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Mr Frans Timmermans
Executive Vice-President
European Commission
Rue de la Loi 200
1049, Brussels
Belgium

Brussels, 18th December 2019

Subject: Invitation to the joint Copa and Cogeca Praesidia meeting

Dear Executive Vice-President,

First of all, we would like to congratulate you on your designation as Executive Vice-President for the European Green Deal.

We would like to invite you to the next joint Copa and Cogeca Praesidia meeting which will be held on **Thursday 13th February 2020** at our premises, Rue de Trèves 61, 1040 Brussels.

As you may know, Copa and Cogeca are the united voice of farmers and agri-cooperatives in the EU. Together, they ensure that EU agriculture is sustainable, innovative and competitive, guaranteeing food security to half a billion people throughout Europe. Copa represents over 22 million farmers and their family members whilst Cogeca represents the interests of 22,000 agricultural cooperatives.

The Copa and Cogeca Praesidia consists of the presidents of the 66 Copa and Cogeca member organisations, who represent farmers and agri-cooperatives throughout the European Union.

Taking account the high relevance of your mission in the new European Commission (European Green Deal and Climate action) our members would greatly appreciate to have an exchange of views with you regarding it. EU agriculture and forestry play a crucial role in addressing climate change adaptation and mitigation, as it has significant potential to reduce emissions, to sequester carbon and to boost economies in a sustainable manner. In this context, we acknowledge the new Commission's focus on working towards a climate-neutral European continent as well as delivering on the EU's international commitments such as the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement. Copa and Cogeca are committed to this Agreement.

If this suits you, we would like to propose you to attend the meeting for one hour between **4.30 p.m. and 6.30 p.m., at your best convenience**. Your participation would consist of giving an introductory speech/presentation, which would be followed by a debate.

Naturally, our Secretariat is at your disposal for any additional information.

Yours sincerely,

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(2020-2023)