

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY
USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT
POLICY

Voluntary Public

Date: 7/19/2016

GAIN Report Number: E16036

EU-28

Post: Brussels USEU

New Online Feedback Tool to Comment on Draft EU Legislation

Report Categories:

Trade Policy Monitoring

Approved By:

Karisha Kuypers

Prepared By:

Hilde Brans

Report Highlights:

On July 1, 2016, the European Commission launched a new consultation tool offering stakeholders the opportunity to provide online feedback on draft EU secondary legislation. As of now, draft delegated and implementing acts will be posted on a new dedicated website and open for consultation during a four-week period.

New Feedback Tool Provides Opportunity to Comment on Draft EU Legislation

New Online Feedback Tool

On July 1, 2016, the European Commission launched a brand [new consultation tool](#) offering stakeholders the opportunity to provide online feedback on draft EU secondary legislation. With this new dedicated website, the Commission is following up on its commitment made in the “[Better Regulation Agenda](#)” of May 2015 to increase transparency and stakeholder consultation. The new consultation tool is in its first phase and will be expanded to become the central point for feedback from stakeholders throughout the different stages of the law-making process.

Four-Week Consultation on Draft EU Secondary Legislation

The tool applies to draft acts drawn up by the Commission to amend or supplement existing laws (delegated acts), to set conditions for existing laws to be implemented (implementing acts), or to set conditions for measures under the pre-Lisbon “regulatory procedure with scrutiny” (e.g. criteria for endocrine disruptors). As of now, these three types of draft EU secondary legislation will be posted on the new website and open for consultation during a four-week period. It should be noted however that not all draft secondary legislation will be open for a four-week consultation, as a number of exceptions apply. These exceptions, [listed in Chapter VII -Table 4.1 of the Better Regulation Guidelines](#), include draft measures for which a public consultation has already been done by an EU agency such as for example the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA).

How does the Consultation Tool work?

Users must register in order to provide feedback but have the option to comment anonymously. Each draft measure has its own webpage where stakeholders have access to the draft text and can find information on which Directorate-General in the Commission is responsible, which type of measure the Commission intends to adopt and what the deadline is for submitting comments. Stakeholder feedback is published on the new website but it is not entirely clear how the Commission will take comments into account.