

To: VISEK Lukas (CAB-TIMMERMANS)
Cc: [REDACTED] SCANNELL Michael (AGRI); [REDACTED]
Subject: CAB Timmermans meeting UECBV on 12 November 2020 - brief summary

CAB Timmermans meeting UECBV on 12 November 2020

EC: Lukas Visek (Cab Timmermans), [REDACTED]

UECBV: [REDACTED]

UECBV's introduction focused on the following:

- Grateful for the meeting.
- UECBV represents 22.000 companies active in the meat sector that employ around 300.000 workers.
- UECBV is currently developing a position paper on the F2F Strategy that will be soon available

Lukas VISEK introduced the debate by highlighting that the F2F Strategy is aiming at the following 3 main goals:

- 1) make sure all sectors are truly part of the transition to sustainability.
- 2) make clear that a more balanced diet is needed, which also entails a business opportunity for the animal sector.
- 3) Improve animal welfare. Currently a thorough scrutiny of the framework is ongoing.

UECBV raised the following main points in the subsequent discussion:

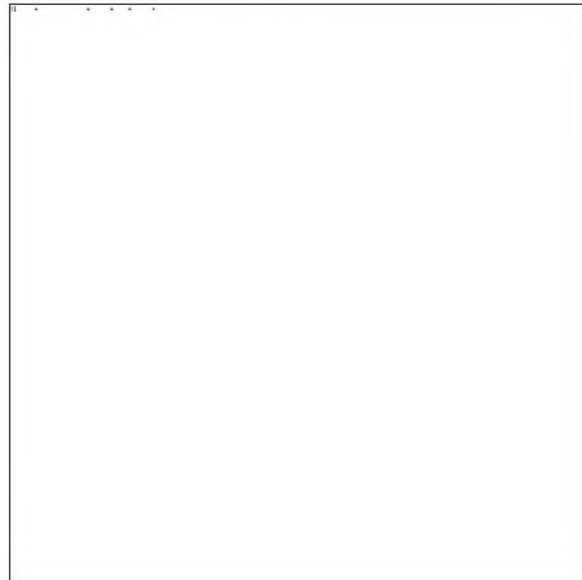
- Willing to contribute and to be recognised as world leader in sustainability.
- Many good examples on GHG emissions and antimicrobial reduction.
- Need more balance in the discussion on diet (meat is good from a nutrient density perspective) and environmental impacts of livestock farming (proper accounting of emissions is essential).
- Also consumption data should not be based on carcass weight. Real consumption is not far from dietary recommendations.
- Trade is important for circularity: the EU exports parts of the animals no more eaten in the EU but valued in third countries, thus avoiding waste.
- Another important factor is economic scale: 185 products are extracted from pigs and many of them are essential (i.e. heparin). Need for carefully thinking of all indirect consequences of reducing meat production.
- Divergence opinion with DG ENV on Environmental footprint methodology (economic vs mass allocation). Other DGs could help in finding solutions.

Lukas VISEK confirmed the following:

- Indeed F2F aims to make farmers that already worked on sustainability to be recognised by consumers (sustainability labelling framework in 2023, origin labelling, etc.).
- We should not promote meat consumption in general but promote sustainable methods of production and sustainable diets.
- Business opportunities for farmers (biogas – circularity) and for the whole sector (consumers are willing to valorise sustainable production methods).

- **Need for a diet rebalance.** Animal products contribution to protein intake is still too high, most of GHG emissions in agriculture are generated by livestock and too much land is used for feeding livestock.
- **Impact assessments will clearly forerun any legislative initiative taken in the framework of the F2F Strategy.**

Both parties expressed satisfaction on the direct exchange of views.



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