

Luxembourg, 18/2/2011  
ESTAT/E-1/JS/LB/AMK/eb D(2011) 181801  
Master file 40701/2011/001

## INVITATION

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am pleased to invite you to the following Eurostat seminar:

### **"FARM DATA NEEDED FOR AGRI-ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING"**

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>Place:</b>       | <b><i>Jean Monnet (JMO) Building</i></b><br><b>rue Alcide de Gasperi</b><br><b>L – 2920 Luxembourg-Kirchberg</b> |
| <b>Room:</b>        | <b>M6</b>  |
| <b>Date:</b>        | <b>28 March 2011</b>   |
| <b>Starting at:</b> | <b>9.00 a.m.</b>   |

This seminar is the concluding action of the **DireDate** project, launched by Eurostat with the aim of identifying "Direct and indirect data needs linked to the farms for agri-environmental indicators". DireDate is carried out by a research consortium led by Alterra Wageningen UR (NL), with the University of Aarhus (DK), Institute of Technology and Life Sciences, ITP/IMUZ (PL), University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences (AT) and ADAS (UK) as partners.

This project is now drawing to an end, and Eurostat organises the final seminar on 28 March 2011 in Luxembourg in order to report the results and recommendations of the project to stakeholders and other interested parties. These include statistical offices, policy makers, international organisations like OECD and FAO, farmers' associations, agricultural and environmental research centres and partners in the European Commission (Directorates-General for Agriculture and Rural Development, Environment, Climate Action, and the Joint Research Centre) and the European Environmental Agency (EEA).

Eurostat strongly believes that invitees will greatly benefit from the results of this project, as it will clarify how to set up data flows from the farm level in order to improve both the quality and availability of statistics, indicators and other data on agriculture and environment. This is why I would like to invite you to the seminar, to show how important it is to progress in this domain together.

## Project rationale

Eurostat coordinates the work within the European Commission and with the EEA on the 28 Agri-environmental indicators (AEI) that were identified in the Commission Communication COM(2006) 508 and subsequently approved by the Agricultural Council. We noted that while on the one hand not all data needed to provide the AEI are currently available, there are on the other hand several parallel data flows containing or using the same or almost the same information. Such flows are for instance the agricultural parts of greenhouse gas and ammonia emissions, as well as some of the indicators used for monitoring the Rural Development Programmes and Water Framework Directive. This suggests that there might be opportunities for a more efficient data collection, which would not only benefit AEI but also other policy requirements.

In order to facilitate setting up a sustainable system for collecting the data needed for analysing the relations between agriculture and the environment, Eurostat launched the DireDate project which aims at both identifying the direct and indirect data that should be provided at farm level and are needed not only for the AEI but also for closely related policies, and at ensuring efficiency and coherence with other reporting requirements. The data collection to be set up will serve European and national statisticians and policy makers, as well as agricultural and environmental researchers, observers of climate change and other environmental issues linked to agriculture.

## Agenda and logistics

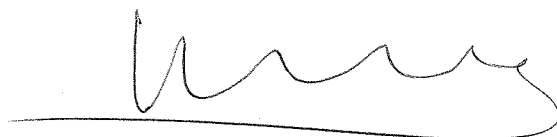
Attached you will find the draft agenda, also available on the DireDate section of the Communication & Information Resource Centre (Circa) website where other information will be progressively uploaded. More information on Eurostat activities on the agri-environmental indicators is available on the AEI section of the Eurostat website.

In order to be able to produce identification badges on time, it is imperative that you inform the Secretariat of our Unit of your participation, preferably by e-mail to ESTAT-E1-Meetings@ec.europa.eu, by 15 March at the latest. Badges will be issued by presenting identification and this invitation letter when entering the building. **Please note that there will be no reimbursement of costs and as the premises are limited in size, we might have to restrict the number of participants.**

Please inform us of any particular need resulting from a disability, so that we may do our best to take it into account when organising this seminar.

Within the framework of this seminar the personal data of the participants [name, address, etc.] will be registered according to article 2(b) of the Regulation EC N° 45/2001 (OJ N° L8 dated 12.1.2001, pages 1 to 22). Should your delegate require further information or wish to exercise his rights (e.g. access or rectify data), please contact: Mr Johan Selenius (E-mail: Johan.Selenius@ec.europa.eu).

Yours faithfully,



Pedro Díaz Muñoz

Encl.:            Agenda