</del> <b>food</b> would bring clarity to consumers on what constitutes a healthy and sustainable diet and inform Member States’ own efforts to integrate sustainability elements in national dietary advice; calls on the Commission to develop such guidelines <del>and specific actions to effectively promote healthy plant-based diets;</del></p>
<p><b>Amendment 17</b></p> <p>Paragraph 22.</p> <p>New</p> <p>Calls for a revision of public procurement legislation, including minimum mandatory criteria in schools and other public institutions to encourage organic and local food production and to promote more healthy diets by creating a food environment that enables consumers to make the healthy choice;</p>	<p>Calls for a revision of public procurement legislation, including minimum mandatory criteria in schools and other public institutions to encourage <del>organic and local food production</del> <b>sustainably and locally produced food</b> and to promote more healthy diets by creating a food environment that enables consumers to make the healthy choice;</p>

<p><b>Amendment 18</b></p> <p><i>Enabling the transition</i></p> <p>Paragraph 25.</p> <p>New</p>	<p><i>Underlines that we cannot afford to lose time by refraining from using cutting-edge technologies such as new animal and plant breeding techniques, artificial intelligence and digital technologies; in particular, new breeding techniques (NBTs) could improve the tolerance of plant varieties to water stress and pests, as well as the disease resistance of animals; each NBT should be analysed and discussed by experts on a case-by-case basis and according to strict scientific criteria;</i></p>
<p><b>Amendment 19</b></p> <p><i>Promoting the global transition</i></p> <p>Paragraph 26</p> <p>New</p>	<p><i>Recalls that trade agreements must ensure that the parties involved participate actively in promoting sustainable development principles; international standards that are in line with European environmental and climate ambitions for sustainable growth must also be guaranteed; in addition, in order to ensure a global transition to sustainable food systems, these agreements should make the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and compliance to this as essential and binding elements;</i></p>