

Material and Methods

At the request of PAN Europe on 24 September 2020 asking access to Working Paper (WK 8636/2020 INIT) 'Council Conclusions on the REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL' on the experience gained by Member States on the implementation of national targets established in their National Action Plans and on progress in the implementation of Directive 2009/128/EC on the sustainable use of pesticides and all relating documents.

The General Secretariat of the Council (GSC) informed PAN Europe on the 9 November that they had examined the request and identified 36 documents from 25 May until 6 November 2020. GSC sent 10 documents to PAN Europe on 9 November, and after a reminder from PAN Europe, the remaining documents arrived on 25 November.

These 36 documents are briefly described below and made available via web link, below:

On 16 July, the German Presidency of the Council informed the other Member States in a [letter \(WK 7883/2020 INIT\)](#) of its intention to submit two Commission reports to the Council. These are the report ([SUD](#)) and the report ([REFIT](#)).

A first online kick-off meeting was scheduled for 22 July with a [presentation](#) from the European Commission ([WK 8074/2020 INIT](#)), following which delegates were invited to send general comments on the Commission's conclusions, in particular with regard to their completeness and consistency, as well as proposals for improving the implementation of Integrated Pest Management to the German Presidency by 21 August ([WK 8154/2020 INIT](#)).

The following Member States had submitted comments and proposals to this effect: the [Netherlands](#) (25.08. WK 8588/2020 INIT), [Luxembourg](#) (26.08. WK 8588/2020 ADD 1), [Austria](#) (26.08. WK 8588/2020 ADD 2), [Denmark](#) (26.08. WK 8588/2020 ADD 3), , [Estonia](#) (26.08. WK 8588/2020 ADD 4), [Ireland](#) (26.08. WK 8588/2020 ADD 5), [Portugal](#) (26.08 WK 8588/2020 ADD 6), [Finland](#) (26.08. WK 8588/2020 ADD 7), [Slovenia](#) (26.08 WK 8588/2020 ADD 8), [Greece](#) (26.08. WK 8588/2020 ADD 9) [Poland](#) (26.08 WK 8588/2020 ADD 10) and [France](#) (23.09. WK 8588/2020 ADD 11).

On 28 August the German Presidency informed member states about the time table of the Commission work ([WK 8265/2020 INIT](#)).

On 14 September, the German Presidency presented a first draft of the Council conclusions on the Commission report (Document [WK 8636/2020 INIT](#)) inviting member states to a video conference to discuss this draft with Member States in a meeting on 22 September (Document [WK 9534/2020 INIT](#)). Following this videoconference, the Presidency invites Member States to submit their comments and proposed amendments in writing by 9 October (22.09 [WK 9897/2020 INIT](#)).

The following Member States had submitted comments and proposals to this effect:

Sweden (15.10 [WK 8636/2020](#) ADD 1 REV 1, Poland (7.10 [WK 8636/2020](#) ADD 2), Denmark (8.10 [WK 8636/2020](#) ADD 3), Latvia (9.10 [WK 8636/2020](#) ADD 5), Lithuania (9.10 [WK 8636/2020](#) ADD 6), Finland (12.10 [WK 8636/2020](#) ADD 7), France (21.10 [WK 8636/2020](#) ADD 8 REV 1), Hungary (14.10 [WK 8636/2020](#) ADD 9), Netherlands (16.10 [WK 8636/2020](#) ADD 10) and Slovakia (19.10 [WK 8636/2020](#) ADD 11).

On 26 October sent an revised draft off the Council conclusions (WK 8636/2020 REV 1). On 29 October the European Commission comments on the draft of the Council conclusions ([WK 8588/2020](#) ADD 12).

Until the 6.11 (end of our access to request) the following Member States had submitted comments and proposals to this effect: Sweden (4.11 [WK 8636/2020](#) REV 1 ADD 1), Austria (4.11 [WK 8636/2020](#) REV 1 ADD 2).

So, in the period from May to 6 November:

- Germany, Cyprus, Malta, Croatia, Spain, Italy, Romania, Belgium, Bulgaria and Czech Republic did not contribute to the SUD debate.
- Luxembourg, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Estonia, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Lithuania, Latvia, only contributed once, either replying the questions from the German presidency or proposing changes to the German presidency drafts for Council Conclusions.
- Denmark, Sweden, Austria, France, Poland, Finland, Netherlands contributed both by replying to questions from the German presidency and proposing changes to the German presidency drafts for Council Conclusions.

Please note this document is meant as an attachment to PAN Europe's 03/12/2020 press release [„PAN Europe reveals: Member States act against EU pesticide reduction“](#).