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## **Joint press release FNSEA, CONFAGRICOLTURA, DBV CAP reform, A timely agreement**

At the eve of the Trilogue of the 30<sup>th</sup> April, Presidents of FNSEA, CONFAGRICOLTURA and DBV, representing not only French, Italian and German farmers but being respectively president, vice president and past president of the European Farmers' Organisation COPA, stress their main concerns with regard to the ongoing discussions on the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).

The three presidents strongly believe that the CAP must remain an economic policy, conceived to stabilize and support farmers' income as stated in the EU Treaty by simultaneously encounter the environmental challenges of our times.

A pragmatic implementation of the green architecture and no further administrative burdens on farmers are the most relevant requests of the farmers' representatives.

The three associations support a greener CAP, manageable and attractive for farmers as well as efficient. As part of the green architecture, farmers need a baseline ("conditionality") focussing on essential points of good agricultural and environmental practices, to allow for more targeted green policies in the eco-schemes and in the second pillar of the CAP. FNSEA, CONFAGRICOLTURA and DBV support the Council's approach based on a practical crop diversification and appropriate environmental practices ("GAEC 8"). In addition, productive areas and elements beneficial to biodiversity shall not be excluded from the scope of the cross compliance commitments concerned ("GAEC 9"). Regarding the new eco-schemes, they must be accessible to all farmers to really contribute to the ecological and climate transitions.

As for the social conditionality, the three presidents insist on the fact that farmers must already comply with extensive national rules. From a farmer's point of view, there is a risk of a considerable increase in bureaucratic burdens without any significant improvements for the people working in agriculture as

France, Italy and Germany have already strict rules and controls in labour and social law.

“While our sector is under attack” Mr Giansanti, President of CONFAGRICOLTURA, underlines “, we highlight the importance of agriculture for the environment and of the role of farmers. Without competitive farms and without agriculture we will be eating chemical food and imported from countries that do not respect our production standards not only in terms of quality but also on social rights and environment ”.

“In the future CAP, economy and environmental protection together with the fight against climate change should be reconciled. Farmers are committed to meeting these challenges. The CAP tools can support them, for an even more sustainable agriculture”, stressed Mrs Lambert, President of FNSEA.

“It is essential for the farming sector” emphasizes Mr Rukwied, President of DBV, “that the new CAP allows farmers in Europe to continue to produce safe and nutritious food as well as to protect biodiversity and the climate. For this, the income support function of the CAP remains important to all farmers in the EU. Additionally, we need new market-driven instruments for carbon farming and nature conversation.”

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