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Brussels,
(2022) 1447215

Dear Mr Faergeman,

Thank you for your letter with valuable observations on the proposed implementation of the new CAP in Denmark for the period 2023-2027.

A fairer distribution of CAP support is an important objective of the reform and is one of the conditions for economic sustainability for farms of different size. Member States shall provide for a complementary redistributive income support for sustainability but may, by way of derogation, address the needs for redistribution by other instruments and interventions financed under the CAP. Such derogation must be duly justified and substantiated by a quantitative analysis.

Environmental sustainability is another key objective of the reform, including soil protection and prevention of erosion. Soil protection is as you mention addressed by GAECs 5 to 7 to limit erosion, to protect soils in the periods that are most sensitive and to preserve soil potential. Member States have to set minimum standards for each of the GAECs in line with the main objective of those standards as referred to in Annex III to Regulation (EU) 2021/2115. This includes more particularly a standard for crop rotation (GAEC 7) but where Member States may provide other practices in specific regions on the

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basis of diversity of farming methods and agro-climatic conditions of these regions. It also includes a standard for tillage management to reduce the risk of soil degradation and erosion (GAEC 5) in areas where the risk for soil erosion is high.

The Commission is assessing the CAP Strategic Plan proposed by Denmark. The assessment will naturally check that legal requirements are complied with. Furthermore, a strategic assessment will be done to ensure that farming will be economically, environmentally and socially sustainable in the future. Any comments the Commission has on the proposed Plan will be communicated in a letter of observations, which according to the current planning, should be adopted by the College at the end of March. The outcome of the Commission's assessment of proposed CAP plans will be fully transparent as the observation letter sent to Denmark will be made public.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. H. H. H.', is positioned below the closing text.

Janusz WOJCIECHOWSKI