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Answer given by Mr Hansen
on behalf of the European Commission
(12.6.2025)

The Strategic Dialogue calls for a Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) that is fit for purpose. It recommends that CAP support should be delivered in a more targeted way, ‘moving away from current non-degressive area-based payments’. This should not be read as a call for abandoning area-based payments, but rather as recommending a more targeted distribution of CAP support across beneficiaries.

The Commission’s Vision for Agriculture and Food¹ reflects this recommendation by announcing a fairer, simpler and more targeted support under the future CAP, relying notably on an enhanced use of measures such as degressivity and capping. The setting up of a dedicated task force on the targeting of income support is not envisaged.

The Commission services possess robust and published² data and analysis of the distribution of CAP income support that will be used to design the future policy. On 19 and 20 May 2025, the Commission discussed the future of the CAP, including the targeting of direct support, with the newly created European Board on Agriculture and Food (EBAF)³. A further EBAF discussion on the CAP is planned for 19 June 2025.

¹ https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/overview-vision-agriculture-food/vision-agriculture-and-food_en#:~:text=The%20Commission%20presents%20its%20Vision%20for%20Agriculture%20and,fair%20agri-food%20system%20for%20current%20and%20future%20generations.

² https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/document/download/8707d160-1fed-45b1-aba8-bc9a6eca9846_en?filename=summary-report-implementation-direct-payments-claim-2022_en.pdf

³ https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/common-agricultural-policy/cap-overview/committees-and-expert-groups/ebaf_en.