



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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NOTE

from :	Polish delegation
to :	Council
Subject :	Estimated value of damages to crops and farm animals caused by the 2010 floods in Poland

Delegations will find attached a note submitted by the Polish delegation to be dealt with under "Any other business" at the "Agriculture and Fisheries" Council on 29 June 2010.

The Crisis Management Team estimated, as of 21 June 2010, that this year's flood in Poland affected 13 voivodeships (48 poviats and 500 gminas). It is initially estimated that 52,234 agricultural holdings and special agricultural production sectors suffered losses that affected an area of 474,964 ha. The value of losses is approximately PLN 1.4 billion (approx. EUR 350 million).

At present, commissions appointed by particular Voivodes estimate losses suffered by agricultural holdings and special agricultural production sectors. The value of actual losses due to this year's flood will be announced when the commissions complete their work. The majority of damaged holdings are located in southern Poland: Małopolskie Voivodeship, Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship, Podkarpackie Voivodeship, Śląskie Voivodeship, Opolskie Voivodeship, Dolnośląskie Voivodeship, Lubelskie Voivodeship and Łódzkie Voivodeship. Apart from losses to their production, agricultural holdings and special agricultural production sectors suffered substantial damages to farm buildings, warehouses, greenhouses and other buildings used for agricultural production, tractors, farming machinery and equipment, as well as residential buildings. The value of the losses will also be announced when the commissions complete their tasks. Losses in this respect were also caused by landslides and a hurricane. As in many cases farmers do not have enough funds to carry out the necessary repairs of buildings and machinery, it is urgent to provide them with support.

It must be emphasised that flooded agricultural areas will require tests and measures necessary to reintroducing their production value when water withdraws. Chemical agricultural services carry out soil and plant tests for potential contamination and provide advisory services, including support in drawing up fertilizing plans as well as provision of training and information, to farmers in the areas affected by the flood. Dead farm animals are rendered on an ongoing basis.

The situation of farmers who suffered losses is very difficult in view of the fact that this is yet another year when Polish agriculture suffers losses due to unpredictable weather-related phenomena.