

Joint Declaration on the CAP reform
12 December 2010, Brussels

The representatives of Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Sweden have agreed on the following:

The upcoming reform of the CAP has to be a real reform, which will make the CAP simple, fair, market oriented, sustainable and defensible, based on the following points:

- The CAP must be adequate to the ambitious goals and tasks indicated in the public debate and in the EC Communication.
- To depart from historical criteria and to establish new objective and fair criteria for distribution of support into national envelopes within CAP.
- Maintaining the model of two pillars, the CAP has to be not only common but also exclusive agricultural policy within the EU without the possibility of further support in the 1st pillar from state budgets, and to provide co-financing and state aid only up to a limited envelope and for specific, well defined purposes.
- Strengthening of the second CAP pillar.
- To significantly review the content and to simplify Cross Compliance system, while maintaining the level of environmental protection.
- To modernize instruments for market management (e.g. intervention) as a part of "safety net", adapting them to new circumstances, including market development.
- To ensure consistent control of agricultural products entering the EU market and to focus on quality of imported foodstuffs and production standards in third countries.
- To support innovative solutions for financing prevention and handling of disasters and of animal and plant epidemic diseases, to jointly consider EU initiatives related to these solutions and to submit joint proposals on these initiatives.