

To: BERUTTI Roberto (CAB-WOJCIECHOWSKI)
Cc: SCANNELL Michael (AGRI); **Personal Data** (AGRI); **Personal Data** (AGRI)
Subject: Commissioner meeting UECBV on 23 November

Webex meeting with European Livestock and Meat Trading Union 23.11.2020:

EC: Commissioner Wojciechowski, Roberto Berutti (CAB), **Personal Data** (CAB), **Personal Data** (G.3 **Personal Data**), **Personal Data** (G.3), **Personal Data** (C.1)

UECVB: **Personal Data**

UECBV raised the following main points in the subsequent discussion:

- Willing to contribute and to be recognised as world leader in sustainability, Green Deal targets 2030/2050 will be met by the slaughter sector.
- Many good examples on animal welfare and antimicrobial reduction already driven by market.
- Animal transport standards are high in EU, proper implementation should have priority instead of stricter rules.
- Need more balance in the discussion on diet (meat is good from a nutrient density perspective) and environmental impacts of livestock farming.
- Also meat consumption data should better take into account the split of the carcass into consumable meat and other products. Real consumption is not far from dietary recommendations.
- Meat exports are necessary and a chance to “export” EU sustainability standards.
- 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).
- Pig market currently in difficult situation. Market measures (private storage aid) would be of limited impact (slaughter and freezing capacities are already at their limits). Priority should be re-opening market access to China. Involvement of the highest political level would be helpful.

Commissioner confirmed the following:

- Enforcement of existing Animal welfare rules is of highest importance.
- Strengthening regional production can reduce animal transports
- Meat included in EU promotion programme for 2021, We should promote EU meat if it is produced in a sustainable way.
- Aware of the critical situation in the pigmeat sector. Intense discussion at Council. Third countries must accept EU regionalisation. Talks with China at high level.

Both parties expressed satisfaction on the direct exchange of views.