



Vytenis ANDRIUKAITIS

Member of the European Commission

Berl 08/369

Rue de la Loi, 200

B-1049 Brussels - Belgium

Tel. 00.32.2.295.41.59

e-mail: vytenis.andriukaitis@ec.europa.eu

Mr Paulo Macedo
Minister of Health, Portugal
Av. João Crisóstomo 9-6º,
1049-062 Lisbon

Brussels, **30 MARS 2015**
PDG/cc (Ares)2015 1358017

Dear Minister,

Thank you for your letter of 25 February 2015 expressing your support for a new EU Alcohol Strategy with targeted measures aimed at complementing national efforts to reduce alcohol related harm. Your views and support on alcohol related harm is very much welcome.

I fully share your concern about the damage that alcohol inflicts on people's health and the need to co-operate at EU level to address this issue. I also share your assessment about the 2006 Strategy and the on-going co-operation work within the Committee on National Alcohol Policy and Action (CNAPA) and the European Alcohol and Health Forum.

I am currently considering how to best support Member States' action to reduce alcohol-related harm and very much look forward to discuss this issue at the Informal meeting of Health Ministers on 20 April in Riga. I will also be meeting CNAPA in April to discuss the proposals they have presented and which you mention in your letter.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Portugal for its leadership of the Joint Action on Alcohol related harm supported by the EU Health Programme.

Let me assure you that I am committed to supporting and complementing national action on alcohol related harm through co-operation and added value action at EU level. The main responsibility for alcohol policy remains indeed with the Member States, who decide upon the level of health protection they seek to ensure, and what measures to take to achieve it.

The Commission's main role is to support Member States' action by facilitating cooperation and exchange of best practices, establishing guidelines, and providing monitoring with the aim of ensuring a high level of human health protection in the definition and implementation of all Union policies and activities.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED] (CAB-ANDRIUKAITIS)

From: [REDACTED] (CAB-ANDRIUKAITIS)
Sent: 31 March 2015 10:17
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Letter from EU Commissioner Andriukaitis to Minister De Macedo with regard new Alcohol Strategy.
Attachments: [REDACTED]_Scan_3660847609_100749_EC.PDF

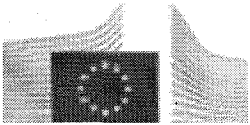
Dear [REDACTED],

Please find attached the reply letter from EU Commissioner Vytenis Andriukaitis to Minister Paulo de Macedo, with reference to the Minister's letter dated 25th February 2015 expressing support for a new Alcohol Strategy.

Thanking you in advance for transmitting this letter to its highest destination.

Best Regards,

[REDACTED]
Cabinet of EU Commissioner Andriukaitis



European Commission