



EC REF: e6 298953

Mr Ladislav Miko
Deputy Director General
Directorate-General Health and Consumers
B – 1049 Brussels
BELGIUM

Dear Mr Miko

Thank you for the opportunity to input into the impact assessment on all aspects on animal cloning for food production in the EU. Please find enclosed Australia's response to the questionnaire on animal cloning for food production.



Australia notes the work underway in the EU to address the issue of cloning for food production in all its aspects, as set out in the *Roadmap—Measures on animal cloning for food production in the EU*. Australia would like to take this opportunity to express our concerns with several of the policy options presented in the Roadmap, as they would potentially have a considerable adverse impact on agricultural production and international trade in livestock and foods of animal origin.

We continue to encourage the EU to give due consideration to all available scientific and technical information in developing its regulatory decisions on animal cloning, consistent with international trade obligations. We note in particular that available evidence provides no indication to suggest that clones present a threat to human health, nor does the cloning procedure significantly alter the nutritional value or other food qualities of products derived from clones.

Offspring of clones produced by sexual reproduction can, according to present scientific understanding, be confidently accepted as normal and should not be considered to be clones. The proposal on cloning should be consistent with EFSA's food safety determinations on animal clones and their offspring. Any proposal should exclude reproductive material and offspring of clones.

Australia looks forward to continuing to work with the EU to facilitate information sharing on regulatory and trade-related aspects of livestock cloning.

Yours sincerely



Australian Embassy, Brussels

30 April 2012