To the attention of all Members and Substitutes of the European Parliament Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

Cc: DEVE CAP rapporteur: Birgit SCHNIEBER JASTRAM
EP Standing Rapporteur on PCD: Charles GOERENS

Brussels, 21 January 2013

Subject: Vote in AGRI COM on CAP reform on 23 and 24 January

Dear Member of the European Parliament,

The CAP has multiple direct and indirect effects on the food security situation in developing countries. As the biggest importer and exporter of agricultural goods, the EU influences trade flows, world market prices and supply and demand at a global scale. It is therefore essential that the future CAP is coherent with the EU’s other policies, especially regarding our international development objectives.

Following the Lisbon Treaty, the European Parliament has full co-legislative powers on the CAP reform, and we, CONCORD, the European NGO confederation for Relief and Development, which represents 1,800 NGOs, are writing to you to urge you to ensure that the AGRI Committee, in compliance with Art 208 TFEU, is demonstrating that it takes the above objectives into account when voting on January 23th-24th.

The UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, Olivier de Schutter, echoes this call for a CAP that complies with the right to food.

CONCORD supports the four CAP Opinions of the Development Committee that have been voted on unanimously in June and are available to you.
Key issues that we urge you to include in the committee reports on the future CAP:

1. **PCD obligations**: Article 208 (2) TFEU on Policy Coherence for Development requires the EU to demonstrate that it has taken development objectives in the CAP into account. Without monitoring the likely effect of the CAP on developing countries, and thereby subjecting it to sound ex ante impact assessments and ex post monitoring, it will be impossible for the EU to fulfil its obligation under Article 208 (2). Monitoring should be accompanied by a mechanism enabling small scale farmers and concerned groups in developing countries to raise their complaints when their lives, rights and livelihoods have been (or are threatened to be) negatively affected by the implementation of the CAP.

   Therefore, we urge you to support the following amendments

   Relating to PCD reference:
   - Amendments 1 and 4 in the DEVE opinion on the direct payments regulation
   - Amendment 1 in the DEVE opinion on the horizontal regulation
   - Amendments 1 and 6 in the DEVE opinion on the EAFRD regulation
   - Amendments 1, 5, 8, and 11 in the DEVE opinion on the CMO regulation
   - Amendments 117, 118, and 2188 to the direct payments regulation
   - Amendments 435 and 535 to the CMO regulation
   - Amendments 103 and 104 to the horizontal regulation

   Relating to monitoring, impact assessments and complaint mechanism:
   - Amendments 2 and 4 in the DEVE opinion on the horizontal regulation
   - Amendments 11 and 12 in the DEVE opinion on the CMO regulation
   - Amendments 172, 661, 662, 673, 674, 675, 677, and 678 to the horizontal regulation

2. **Export subsidies**, though decreasing in scope for both finance and the number of recipient goods, constitute a severe obstacle to developing countries’ ability to compete and should be totally phased out.

   Therefore, we urge you to support the following amendments:
   - Amendment 535 to the CMO regulation
   - DEVE’s amendments 4 and 6 to the CMO regulation
   - All amendments deleting articles 134 to 141 to the CMO regulation

3. The EU’s policy and dependence on protein plant imports has negative environmental and social impacts in exporting developing countries. Promoting the growing of leguminous crops in Europe could help reduce these impacts, mitigate climate change and positively contribute to biodiversity and soil fertility.

   Therefore, we urge you to support the following amendments:
   - Amendments 248, 251, 265, and 1304 and DEVE’s amendments 2 and 5 to the direct payments regulation
   - Amendment 1289 and DEVE’s amendment 7 to the EAFRD regulation
4. **Agricultural research policies** should focus on the multi-functionality of agriculture and should build on the conclusions of the IAASTD report. Synergies with local development actors in developing countries and decentralized participatory research on agro-ecology that can contribute to poverty eradication should be encouraged.

Therefore, we urge you to support the following amendments:
- Amendments 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 12, 13 in the DEVE opinion on the EAFRD regulation
- Amendments 175, 193 and 194 to the EAFRD regulation

5. **Global civil society cooperation on rural development should be enhanced** by taking advantage of possible synergies and project collaboration opportunities in linking CAP rural development instruments and agricultural development policy instruments, including European smallholder farmers, non-governmental organisations in the development sector and farmers’ organizations as well as local authorities in developing countries.

Therefore, we urge you to support the following amendments:
- Amendments 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 in the DEVE opinion on the EAFRD regulation

We urge you to make sure that the final reports of the agricultural committee take account of the development objectives in compliance with Art 208 TFEU and include amendments on the above issues. Of particular importance is the need for an explicit reference to the PCD principle as enshrined in the Lisbon Treaty as well as regular and independent monitoring of the external impact of the CAP, which must become an inbuilt part of the CAP regulations.

The future of the EU CAP reform is a societal matter that concerns us all. It is about the future of the food we want to eat, it is about our relation to a planet on which we depend, and the access to the global commons, which must be available for all, including poor people in the South.

We urge you to ensure that European agriculture is responding to these concerns of European global citizens.

Yours sincerely,

Olivier Consolo
Director of CONCORD Europe
CONCORD is the European NGO confederation for Relief and Development. Its 27 national associations, 18 international networks and 2 associate members represent 1,800 NGOs which are supported by millions of citizens across Europe. CONCORD leads reflection and political actions and regularly engages in dialogue with the European institutions and other civil society organisations. At global level, CONCORD is actively involved in the Open Forum for CSO Development effectiveness, the Beyond 2015 campaign, the International Forum of NGO platforms and BetterAid. Find out more about CONCORD on www.concordeurope.org.

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DEVE opinion on the direct payments regulation; DEVE opinion on the CMO regulation; DEVE opinion on the EAFRD regulation; DEVE opinion on the horizontal regulation