



**MINISTER
OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL
DEVELOPMENT**

Henryk Kowalczyk

Warsaw, 26 April 2022

Ref. No.: DRR.po.0826.1.2022

**Mr. Janusz Wojciechowski
EU Commissioner for Agriculture**

Concerning: A notification of the manner of the provision in Poland of exceptional adjustment aid to apple producers pursuant to Article 3(a) of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/467

Dear Mr. Commissioner,

I would like to thank you, Mr. Commissioner, for the initiative within the framework of which Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) of 2022/467 of 23 March 2022 was drafted and adopted, providing for exceptional adjustment aid to producers in agricultural sectors. Taking into account the provisions of the abovementioned Regulation, the Polish authorities decided to select the dessert apple sector as one of those that would be covered by the exceptional adjustment aid. This decision was dictated by the crisis situation on the domestic dessert apple market which had persisted since the adoption by the Belorussian authorities of a ban on imports of agricultural products, among others, from EU Member States, i.e. since 1 January 2022, and which was aggravated by the outbreak of an armed conflict in Ukraine. The intervention proposed by the Polish authorities provides for the award of aid to dessert apple producers for the sales of this fruit to processors who have undertaken to process it. The producers may seek aid at a rate of PLN 0.30 per kg of fruit sold to processors.

In light of the specific nature of this market, the achievement of the desired effect of the proposed intervention depended on its quick launch. Indeed, it is important to note that the further storage of the apples while waiting for better market conditions would generate additional costs for the producers; moreover, it is uncertain whether in a longer term the market situation is likely to change. In addition, it should be added that the implementation of the measure will cause a reduction in the demand for energy produced from fossil fuels which powers most cold storage facilities where apples intended for the dessert fruit market are stored. In light of the above, one of the results of the proposed measure will be a beneficial effect on the environment.

Let me kindly inform you that the notification which the Member States are obliged to submit pursuant to Article 3(a) of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/467 will be presented to the Commission at the stage where the Polish authorities decide on the full range of measures which they intend to implement pursuant to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/467. Indeed, it cannot be excluded that it would be purposeful for the aid envisaged in that Regulation to be extended as well to other agricultural markets at risk of being disturbed in relation to the Russian invasion of Ukraine. This matter should be resolved within the timeframe of the nearest few weeks

At the same time, I would like to express gratitude for the readiness to cooperate which was demonstrated by the Commission services – Unit E2 – Wine, Spirits and Horticultural Products. The ability to hold ad hoc consultations with the Commission representatives on the measures proposed by the Polish authorities made it possible to quickly draft the national provisions, which, as said earlier, affects the effectiveness of the proposed mechanism.

Respectfully yours

Henryk Kowalczyk

/Signed electronically/

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