

PROCESS FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURES OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON AGRICULTURE

(prepared by the ECA Secretariat)

Background

This paper provides explanation on the process of amendment of the Rules of Procedure (RoP) of the European Commission on Agriculture (ECA), as requested by the Executive Committee (ExCom) in their comments to the 38/4 ExCom Meeting document “Roles and responsibilities of the ECA ExCom in relation to ECA and ERC” ([ECA ExCom/38/4-3](#)).

Process for the amendment of Rules of Procedures of ECA

The RoP of ECA includes the following provision on its amendment:

“Rule XII. Amendments to and Suspension of Rules of Procedure

1) The Commission may, by a two-thirds majority of its Members adopt amendments or additions to these Rules of Procedure, provided that twenty-four hours' notice has been given of the draft amendment or addition. Amendments or additions to these Rules shall come into force upon approval by the Director-General.”

The table below presents stages of the process for the amendment or revision of the RoP of ECA, and their approximate timeframes.

No.	Stage of the process	Timeframe
1.	ExCom agrees on the need for a revision of the RoP, determines its scope and provides justification	January
2.	ECA Secretariat drafts the revision of the RoP, prepares its track-change version, and presents it to the Director-General for review and consideration	February-March
3.	The Secretariat, in agreement with the Chairperson of the Commission, puts the revision of the RoP on the agenda of the ECA Session (Rule V.1)	April
4.	ECA Secretariat makes the draft revision of the RoP available to the Members of ECA at least 30 days prior to the Session of ECA, as a Session document (Rule V.7)	31 August
5.	ECA Session adopts the revision of the RoP by a two-thirds majority of its Members (Rule XII.1)	September/October

The ExCom is invited to:

- note the process for the amendment of the RoP of ECA.