

**COMMON DECLARATION ON
COUPLED SUPPORTS WITHIN THE CAP**

**Supported by Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Finland, France,
Hungary, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia and Spain**

Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Romania and Spain underline the fact that the present Council agreement on the CAP reform represents a first step of the negotiation process.

Within this context, those Member States accept the Presidency proposal on article 39 raising the percentages of coupled payments up to 7% and 12% in a spirit of compromise.

Nevertheless, the abovementioned Member States, joined by **Slovenia and Slovakia**, reiterate their commitment towards reaching a more ambitious solution on this issue. For this reason, they support the EP amendments foreseeing the possibility of 15% of coupled payment for all Member States and a wider scope of agricultural products, with the provision to increase this level upon approval by the Commission, and an additional support for the protein crops of 3%.

Thus, those Member States call on the Irish Presidency to meet the Parliament position during the forthcoming trilogues on this issue.