

The background of the slide features a light purple map of Europe. Overlaid on this map are several thick, curved, multi-colored lines in shades of green, orange, blue, and red, creating a dynamic, abstract pattern.

## **AREPO GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

***20 October 2021***

# Agenda

## STATUTORY PART

Presentation of the agenda for the GA

Report of the outgoing President on realized activities and memorandum for the next mandate

Presentation of the state of the accounts 2021 and provisional budget for 2022

Contribution for 2022

Renewal of AREPO Executive Board

# Agenda

## THEMATIC PART

Update on AREPO main policy priorities and activities realised in 2021

Update and presentation on the state of play of the Scientific Council's work and its composition, Prof. Giovanni Belletti, Coordinator of the AREPO Scientific Committee

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# REPORT OF THE PRESIDENCY

***Eirini Choudetsanaki***

*President of AREPO and Crete Regional Councillor*

A stylized map of the Americas, including North and South America, rendered in a light purple color. Overlaid on the map are several thick, curved lines in various colors: green, orange, blue, and red. These lines sweep across the map, creating a dynamic, abstract background.

# PRESENTATION OF THE STATE OF THE ACCOUNTS 2021 AND PROVISIONAL BUDGET FOR 2022

***Laurent Gomez***

*Secretary General of AREPO*

# UPDATE ON THE ACCOUNTS

	Réalisé 2020	Prévu 2021	Prévu 2021 révisé au 20/10	
Dépenses par poste	€ TTC	€ TTC	€ TTC	
Contrat Giulia et Francesca : salaires, charges, logement, TR, Mutuelle...	73700	74,000	74,000	
Stage	2900	3,000	6,800	
Consulting	38400	38,500	38,500	
Réunions et documents hors interprètes réunions plénières	0	0	1,300	zoom
Avion, train, hôtels, restauration, km pour SG et team Bruxelles	3700	3,500	3,500	
Avion, train, hôtels, restauration, km pour membres dont présidente	5000	5,000	5,000	
2 Réunions plénières (printemps et automne) dont interprètes	12600	12,500	24,000	
Tél., internet, fournitures, publicité, publications, locations...	3900	3,000	2,500	
Commissaire aux comptes, comptable, assurances, contrôleurs	6600	6,000	6,000	
Autres charges de gestion courantes	800	300	800	
Frais bancaires	100	300	300	
Charges exceptionnelles	0	500	500	
<b>Total</b>	<b>147700</b>	<b>146,600</b>	<b>163,200</b>	

# UPDATE ON THE ACCOUNTS

	Réalisé 2020	Prévu 2021	Prévu 2021 révisé au 20/10	
Ressources	€ TTC	€ TTC	€ TTC	
Cotisations des Régions membres 4500 €/an	130500	130,500	135,000	
Revenus des produits financiers	3700	3,800	3,900	
FEDER Projet AGROSMART puis Agrosmart Global	4440	9,800	9,800	41 000 reçus en 2020 pour moving
Autres produits de gestion courante (cotisations sociales...)	0	0	0	
Produits exceptionnels, dettes, produits constatés d'avance	0	0	0	
Autres produits dont Com UE et autres remboursements	460	2,500	0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>139100</b>	<b>146,600</b>	<b>148,700</b>	
<b>Résultat</b>	<b>-8,600</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14,500</b>	
<b>Capital disponible (total fonds propres)</b>	<b>269,000</b>		<b>265,700</b>	au 31/10/2021

The background of the slide features a light purple map of Europe. Overlaid on this map are several thick, curved, semi-transparent lines in various colors: green, orange, blue, and red. These lines sweep across the map from the bottom left towards the top right, creating a sense of movement and connectivity.

# CONTRIBUTION FOR 2022

***Laurent Gomez***

*Secretary General of AREPO*

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## RENEWAL OF AREPO EXECUTIVE BOARD

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# UPDATE ON AREPO MAIN POLICY PRIORITIES

***Francesca Alampi***

*AREPO Policy Officer*

# CAP 2023-2027

- **1 June 2018:** European Commission published three legislative proposals for the future Common Agricultural Policy;
- **23 October 2020:** the European Parliament voted in plenary the three legislative texts concerning CAP, thus approving its position on the topic ahead of the trilogues with the Council;
- **May 2021:** the first round of trilogues failed;
- **25 June 2021:** End of Interinstitutional negotiations on CAP 2023-2027. European Parliament, EU Council and European Commission reached a deal;
- **9 September 2021:** AGRI Committee of the EP approved the final texts of CAP agreed during trilogues;
- **November 2021:** the whole European Parliament will be called to vote on CAP during the plenary.

**In collaboration with oriGIn EU, AREPO developed and adopted a common position and lobbying strategy on the CAP** to jointly defend Geographical Indications at EU level by combining oriGIn EU expertise on intellectual property rights with AREPO experience on rural development.

# RESULT OF THE CAP TRILOGUES

## 1. Strategic plans – Type of measure “cooperation” ✓

Member States will be able to choose to support quality schemes under the type of intervention “cooperation” to **implement measures to both promote and establish quality systems.**

### AREPO-origIn EU:

- **possibility to cover as well the certification costs.** ✗
- ✗ **clarify that producer groups as defined by article 45 in Regulation 1151/12 can be beneficiaries** of measures to promote quality schemes as well as other forms of support for cooperation/collective organization, under “cooperation” type of measure.
- **Inclusion of a sub-thematic program for quality schemes for agricultural products** ✗

## RESULT OF THE CAP TRILOGUES

### 3. New opportunities for quality schemes in CMO regulation:

**Extension of the supply regulation instrument** (already existing for cheeses, hams and PDO/PGI wines) **to all PDO and PGI products.**

### 4. Simplification of GIs system

- The scope of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 has been **extended to include aromatised wine products;**
- ✓ • The **definition** of designation of origin and geographical indication **has been aligned with that given internationally by the Lisbon Agreement;**
- ✓ • **The human factor**, weakened in the Commission's initial proposal, has been reintroduced as **a compulsory element for the definition of a PDO** (both for wines and foodstuffs).
- In PDO/PGI product specifications, **the human factors as link of the quality to a particular geographical environment, can be limited, where relevant, to a description** of the soil and landscape management, cultivation practices or any other relevant human contribution to the maintenance of the natural factors of the geographical environment (products whose human factors' contribution to the quality and characteristics of the product may be less specific).

# RESULT OF THE CAP TRILOGUES

## 4. Simplification of GIs system

- **Sustainability elements can be included on a voluntary basis in product specifications;**
- ✓ **Extension of the scope of protection to all GI products** (including goods in transit and sold online) - **against abuse of reputation**
- ✗ **AREPO-oriGIn EU: Protection in relation to domain names**
- ✓ **Simplification of the procedure for approval of amendments: the scrutiny of the application shall focus on the proposed amendment** in order to assure a faster and more efficient approval of amendments to product specifications.
- **Distinction between Union amendments and standard amendments:** While the former will require an opposition procedure at the Union level, the latter will be dealt with at Member State level.
- ✗ **AREPO-oriGIn EU: EC should adopt guidelines** to assure European and common nature of the Geographical Indication system;
- **Simplification of the opposition procedure:** no double step of notice and reason statement, but just the reason statement to be presented to the EC within 3 months from the publication in the Official Journal.

A stylized map of Europe in light purple is the background. Overlaid on the map are several thick, curved, semi-transparent lines in green, orange, blue, and red, which appear to represent major transport routes or trade corridors. A white rounded rectangle with a thin red border is centered horizontally across the middle of the image.

## REVISION OF EU QUALITY POLICY

## REVISION OF EU QUALITY POLICY

- **November 2019 - February 2020 – EC public consultation on the evaluation of EU Quality Policy:** AREPO replied to the consultation joining a [position paper](#).
- **November 2020 - Roadmap for the revision of the EU GIs system:** AREPO presented its [position](#)
- **25-26 November 2020 - High-level Conference “*Strengthening geographical indications*”**
- **15 January 2021 – 9 April 2021 - Public consultation on the Revision of EU geographical indications scheme:** AREPO has prepared a working document to consult its members in order to submit a position addressing the proposals and objectives of the consultation
- **End of 2021 - Commission proposal for a revision of EU quality policy:** accompanied by an **Impact Assessment**, based on the results of the consultation

# AREPO Position on EU Quality Policy Revision



## PROTECTION & ENFORCEMENT

- Improve and **strengthen communication bw MS**
- Introduce a **register** of GIs producers
- Protection against **weakening and dilution** of reputation
- Protection on **internet**, including **ecommerce platforms and domain name** registration
- Better **protection in third countries**

# AREPO Position on EU Quality Policy Revision



SIMPLIFICATION &  
HARMONISATION

- **Trainings** for national authorities
- Publication of EC **guidelines on internal evaluation criteria** for GI registration and amendment
- Collect and publish **data on GI sector**
- Introduce specific **Combined Nomenclature codes**
- Clarify labelling rules for processed products using a **GI as ingredient**

# AREPO Position on EU Quality Policy Revision



GIs  
SUSTAINABILITY

- Allow inclusion of **sustainability aspects in product specifications**
- Increase **funding** for EU **R&I** on GIs and sustainability
- Support formative offer
- Financially support **ex-ante and ex-post evaluation** of GIs impact
- **Training** for producer groups

# AREPO Position on EU Quality Policy Revision



EMPOWERING  
PRODUCER GROUPS

- Support measures under the CAP strategic plans
  - **Certification and promotion**
  - **Operating costs**
  - **Surveillance activities**
  - **Trainings**
- Analysis of groups in MS
- Supply regulation

# AREPO Position on EU Quality Policy Revision



CONSUMER  
INFORMATION &  
AWARENESS

- Extend to all GIs the obligation to use the EU logos
- Maintain **dedicated budget under promotion policy**
- Promote the use of **Giview**

# AREPO Position on EU Quality Policy Revision



TSG

- AREPO recommends the European Commission to examine possibility to **strengthen and improve the TSG system**, including by guaranteeing a protection comparable to GIs intellectual property right

# Upcoming reform of the EU Quality Policy

- The drafting of the reform is ongoing -> **a legislative proposal in December;**
- **Omnibus Regulation** -> one regulation for amending the 3 GI Regulations (CMO/wine, Foods, Spirits);
- Definitions shouldn't be part of the scope of the revision;

## LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND PROCEDURES

- **Faster and more reliable procedures** concerning registration and amendments;
- Creation of a **single set of simplified procedural rules;**
- **Partial outsourcing of competences on GI application, amendments and cancellation to EUIPO:**
  - > the Alicante office would deal with **the assessment of compliance with intellectual property rules, being involved for scrutiny and opposition procedures;**
  - > Commission will be in charge to accept or reject proposals and there will be a possibility to appeal to the Commission = DG AGRI would act as an “appellate body”.
  - > **time saving and burden reduction**

**Limiting the examination to IPRs could eventually lead to transform PDO and PGI schemes into a simple IP protection mechanism.**

# Upcoming reform of the EU Quality Policy

## ENFORCEMENT

- Reinforcing the protection of GIs for producers by clarified rules;
- Creating a level playing field amongst operators through aligned control procedures;
- Development of rules on the respect of GIs in relation to **internet sales** -> this concerns especially online platforms like Amazon or Alibaba
- **Domain name system** -> EC wants to improve protection on the DNS clarifying rules on the national DNS and in the “.eu” by giving more powers to Member States to act against bad faith registration. However, given the transnational nature of the internet, it's ICANN who can take actions on DNS.

## LOGO

- The use of the logo on the product label is **obligatory** while producers can decide on its size
- Labelling with the relevant GI term or the acronym is **obligatory**

EC believes that consumers can be made more aware of the PDO and PGI schemes.

# Upcoming reform of the EU Quality Policy

## EMPOWERING PRODUCER GROUPS

- Management of supply extended to all GI products;
- The EC is debating on what powers to give GI groups, especially with regards to the use of GIs as ingredients.

## SUSTAINABILITY

- **On voluntary basis**, GI producer groups define sustainability standard in the product specification and make it public (GIview);
- **Alternatives with less salt, sugar, fat to be included in the product specification, where possible -> VOLUNTARY BASIS**, in order to encourage producers to collect more data on the nutritional value of their products.

This represents a preliminary step towards the introduction of a **Sustainable food labelling framework** that will be covering the nutritional, climate, environmental and social aspects of all food products, including GIs. A legislative proposal should be adopted by 2024.

## TSG

**It should be maintained** while its main elements clarified (scope, protection, controls)