



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY
Health and food audits and analysis
Director

Grange,
SANTE.F2

Subject: Reference Number: DG(SANTE)/2019-6752
Proposed TAILS mission in Spain from 30 to 31 January 2019 in order to assist Member States and the pig-sector in preventing tail-biting and avoiding routine tail-docking of pigs

Dear [REDACTED],

The Commission services propose to carry out a TAILS mission in Spain from 30 to 31 January 2019 in order to assist Member States and the pig-sector in preventing tail-biting and avoiding routine tail-docking of pigs. This initiative forms part of the Commission's work plan (see Annex I) to reduce routine tail-docking of pigs in the EU.

The Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety will use the services of pig-sector experts to review Member States' action plans and provide recommendations to the competent authorities and selected pig sector organisations to assist them in making improvements to their plans and controls on the prevention of tail-biting and avoidance of tail-docking. The experts have been selected through an open procurement procedure published on the Commission's website at: https://ec.europa.eu/food/funding/procurement-contracts_en. The selected experts have experience in marketing, research, or rearing of pigs with intact tails in commercial premises.

The recommendations from these TAILS missions will also be distributed, where appropriate, to assist other Member States. The TAILS missions are not audits and the recommendations from these missions are advisory.

The mission team will comprise two TAILS experts, one expert from DG Health and Food Safety, and one national expert. The missions do not involve on-site visits. Full details are provided in the enclosed mission plan (Annex II).

I would be grateful if you could arrange for suitable arrangements to be prepared, which should allow the scope indicated in the mission plan to be covered, and agreed in consultation

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Ministerio de Agricultura Y Pesca, Alimentación y Medio Ambiente (MAPAMA)
[REDACTED] de Apoyo y Coordinación
Secretaría General de Agricultura y Alimentación
Pº De La Infanta Isabel I
[REDACTED]
ES-Madrid 28014
Spain

with the [redacted] (telephone: [redacted], fax: + [redacted]
[redacted], e-mail: [redacted] and copied to the [redacted]
[redacted] e-mail: [redacted] and SANTE-IRL-audits@ec.europa.eu).

It would be appreciated if suitable accommodation could be arranged for the members of the team. Please contact the mission team leader *before* reserving the accommodation so that any limits on these costs which may apply under existing Commission rules can be taken into account.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted signature]

Paola Colombo
Director

Encl.: Annex I Commission's work plan on reducing the systematic tail-docking of
piglets in the EU
Annex II Mission Plan

c.c.: H.E. Sr Pablo García-Berdoy, Permanent Representative of Spain to the EU
Mr Juergen Foecking, Acting Head of Representation, EC Representation in Spain