EN
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Answer given by Mrs Roswall
on behalf of the European Commission
(25.8.2026)

The Commission will assess draft National Restoration Plans (NRP) in accordance with the requirements set out in Article 17 of the Nature Restoration Regulation (NRR)[1]: compliance with Article 15, adequacy for meeting the targets and fulfilling the obligations set out in Articles 4 to 13, and contribution to the Union's objectives, targets and commitment referred to in Articles 1, 9(1) and 13. These requirements will be analysed by means of defined criteria, aligned with recognised practice for evaluation, to ensure an objective and operational assessment. The assessment framework is discussed with Member States and other members of the NRR Expert Group.

As public budgets are constrained, for the finalisation of the plans the Commission encouraged Member States to design measures as cost-efficiently as possible. The Commission also advised to take measures which are already being planned or carried out and financed as a starting point. Finally, the Commission suggested to consider prioritising measures that contribute to several objectives such as climate mitigation and adaptation, land degradation neutrality and disaster prevention or reducing future restoration needs by preventing deterioration. Such multipurpose measures are likely to have a high cost-effectiveness and a low cost-benefits ratio.

The Commission observations on the draft NRP will be made public. After receiving them, Member States will have six months to produce the final NRP. Under the NRR, Member States have large margins of appreciation when setting the measures in the NRP and must ensure that the preparation of the NRP is transparent and inclusive, giving stakeholders opportunities to participate.

[1] Regulation (EU) 2024/1991 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2024 on nature restoration and amending Regulation (EU) 2022/869, OJ L, 2024/1991, 29.7.2024.