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To:"COMP STATE AID GREFFE" <Stateaidgreffe@ec.europa.eu>
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On behalf of the municipality of Midden-Delfland, I would like to take the opportunity to provide a view in the context of the consultation round regarding the revision of the de minimis regulation for agriculture.

A significant extension of the de minimis threshold is very necessary, for the following reasons:

- the threshold had not been adjusted for inflation for years.
- Member States (or governments) will have more opportunities to support farmers faster and more efficiently. It benefits the flexibility of processes.
- the revision reduces the regulatory burden for farmers.
- In these times when significant transitions are expected from the agricultural sector with more social goals, it is extra important for the government to provide rapid, short-term support to facilitate and promote this transition. There are many pilot projects in which forms of sustainable agriculture are developed and/or demonstrated. With an increased de minimis threshold, these can be carried out more efficiently and the (paid) participation of farmers is facilitated.

In the municipality of Midden-Delfland we have been very active for more than 20 years in supporting the agriculture of Midden-Delfland in their role as guardian of the landscape of Midden-Delfland. www.middenindelfland.net

We notice that a threshold that is too low limits the necessary implementation of the desired transition. We propose to equate the de minimis threshold with the ceiling that applies to small and medium-sized businesses in the Netherlands.

Met vriendelijke groet, kind regards

Kees Boks
Policy advisor landscape affairs.

Gemeente Midden-Delfland

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Midden-Delfland is in 2008 uitgeroepen tot de eerste Cittaslow van Nederland. Dit is het wereldwijde netwerk van gemeenten dat zich sterk maakt om de kwaliteit van leven te verbeteren. Kijk voor meer informatie op www.middendelfland.nl en www.cittaslow-nederland.nl.



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