



Tallinn, 15.03.2018

To: Herbert Dorfmann
Member of the European Parliament

Dear Mr. Dorfmann,

We are writing to you about the draft report on the future of food and farming.

The Estonian Chamber of Agriculture and Commerce would like to thank you for the very good proposals, but we are very concerned about wording of the point 10 in the draft report. We propose to amend it as following:

„Believes that more targeted support for family farms is necessary and can be achieved by introducing a compulsory higher support rate **appropriate voluntary measures and support** for small farms **in the first and second pillar of the CAP**; considers, moreover, that support for larger farms ~~should~~ **can be** digressive, reflecting economies of scale, with the possibility for capping to be decided by the Member States;“

We believe that it is important to ensure subsidiarity and give greater responsibility to Member States. This would be also in line with new delivery model proposed by the European Commission. In some countries farmers are very dependent on rented land, therefore we should not create incentives for land owners who are not involved in active agricultural production (or so called "sofa farmers") to rise rent price or harvest subsidies that should go to active farmers. Your proposal to introduce a compulsory higher support rate in the first pillar of the CAP would unfortunately lead to rise of land prices and land rental prices to everybody, both to small and larger farmers.

We hope that you would take our concerns into consideration and make the amendment to the draft report to ensure favourable economic environment for viability and competitiveness of our farming sector.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Roomet Sõrmus', is positioned below the text 'Yours sincerely,'.

Roomet Sõrmus
Chairman of the Board of the Estonian Chamber of Agriculture and Commerce