

Ref. COMM(23)03524  
20/06/2023

## Statement

# Nature Restoration Law Council General Approach adopted – all eyes on European Parliament now

**Today the European Council reached an agreement (general approach) on the proposal for the Nature Restoration Law (NRL); Copa and Cogeca are dismayed by the unfortunate failure of the Environment Council to reject the NRL proposal. This general approach, which was reached under the Swedish Presidency with 20 votes in favour, 5 against, and 2 abstentions; is remarkable due to the fact that amongst those who voted against, Sweden was present, and in doing so has rejected their presidency proposal for a general approach.**

This is exemplary of the immense pressure that has been put on this file in procedures in order to actually find a general approach before the end of the Presidency; pressure which continues the push to complete this procedure before the end of the European Commission and Parliament's mandates as asked also by Commissioner Sinkevičius. This comes despite signals from Member State capitals that there should be a postponement and a possible reassessment of the proposal and its procedures.

As well as this, prominent academics have commented that the law itself is founded incorrectly on Article 192.1 of the TFEU, instead of Article 192.2 which concerns measures affecting land use, water resource management, and land and country planning. Thus, fundamentally changing the legal basis for this law and its subsequent procedures in the Council.

Copa and Cogeca are therefore relying on the European Parliament to support the proposal for rejection of the law in the Committee on Environment on 27th June and subsequently during the July plenary. We urge the Members of the European Parliament to support the farming, forestry, and fisheries sectors in rejecting the proposal, as it stands it is worse than the Commission's proposal, and to therefore send it back to the Commission for a re-evaluation, the re-creation of the impact assessment, and for a more realistic and rational target setting conclusion.

**-END-**

Translations will be available in DE, ES, FR, IT, PL and RO on the Copa-Cogeca website soon.



About us - Copa and Cogeca are the united voice of farmers and agri-cooperatives in the EU. Together, we ensure that EU agriculture is sustainable, innovative and competitive, while guaranteeing food security for 500 million people throughout Europe. >>> More information [www.copa-cogeca.eu](http://www.copa-cogeca.eu)

---

For further information, please contact

Niall Curley  
Senior Policy Advisor  
[niall.curley@copa-cogeca.eu](mailto:niall.curley@copa-cogeca.eu)

Jean-Baptiste Boucher  
Communication Director  
+32 474 84 08 36  
[jean-baptiste.boucher@copa-cogeca.eu](mailto:jean-baptiste.boucher@copa-cogeca.eu)

Press Release Mailing List

Subscribe

Unsubscribe

