



CABINET DALLI

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ARES(2012)Brussels, 7th December 2012

Tonio BORG
Member of the European Commission
Health and Consumer Policy
European Commission
Rue de la Loi, 200
1049 Brussels

O/RE: JLM/sb/L-061-2012-EN

RE: Congratulations / Request for a meeting

Dear Minister,
 Dear Commissioner,

On behalf of UECBV, I would like to congratulate you on your appointment as Commissioner for Health and Consumer Policy. I also would like to wish you all the best in your new position and express the support of the EU livestock, meat trade and industry that is represented within UECBV.

Unfortunately, at the High-Level Forum meeting held on Wednesday 5th December 2012, I did not have the opportunity to orally express my congratulations not only on your appointment but also on the high-quality of your hearing in front of the Members of the European Parliament on 13th November 2012. You were quite impressive!

Now time to act has arrived, as Matthias Groote MEP, Chairman of the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety Committee wrote.

The EU livestock, meat trade and industry is directly concerned by two of the four top priorities that you underlined at the hearing i.e. the proposal on cloning and the better enforcement of the Animal Welfare during Transport Regulation.

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As regards the latter, UECBV believes that a voluntary approach may help. For that reason, UECBV is deeply involved in the drafting, adoption, and implementation of guidelines, in close cooperation with other partners such as Eurogroup for Animals. In 2012, first guidelines were released. Second guidelines are expected in 2013.

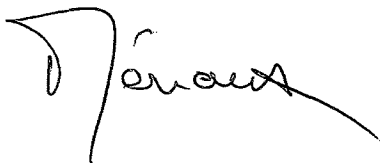
UECBV will be delighted to meet you during the first quarter of 2013 at the most convenient time and day for you. The meeting will give the opportunity to deliver the UECBV's opinion on three main issues for the livestock and meat trade, and the meat industry sectors i.e.:

1. Animal welfare during transport and at the time of slaughter – How to achieve a better enforcement?
2. Safer meat – Modernization of the meat inspection.
3. Cloning issue and its international dimension.

If time permits, UECBV would like also to tackle the BSE issue and the existing trade barriers in Third Countries. UECBV is convinced that further strong actions from DG SANCO towards these Third Countries, and more especially the USA, would help get rid of the trade barriers linked to BSE protective measures, for the benefit of the EU beef and sheep meat sectors.

Looking forward to hearing from you, I remain

Yours faithfully,



Jean-Luc Mériaux
Secretary General

UECBV is the European Livestock and Meat Trades Union. As such, it is the united representative body of national federations of:

- *Livestock trade;*
- *Meat industry (slaughterhouses, cutting plants, meat preparation plants);*
- *Meat trading companies.*

Today, UECBV represents 57 Associations out of 22 EU Member States as well as certain EFTA countries and EU candidate countries (Croatia, Turkey).

EU trade partners in the meat sector are also associated to the UECBV (Japan, Morocco, Russia).