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E-003941/2020

Answer given by Mr Wojciechowski
on behalf of the Commission
(9.9.2020)

The conclusions of the European Council of 17-21 July 2020 endorse the Commission proposal to establish a European Union Recovery Instrument to support the recovery in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Based on these European Council conclusions, an amount of EUR 7.5 billion (in 2018 prices) would be allocated to the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) under Next Generation EU Fund. This additional funding is intended as EAFRD allocations for 2022 and 2023. In anticipation of this extra funding, EAFRD support in 2021 under the core Multiannual Financial Framework is foreseen to be frontloaded.

The Commission will work constructively with the co-legislators to integrate the Next Generation EU funding for rural development into the rules for the common agricultural policy for post-2020, whilst respecting the overall aims and legal constraints of the funding under Next Generation EU. In that context, the Commission also wants to recall its position on the length of the transitional period, which should remain limited to 2021.