Future of the GAEC notifications
Possible use of the database

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Content

1. The information
2. Proposed approach
1. The information

Legal requirement

The notification of national standards to the Commission is a regulatory obligation for Member States.

Article 140 of Council Regulation (EC) No 73/2009: “Member States shall inform the Commission in detail of the measures taken to implement this Regulation and, in particular, those relating to [GAEC].”
1. The information

Legal requirement

The Commission has the responsibility to monitor and follow up the implementation of GAEC by Member States in its duty of guardian of the Treaty. In particular the Commission must ensure that the EU framework for GAEC is implemented.
1. The information

Other use of the information

- Overview of the implementation of GAEC at EU level
- Structured format allowing comparisons
- Accessibility of the information
- Basis for discussion and benchmarking
1. The information

Characteristics of this information

• It is **official**: this is what MSs decide to communicate and this is the basis for the action by the Commission

• It is a **summary with sometimes language limitations**: all information about national GAECs is not included
1. The information

In conclusion....

... the best tool to manage this information seems to be the database:

• direct entry of data by national authorities, no transcription errors
• access at any time by the Commission, no need to manage paper or E-mails notifications
• allows structuring the information
• allows sharing the information
• allows search functions
• allows linking to scientific/technical data
2. Proposed approach

(Re. the discussion paper)

(1) The database would be used as the only mean for Article 140 notifications of the implementation of GAECs in Member states

(2) A limited number of persons would be designated in the national administrations having access to introduce the notifications in the database
2. Proposed approach

(3) The Commission needs the following information as part of the Article 140 notifications:

- **Summary of the national standard for each of the EU standards (+ possible remarks)**
- **References to the relevant national legislation (hyperlink ?)**
- **Reference to the information provided to farmers (hyperlink ?)**

Any other information useful to share with other member States and the Commission?
2. Proposed approach

(4) **The summary of the national standard would be introduced by national administrations in national languages (and in English ?).**

(5) **The deadline for the Art 140 notifications would be set at 31 December each year for the national standards to be applied the following year**
2. Proposed approach

(6) The read-only access to the database would be open to MS national administrations (agriculture and possibly other administrations) and European institutions (European Commission, European Parliament, European Court of Auditors, others on demand).
2. Proposed approach

(6ctd) Apart from these administrations, is it relevant to open the read-only access to:

– Academic organisations performing studies on cross compliance (with password)?
– NGOs interested by cross compliance (with password)?
– public, including farmers?

(The Commission will be responsible for the accreditation of the different communities’ members)
2. Proposed approach

(7) Any other suggestions for improving the database or as a complement on a broader entry portal (links to GAEC related studies, etc)?
2. Proposed approach

Next steps:

- Open discussion now and conclusions
- Validation at the next Experts Group on cross compliance (scheduled 14 November)
- Official mail from the Commission end of November
- Notification for the GAEC 2011 and 2012 in the database before 31 December
Thank you for your attention